



New Sermon Series

here comes the **REIGN**

Jesus' Kingdom Stories

January 17, 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

578 *We Will Glorify*

Welcome/Family News Brent Isbell

96 *I Stand in Awe*

446 *Hear, O Israel*

431 *Break Thou the Bread of Life*

Communion Tom Milholland

Scripture: John 12:23-26

Bread

176 *Lamb of God*

Cup

Offering

179 *He Is Lord!*

Children's Church

450 *Give Me the Bible Lord, Reign in Me*

Video Parable: Matthew 13:1-9; 18-23

Levi Huddleston, Carolyn Thompson, Elijah Tolar, Maggie Trammell

Ears for the Kingdom Brent Isbell

643 *Sowing the Seed of the Kingdom*

Elder Remarks/Congregational Prayer Paul Rotenberry

Worship Leader Mark Tate

If you would like to pray with someone today, you are invited to pray with elders Mark Hamilton and Eddie Mahanay 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

Welcome to University! If you are visiting with us today, we thank you for blessing us with your presence. You are an honored guest at UCC (our little insider shorthand for University Church of Christ). 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 your card into the offering plate later. That's all we ask. If you are new to Abilene, a college student, passing through town, visiting family or perhaps looking for a church home, we invite you to come back soon. We are grateful for the chance to get to know you and perhaps welcome you into the UCC family. This is a great church, and you'd fit right in!

Here Comes the Reign! Last Sunday, we introduced a new series looking into the **parables of Jesus**. When Jesus taught, he almost always told stories. Who doesn't love a story, right? Well, not everyone understood or appreciated Jesus' stories. Not everyone had "ears to hear" what he was saying. Today, let's think about hearing and understanding and why Jesus spoke in parables: **Ears for the Kingdom**. Our worship leader is **Mark Tate**.

This Wednesday, we continue our adult series with **Mark Hamilton** titled **Prayer in An Age of Exile**. Join us this week at 7 p.m. in the Family Room. You will be blessed if you come this class.

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

- **Hearts for the poor.** There are many people at UCC who love the poor. Not in theory, but in practice. Many of our members have been volunteering at the Christian Service Center for years. This church has a long history of loving Abilene and, in particular, loving and serving economically-challenged families. UCC members serve the working poor of Abilene in a variety of ways, and I am proud to be part of a body that feels called to minister among those Jesus called "the least of these."
- **Our youth group.** I have a teenager, so I'm a little partial on this one, but the truth is that we have a fantastic youth ministry! **Jason and Karla Craddock** are the best of the best. They love our teens, and our teens love them, for good reason. We may not have the largest youth group in Abilene (I really don't know, or care), but I do know we have teens who love God and each other. They serve. They learn about Jesus. They grow in faith and share their faith. We should be very, very proud of our or middle and high school students and the UCC adults who lead them. I know I am.

WELCOME

Michael and Andie Wearden
Emerald (8), Gabriel (6), Benjamin (4)
666 E.N. 21st Street, 79601
806-239, 1234
andiewearden@gmail.com

Jeff Otto
2102 Amy Lynn Ave., 79603
325-338-8307

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:	October 11, 2015
Worship - 392	Northern Oaks - 21
Bilingual - 68	Chisholm Place - 23
Coronado - 75	Silver Springs - 34

OFFERING:
January 10 **\$13,947.46**

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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

Potluck: Please make plans to join our first family potluck of 2016, Sunday evening, Jan. 31 from 5-7 p.m. in the MAC. Bring food for you family and a dish to share. After we eat, parents will meet in a classroom to hear about their child's Bible classes, and children will be able to play in the MAC. Supervision will be provided during this time of play.

Free Babysitting: Reserve a spot for your child on Friday evening, Feb. 5 from 6-8:30 p.m. Children six months through fifth grade are welcome to this evening of fun and games.

Save the Date: Our VBS will be the mornings of June 6-8. Please add that to your summer calendar schedule. Children three years old through fifth grade will be invited to attend.

"Love does no wrong to others, so love fulfills the requirements of God's law."

- **Romans 13:10**

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, and we would love to get to know you and connect with you.

