



Happy New Year!

January 3, 2016

University Church of Christ exists by the grace of God to be a loving fellowship praising God by living and telling the good news of Jesus.

WORSHIP

8 Let Every Heart Rejoice and Sing
117 God Is the Fountain Whence

Welcome/Congregational Prayer
Kris Southward

72 Blessed Be the Lord God Almighty
461 Be Not Dismayed Whate'er Betide
76 How Great Thou Art
Come to the Table

Communion Gary McCaleb
Scripture: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Bread
366 By Christ Redeemed
Cup
350 When My Love to Christ Grows Weak
Offering

UCC Family News Video

Before the Throne of God Above

Scripture: Jeremiah 30:18-22 Lance Tolar

Somebody Help Us! Mark Hamilton

483 Is It For Me?

76 How Great Thou Art (reprise)

Worship Leader Lanny Mullins

If you would like to pray with someone today, you are invited to pray with elders James Thompson and Gustavo Villanueva in Room 101 at the close of our service.

Our Sunday morning service is broadcast live at www.uccabilene.org.

REFLECTIONS

Brent Isbell, Preaching Minister
brent@uccabilene.org

Happy New Year! Happy New Year! If you are visiting University Church today, we thank you for blessing us with your presence. Welcome to our worship on this first Sunday of 2016! You are an honored guest. It's the holiday time of year, so many of our own folks are still traveling and visiting family. Perhaps this is what brought you to us. But, whether you came from far away or just around the corner, we are glad to have you here today. Please take just a moment to fill out one of those small guest registry cards (located on the seat backs), then drop it into the offering plate later. That's all we ask of you. If you happen to be new to Abilene and looking for a church home, please come back soon. We appreciate the chance to get to know you and perhaps welcome you and your family into the University Church family. This is a great church!

I am gone today, taking some vacation time. In my absence, you are in good hands. My friend and shepherd Mark Hamilton will be preaching. His text is from Acts 16, and Mark will be encouraging us to think hard about UCC's mission and purpose and the possibilities ahead of us in 2016. These are exciting days at University, and I'm so glad to have friends like Mark Hamilton as partners in leadership for this great congregation. Today's message is from Acts 16: Somebody Help Us! Our worship leader this morning is Lanny Mullins.

Chapel at 5 p.m.: The speaker tonight is Lou Seckler.

January Wednesdays: This week, we start a series with Mark Hamilton called Prayer in An Ange of Exile. 7 p.m. in the Family Room.

When I think about the BEST of University Church, I think about...

- Art Evans. Art is now safe in the Father's hands. But what a life! What an example of generosity, openness and humble service. Art loved people and had a heart for missions. His legacy lives on.
• Teaching. Here's a gross understatement: UCC is rich in outstanding teachers. I won't begin to list names, but just think a moment about the depth of giftedness in this church! Think about preachers. Think about the women and men who have taught our classes and written our curriculum. Think about the missionaries, ministers, professors, mentors, guides and educators who have served us for more than a century. Believe me, not many churches are so rich in teaching! Let us be thankful to God.

CLASS TIMES:
Sunday - 9 a.m.
Wednesday - 7 p.m.

WORSHIP TIMES:
Sunday - 10 a.m., 5 p.m.

CONTACT INFORMATION:
733 E. N. 16th Street
Abilene, TX 79601

PHONE: (325) 673-6497
www.uccabilene.org

NURSERY FACILITIES

For your convenience, nursery facilities are available during worship in the Early Childhood Center.

ATTENDANCE:
December 27, 2015
Worship - X Northern Oaks - 24
Bilingual - 36 Chisholm Place - 20
Coronado - 82 Silver Spring - 44

OFFERING:
Dec. 27 \$55,027.37

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Jennifer Welch, Children's Minister
jenniferw@uccabilene.org

Children's Worship: Please make a note that Children's Worship will not meet today. We will resume our regular schedule on Sunday, Jan. 10.

Nursery: If you would like to help in the nursery the fourth Sunday of every month, please email jenniferw@uccabilene.org.

CAMPUS MINISTRY

Kyle Bowen, Campus Ministry leader
campus@uccabilene.org

Welcome: If you are a visiting college student, we are glad you visited with us. We hope and pray that you will be uplifted by our worship service and our fellowship.

Special Schedule: During the school holidays, we will be on a special schedule. We will not meet as a college ministry on Wednesday nights or Sunday nights, but only on Sunday mornings in MAC 503. We hope you will join with the rest of the church in meeting at its other gathering times.

