

Covenant Baptist Church

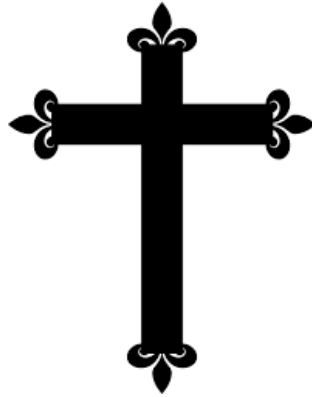
Ordination Service

For

Minister Rhonda K. Lawrence

And

Minister Tanya D. Wright



Sunday, October 18th, 2015

5:00 p.m.

The Reverend Christine A. Smith,
B.S. M.Div., Senior Pastor

A Word from our Pastor...



Dearly Beloved,

One of the greatest blessings of the Church is to acknowledge, observe, examine, affirm and “set aside” those who have been called to the ordained ministry. It is with much joy and gratefulness, that we, the Covenant Baptist Church Family are blessed to ordain two of our Daughters in the Ministry, Associate Ministers, **Minister Rhonda K. Lawrence and Minister Tanya D. Wright**. Today’s proceedings are historic for **this is the first time in the 59 year history (Charter, 1956) of Covenant Baptist Church that associate ministers have been ordained!**

We owe a debt of gratitude to our friends and colleagues of the **Cleveland Baptist Association (Regional Branch of the American Baptist Churches, USA), Department of Ministry** (The Rev. Dr. Jeremiah Pryce, Department Chairman, The Rev. Yvonne B. Carter, Executive Minister). They graciously assisted us in reading, hearing and with support and encouragement, critiquing the theological position papers of our two candidates. We also thank the **Pastors and Delegates of CBA** who took time out of their busy schedules to come and participate in the **TWO CONSECUTIVE** ordination councils on Mondays, no less!!! Without all of you, we would not have been able to meet the requirements for a quorum.

Thank you, **Covenant Baptist Church Family** for providing a loving, nurturing, encouraging and supportive environment for Minister Lawrence and Minister Wright over these past three to four years...welcoming them into the fold, embracing them in their various leadership capacities, allowing them space to learn, grow and expand. Truly this small band of believers has provided a wonderful nest for these eagles to further develop, rise, shine and soar!

Minister Rhonda and Minister Tanya, we give God high praises for being chosen by the Lord to participate in your ministry development process. Always remember the bridges that brought you over with gratitude and appreciation...always remember to lift as you rise and **ALWAYS** remember to listen to, pray and obey the voice of the Lord. **We love you, appreciate you and are very proud to call you “Daughters!”** Thank you **Family and Friends** for being the wind beneath their wings...your support is a critical factor in their success not only today, but for all of the days to come.

To God be the glory for the GREAT THINGS HE HAS DONE!

In Faith, Hope and Love,
Pastor Chris



Minister Rhonda K. Lawrence was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio and is the fourth child of the late Sherman & Curtis Lawrence. She received Jesus Christ as a child and was baptized in the Greater Abyssinia Baptist Church. She received special training as a young adult at the Maranatha Bible Institute. In 1988 she joined Imani United Church of Christ under the leadership of the Rev. Dr. Monte Norwood and later Pastor Michele Humphrey. While there, Minister Lawrence served in a number of ministries including Finance, Women's Ministries and Christian Education. She also answered the call to teach and preach God's Word, completed their Minister-In-Training program and enrolled in Ashland Seminary. In 2012, Minister Lawrence joined

the Covenant Baptist Church under the pastorate of the Rev. Christine A. Smith. Later that year she was licensed to preach the Gospel, by Covenant Baptist Church. In 2014, Minister Lawrence graduated from Ashland and received the Master of Arts in Religion. Minister Lawrence currently serves Covenant as an Associate Minister, Minister of Christian Education, Financial Secretary and Intercessory Prayer Ministry Leader. She is a former Cuyahoga County employee having worked as a Juvenile Detention Officer and has been employed by the Cleveland Metropolitan School District since 1984 having worked as Substitute Teacher, Teacher and Library Media Specialist. A graduate of Jane Addams High School, Minister Lawrence earned her Bachelor of Arts in Telecommunications in 1984, Master of Arts in Teaching in 1996 and Master of Science in Library Media in 2007 all from Kent State University. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Minister Lawrence is the proud mother of Jasmine Lawrence Justice (Jermaine) and grandmother of Kurtis Malik and Julian Rashad.



