



Spring CLEANING

returning fresh air
and sunlight
to our marriages

Wednesdays
MAC 501 at 7 p.m.

April 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

Shout Hallelujah!

Welcome/News/Congregational Prayer

Call to Worship: Psalm 89:1-2 Brent Isbell

74 Praise the Lord

504 In Loving-Kindness Jesus Came

Prayer of Thanks for God's Forgiveness

Brady Bryce

Video Parable: The Prodigal Son

136 Love for All

Communion

Gary McCaleb

Scripture: Mark 2:5-7, 17

Bread

335 In Memory of the Savior's Love (1,2)

Cup

335 In Memory of the Savior's Love (3)

Offering

635 Freely, Freely

Children's Church

The Lost Boys

Brent Isbell

18 Faithful Love

66 Doxology

Worship Leader

David Allen Sprott

If you would like to pray with someone today, you are invited to pray with elders Kris Southward and James Thompson 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 UCC! If you are one of our visitors today, we want to meet and greet you in person. If possible, please fill out a **guest registry card** (found on the seat backs) and place your card in the offering plate when it's passed. If you are new to Abilene or looking for a church home, please come back soon and get to know us. We would appreciate the opportunity to perhaps become your spiritual family!

Here Comes the Reign! Now that Easter is past, let's rejoin our series looking at the parables of Jesus. When Jesus taught, he almost always told stories. Everyone loves a good story, right? And Jesus was the Master Storyteller. Well, today we come to a real jewel in Luke 15. Charles Dickens called it "the greatest short story of all time." It's the dangerously simple tale of a family divided... a father's breaking heart... a runaway kid... and a bitter brother. It is timeless and universal. So, let's listen one more time to a classic: **The Lost Boys**. Our worship leader this morning is **David Allen Sprott**.

During April, the mid-week Family Room class will be studying **Faith and Money Matters in the New Testament** with **James Thompson**. Do you know what the Bible teaches about money? Come find out! This class will meet every Wednesday evening at 7 p.m.

Spring Cleaning! In addition, if you are interesting in strengthening your marriage, we encourage you to join us on Wednesday nights in April in MAC 501 for **Tom and Sandra Milholland's** class. Think of it as sort of a marriage tune-up. I promise, it will be a lot of fun! Come and bring a friend. Session One this week, April 6: **Reality Check**.

Want to go to Israel? Next summer, **Steve Austin** and I will be leading a group to Israel from **June 8-21, 2017**. If you are interested in going with us (or know someone who might be), contact either Steve or me for detailed information. We are very excited about this trip. We've used previous tour groups' evaluations of sites, hotels, transportation, etc. to create a fun-but-thorough itinerary, including things we've never done before. We plan to tour at least fifty sites and see many more. There is nothing like seeing the Bible stories of your imagination change to 3-D and color! Walking the world of Jesus will transform your understanding of countless biblical events and passages. We have worked hard to bring the cost down to what we believe is a reasonable bargain, and we would love to have you go with us. If you're curious—or know someone who might be—simply email or talk to me. Next year, in Jerusalem!

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:

Worship - 431
Bilingual - 58
Coronado - 77

March 27, 2016

Northern Oaks - 25
Chisholm Place - 19
Silver Springs - 62

OFFERING:

March 20 \$14,613.61
March 27 \$13,176.24

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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

Thank You: Last Sunday, Easter baskets were filled thanks to our UCC families who donated candy-filled eggs. Thank you for making this time so special for our children.

Tonight: Families are invited to come to the MAC at 5 p.m. Bring your supper for a potluck and then plan to hang around for some fun and fellowship.

High School or College: If you would be willing to help in Children's Worship once a month with puppets, songs, or Bible stories, please contact Jennifer Welch at 673-6497 or by email at jenniferw@uccabilene.org.

"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

- Romans 5:8

CAMPUS MINISTRY

Kyle Bowen, Campus Ministry leader
campus@uccabilene.org

Welcome: Thank you for worshipping with us today. Thank you for coming, and we hope we can connect with you.