Sunday Class Time: Our Sunday morning class meets at 9 a.m. in MAC 503. Join us!

Dwelling Place: Tonight, we'll meet at 6:30 p.m. in MAC 503. The Dwelling Place is a time of fellowship, singing and discussion. Join us!

Wednesday Nights: This Wednesday night, our gathering will meet at 6:45 p.m. at the Arringtons' house (2601 Garfield) to have a semester planning meeting. Meet at 6:30 p.m. at MAC 503 to carpool over there.

Coffee or Lunch: If you would like to grab lunch or coffee with me, Kyle, the campus ministry leader, call me at 530-615-8188.

TRANSITIONS

Joey Roberts, Communications Minister
joey@uccabilene.org

Tonight, our small group will be at the **Huddlestone's** house (858 Avenue F). Check out the Facebook page for the menu and to RSVP.

Next week, we will meet in the MAC. The following week we will meet at the **Gibbs'** home. More details to come.

We need hosts to sign-up for **small groups** throughout the rest of the semester. If you don't feel like you can host in your home, give me a call and we can find accommodations at the building for those dates.

Keep up-to-date with the Facebook page for more events and information pertaining to Transitions. Have an idea for an event or project or get-together? Email me and let me know: joey@uccabilene.org.

YOUTH MINISTRY

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

No Activity Tonight: We will not have an activity tonight since we will have just returned from Winterfest.

Summer Camp Registration and Philosophy:

The youth ministry believes it is important to have a variety of experiences during time in the youth ministry, and camps fit into that philosophy as well. We strongly encourage all eligible HS students to attend LCU's Encounter, which is just for HS students, at least once after spending their MS years at Camp Blue Haven.

- **Camp Blue Haven (June 11-24)** is for entering fifth graders through 2016 HS graduates, allowing nine years of eligibility. It costs \$420 for the two-week session plus additional expenses for travel and trading post. New camper registration began on Friday. Returning campers may register beginning Feb. 15. More information can be found on the website at CampBlueHaven.com.

- **LCU Encounter (June 11-18)** is for entering ninth graders through 2015 HS graduates, allowing five years of eligibility. It costs \$295 for the week with few additional expenses for fast food meals. Encounter registration will open soon and be open through May or when camp reaches capacity (approx. 800). You can register at LCUcamps.com.

HS Mission Trip Date Set: On July 14-22, we will be returning to Kinlichee, Arizona in the Navajo Nation to continue work we started this past year. In July 2015, we began work on a new meeting place for the congregation after their main meeting place had burned down. A group from Clarendon were funding most of that project and we joined them in helping this small church in need. Now? That facility is completed and it is time to help them in reaching out to the community. We will host a VBS as well as doing some other outreach opportunities. We are still working on the details but the date is set! More information to come soon.

Huddles Continue Wednesday Night: The **SR/JR Huddle** meets at the home of **Rusty and Amy Towell** (2910 Shirley Rd.) and is co-led by **Gerardo and Alma Lara**. The shuttle leaves the Youth Center at 6:45 p.m. and returning at 8:15 p.m. The **SO/FR Huddle** will meet at the home of **James and Mandy Scudder** this week (658 E.N. 22nd Street). The **MS Huddle** will meet in the Youth Center with **Mac and Laura Ice, Carla and Ashley Robinson** co-leading.

NEWS

Tonight is **Singing Night** during the 5 p.m. Chapel Service. Join us!

Ladies' Bible Class continues on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in the Family Room. **Joey Roberts** will be the teacher for the next two weeks.

You're invited to a wedding shower honoring **Ryan Young and Macy Wideman** on Sunday, Jan. 24 from 2-3:30 p.m. at the home of **Cathy Hertenberger** (5280 West Lake Road). Selections are at Dillard's, Target and Bed, Bath and Beyond.

PRAYER LIST

Immediate Health Concerns

Cheryl Ballard
Keith Barnier
Patty Cox
Mellisse Ewing
Phyllis Gilbreth
Jackson Hatch
Mary Leija
Harry Rowlands
Jean Simpson
Kevin Weems
Nancy Witt

Health Concerns

Mable Bailey
Randy Becton
Carl Brecheon
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.