Minister Tanya D. Wright accepted Jesus Christ as her personal Savior at the age of six at the First Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Cleveland, Ohio. As she grew in her knowledge and understanding of walking with the Lord, her life and service evolved into where she stands today. Minister Wright has given her life to ministry for over 15 years, serving in a variety of capacities including bible study teacher, marital counselor, and Christian mentor. She has served on the leadership team of Under His Wings Ministry, a ministry that encourages and equips Christian leaders to develop and maintain an intimate love relationship with Jesus Christ. In her secular career, Minister Wright is a much sought after leader in the field of Physical

Therapy. She recently accepted a position with Cuyahoga Community College (Tri-C Metro Campus) to serve as the Director of Physical Therapy Training. Minister Wright holds a Master's degree from Ashland Theological Seminary in Clinical Pastoral Counseling, as well as a Bachelor of Science degree from Cleveland State University in Physical Therapy. In 2013, Minister Wright joined the Covenant Baptist Church under the pastorate of the Rev. Christine A. Smith. Later that year, she was licensed to preach the Gospel Ministry by the Covenant Baptist Church. Currently, Minister Wright serves as an Associate Minister at Covenant. She also serves as the Praise and Worship Team Leader, Evangelism and Discipleship Ministry Leader and as the New Members Class Instructor. Minister Wright has been married to Bro. Anthony Wright for 26 years and together they have three children; Carli, Jordyn and Brandon.

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Ordination Service

Sunday, October 18th, 2015

5:00 p.m.

Call to Worship..... Pastor Christine A. Smith
Opening Hymn..... “Blessed Assurance”
Invocation..... Pastor Legenda Gulley,
Senior Pastor, God’s Grace Ministries, Church of God in Christ

Scripture OT/NT..... Isaiah 61:1-3; Romans 10: 13-15,
..... Pastor Marzette Johnson, Executive Pastor, Power House Ministries

Praise Dance..... Sister Takia Bryant, Covenant Baptist Church
“The Occasion” Sister Denise Bryant, Covenant Baptist Church

Greetings:

- Rev. Yvonne B. Carter, Executive Minister, The Cleveland Baptist Association
- Rev. Dr. Andrew Edwards: President, CBA Board of Trustees
- Rev. Camille Brown, Regional Ministers Council President, CBA/ABC-USA
- Rev. Dr. Thomas Gilmore, Administrative Director, Ashland Cleveland Center

*****Offering*****

Minister Kathryn R. Johnson, Associate Minister, Covenant Baptist Church
Choir selection, Genesis II and Sister Cerena Mangum

Introduction of Guest Preacher..... Pastor Smith
Ministry of Music..... Genesis II and Cerena Mangum

Sermon

Elder Yvonne Tufts Jeans, All Nations Deliverance Ministries
Assistant Pastor of Administration

Invitation to Christian Discipleship..... Pastor Smith

Ordination Council Report.....Rev. Dr. Jeremiah Pryce,
Chair, CBA Department of Ministry, Senior Pastor Grace Tabernacle Baptist Church

Charge to the Candidates and the Church..... Pastor Michele Humphrey
Senior Pastor, Imani United Church of Christ

Prayer of Consecration..... Pastor Smith
(All Ordained Clergy asked to come and place their hands upon the candidates)

Presentation of the Bible and Hymnal..... Pastor Denise Cunningham Doggett,
Senior Pastor, Lakeshore Christian Church

Presentation of the Ordination Certificates..... Rev. Yvonne B. Carter

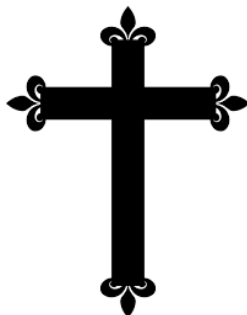
**Draping of the Stoles and Presentation of Candidates,
“The Reverend Tanya D. Wright” and “The Reverend Rhonda K. Lawrence”
Pastor Smith**

Closing Remarks..... Rev. Lawrence, Rev. Wright and Pastor Smith

Closing HymnCongregation

Benediction..... Elder Yvonne Tufts Jeans

*All guests are invited to join us for the
Dinner Reception in the Gymnasium*





Reverend Yvonne Tufts Jeans

*All Nations Deliverance Ministries
Maple Heights, Ohio*

Reverend Jeans is a native Clevelander and a graduate of the Cleveland Public Schools. She grew up attending the East Mt. Vernon Baptist Church, where her grandfather, the late Reverend Frank A. Tufts, Jr. was the Senior Pastor. Her parents also worked diligently in the ministry, and placed in Yvonne a deep love for the Lord, His Word and His people.