Class Time: Our Sunday morning class meets at 9 a.m. in MAC 503. Our Wednesday night class meets at 7 p.m. in MAC 503.

Dwelling Place: On most Sundays, we meet at 6 p.m. in MAC 503. The Dwelling Place is a time of fellowship, singing and discussion.

Senior Sunday: Senior Sunday will be April 24. Please let Kyle Bowen or Linda Arrington know if you are a graduating senior who would like to be honored.

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.

NEWS

Join us for **5 p.m. Chapel Service** this afternoon. **Brent Isbell** will be speaking and **Gene Linder** will lead singing.

Ladies' Bible Class will continue this week at 10 a.m. on Wednesday in the Family Room.

Wednesday Night Supper will continue this week at 5:30 p.m. in the MAC with Mexican food. The cost is \$5 per adult, and children and college students eat free.

The **Ladies' Quilting Ministry** will meet Monday, April 4 from 9 a.m. to noon in Room 208.

The **Ministry of MOMs** will meet on Tuesday, April 12 at 6:15 p.m. at the home of **Lorrie Baldwin**. Please respond to the invite, and reserve your space for childcare, by April 10.

Rainbow Bible School is accepting applications for a half-time curriculum coordinator. The coordinator will work 20 hours a week, 10 months a year and manage the curriculum and instructional needs for RBS while working with teachers in their classrooms. For more information, call RBS Director Courtney Harbin at 673-6972 or email courtney@rbsabilene.org.

YOUTH MINISTRY

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

Volleyball at Sonic Today: Today at 4:30 p.m., we will meet at the Youth Center before heading over to Sonic in van(s) for some volleyball and hanging out. Bring some money if you want a drink, snack or meal. We will return to the Youth Center for pickup at 7 p.m.

Huddles Continue Wednesday Night: The SR/JR Huddle will meet at the Towells' (2910 Shirley Road). The SO/FR Huddle will meet at the Scudders (658 E.N. 22nd St). The MS Huddle will continue to meet in the Youth Center.

Senior Sunday Meeting Today: This morning, immediately following morning services, we will have a short meeting in the Youth Center for seniors and their families who want to be included in our Senior Sunday festivities. *Senior Sunday will be May 22.* Our day's events will be the same format as last year, which was different than years past, but very meaningful. If you will be unable to attend, then Jason will send you all the information. Please make sure to tell Jason that your senior will plan to be a part of the festivities.

Junior Parents Meeting - Sunday, April 10: Next Sunday, April 10 at 3 p.m., we will have a junior parent meeting to organize our Senior Sunday festivities, which is on May 22. We will divvy up responsibilities for making the day happen. Please plan to be there or let Jason know if you will be unable to attend.

For more teen news, check Facebook or emails.

THE GATHERING

Bradley Steele, Young Adults Minister
bradley@uccabilene.org

Tonight we will have small group in MAC 504 at 6 p.m. for dinner and fellowship. Food will be provided.

On **Wednesday** night, **Tom** and **Sandra Milholland** will be beginning a class on marriage called *Spring Cleaning* at 7 p.m. in MAC 501. Tom is a professor of Marriage and Family Therapy at ACU, and this class would be a great opportunity for all our married couples.

On **Thursday**, April 7, we will meet at 6:30 p.m. to share a meal together.

Join our new **Facebook Group**. Search Gatherings at UCC and find more information.

TRANSITIONS

Joey Roberts, Communications Minister
joey@uccabilene.org

Tonight we will join the Children's Ministry for a potluck at 5 p.m. in the MAC. We have some fun and fellowship after we eat.

Next week, we will meet at the Bowmans' house for small group. More information to come.

We are urging all married couples to join the Conversations Class in April as **Tom** and **Sandra Milholland** present *Spring Cleaning*. The four-week marriage seminar is sure to help strengthen our marriages and make us laugh along the way. Join us in MAC 501 at 7 p.m. on Wednesday.

PRAYER LIST

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.