COMMON LIFE INFORMATION

by Steve Austin

We hope that you have been able to be in touch with your Common Life group leaders during the last ten weeks. Most leaders have been in touch with their groups. The elders appreciate the hard work done by all concerned in launching these groups. Here's some questions that have arisen:

First, the list of Common Life groups and members is available in the church office, and online.

Second, we are informally designating the second Sunday each month as Fellowship Sunday. Some continue to meet in Care Groups for lunch, which is great. Others may meet for various Common Life activities on that day.

Third, some have asked how funeral meals and arrangements will be handled now. Angela Estes and the funeral ministry will continue their capable work in organizing the meal for the family the day of the funeral, if the family desires and the meal is at UCC. When someone passes away, please notify the church office, and they will in turn notify the elders, staff and Common Life group leaders of the group of which the person was a member. The Common Life groups will help with food, as can the classes and friends/family.

Fourth, if you know of other events or news regarding a church member, and perhaps others don't, please notify the church office and/or the Common Life group leaders. The leaders may often be aware of it, but it's always helpful to get a heads up.

Finally, each Common Life group is free to plan any activities they believe can benefit the group, and in any schedule they choose. Our goal is fellowship, getting to know each other, and helping one another in any way we can. All of this is a little bit new, but we appreciate your involvement and good ideas.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Jason Craddock, Youth Minister
jason.craddock@uccabilene.org
facebook.com/groups/uymteens

Free Time Tonight: Come join us tonight for free time from 5-6:30 p.m. Many of us are still traveling home, but it would be good to spend some time with whoever is here. We will not have dinner.

Combined HS/MS Huddle Wednesday: We will have a combined Huddle on Wednesday, Jan. 6 in the Youth Center. We will have some time of worship, a fun group game and a message. Regular Huddles will resume on January 13.

Winterfest will be January 15-17, 2016: This will be our fourth year to attend Winterfest, which has become one of our largest activities. Winterfest is a huge youth conference that happens in January each year with thousands of teens attending. We will leave on Friday afternoon (1/15) and drive straight to the convention center. We will stay in a hotel on Friday and Saturday night. The cost of the conference, which includes transportation, hotel, and conference registration is only \$50, so save your Christmas money. The deadline for payment is Sunday, Jan. 4 (hard deadline). Paperwork is available on the youth center desk and sent via email.

TRANSITIONS

Joey Roberts, Communications Minister
joey@uccabilene.org

We will not have small group tonight. Our next small group will be at the **Sprotts'** house (834 Elmwood Drive) on Sunday, Jan. 10.

We need hosts to **sign up** for small groups on both January 17 and January 24, as well as February 7. If you don't feel like you can host small group in your home, you are welcome to use one of the rooms at the church. Just let me know what days you want to host, and we can find accommodations.

Keep up-to-date with the **Facebook** page for more events and information pertaining to Transitions.

NEWS

Ladies Bible Class resumes this Wednesday, Jan. 6 at 10 a.m. in the Family Room.

The new Texas "**open carry**" law also affects churches. This law, effective January 1, 2016, allows any properly licensed resident to openly carry a handgun in a shoulder or waist holster anywhere that is not specifically prohibited by law or specific signage. We do not expect anyone to openly carry a handgun into UCC; however, it is possible that someone may do so. While we do not plan to post prohibitive signs at this present time (27 signs would be required for the UCC campus), the UCC elders respectfully request that all of its members and visitors refrain from openly carrying a gun while at UCC. Thank you.

PRAYER LIST

Immediate

Health Concerns

Keith Barnier
Patty Cox
Phyllis Gilbreth
Mary Leija
Harry Rowlands
Kevin Weems
Nancy Witt

Health Concerns

Mable Bailey
Cheryl Ballard
Randy Becton
Carl Brecheen
Jeremy Carver
Jerry Cook
Betty Gallaway
Brent Green
Ina Green
Bette Harris
Noble Harris
Garnie Hatch
Lucy Hatch
Exa Fay Hooten
John Jordan
Yuneva Kirk
Callie Mickey
Martha Morris
Eddie Pierson
Norma Phipps
Georgia Sanders
Bob Scott
Bettye Shipp
Dempsey Simpson
Yvonne Sinclair
Jackie Smith
Bill Teague
Doris Vance
James White
Betty Whiteside
Norma Williams
Jamie Zimmerle

Homebound

Mary Anderson
Nick Barbato
Mary Barthelemy
Mitch Caffey
Deloris Davee
Ausencia Gutierrez
Gregorio Gutierrez
Billie Paine
Willa B Patterson
Agnes Stone
Jo Watson
Brenda Whitsett

BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS:

If you have a submission for the weekly bulletin, please submit to Joey by noon on Wednesdays. You may call him at 673-6497 or email joey@uccabilene.org.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!