In 1989, the Lord ordered her steps to the Pentecostal Church of Christ in the University Circle area of Cleveland; her pastor at that time was Bishop J. Delano Ellis, II. She was ordained to the office of Elder on Christmas Eve, 1995. She served as the Assistant Pastor of Worship and President of Christ United Theological School at the Pentecostal Church of Christ in Cleveland.

She was conferred the Honorary Doctorate in Ministry from Christ United Theological School in June, 2003. Reverend Jeans obtained her undergraduate degree in Chemistry from John Carroll University in University Heights, Ohio. For close to 17 years, she worked as a Research Chemist at the BP Research Center in the Petroleum Engineering industry. She has co-authored several technical publications, and has been assigned patents for her work in this field. She continues graduate studies at Ashland Theological Seminary.

She has served in various areas of ministry including Director of Altar Ministry, Parish Pastor, Director of Public Relations and Dean of the College of Preachers. She is currently serving at All Nations Deliverance Ministries in Maple Heights, Ohio. Her pastor is Reverend Gwendolyn McCurry.

Reverend Jeans is Founder and CEO of Jobs Partnership of Cleveland, a faith-based workforce development non-profit organization in Cleveland. Jobs Partnership of Cleveland brings the corporate community and the church community together to provide mentoring relationships, job training and job placement opportunities to the unemployed and the underemployed residents of the greater Cleveland community. To date, more than 900 individuals have been placed into meaningful jobs with benefits. Prior to launching Jobs Partnership, she served as the Senior Vice President of Workforce Development and Faith Based Initiatives at ShoreBank Enterprise Cleveland.

Reverend Jeans has one son, Michael, a *daughter-in-love* Areli, a granddaughter, Nia Yasmine, and grandson Isaiah Miguel. Reverend Jeans currently resides in the city of Cleveland along with her family.

Acknowledgements

On behalf of the Covenant Baptist Church Family, we would like to thank all of the individuals and ministries that helped to make this occasion beautiful, Holy Spirit filled and memorable...

The Reverend Yvonne B. Carter, Executive Minister, CBA
The Reverend Jeremiah Pryce, Chairman, Department of Ministry, CBA
Elder Yvonne Tufts Jeans, All Nations Deliverance Ministries
Assistant Pastor of Administration

ALL PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

Genesis II

Sister Cerena Mangum, Guest Musician, Olivet Institutional Baptist Church
Bro. Kevin Dues, Audio Technician

Sister Helen Jackson, Greeters/Ushers Chairperson
Deacon Kevin Johnson, Chairman, Covenant Board of Deacons
Minister Kathryn R. Johnson, Associate Minister and Church Treasurer

Bro. Christopher, Sister Susan Wilson and Sister Carlean Thompson,
Guest Ushers

Sister Cecelia Jones Ubu and Sister Wanda Brown,
Chair and Co-Chair, Covenant Hospitality Ministry

Thank you, Thank you Thank you EVERYONE!!!

Covenant Baptist Church

“We are a strong and vibrant, evangelistic and disciple making ministry”

140 Richmond Road
Euclid, Ohio 44143
(St. John of the Cross, School Building)

The Reverend Christine A. Smith, B.S., M.Div. Senior Pastor
(216) 303-9790

covenantbaptist54@att.net
www.covenantbaptistministries.org

Sunday Worship, 11:00 a.m.
Intercessory Prayer, Each Third Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.
Cottage Prayer, Monthly (Beginning January, 2016), designated days and times
Evangelism and Discipleship Small Group, Each Fourth Sunday, 9:55 a.m.



Scriptural Basis...Matthew 28: 19-20

“Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit; teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you, and lo, I am with you always, even until the end of the earth.”

**T.E.A.M...Teaching, Evangelizing, Accountable,
Making a difference for the Kingdom!**