



## GATHERINGS

**Bradley Steele**, Young Adults Minister  
[bradley@uccabilene.org](mailto:bradley@uccabilene.org)

**Tonight** we will meet at the **Steele'** house at 5 p.m. for small group. Hope to see you there!

**Wednesday** we will meet at 7 p.m. for coffee, dessert and Bible study in MAC 504.

Don't forget to join us for class on **Sunday mornings** at 9 a.m. in MAC 504

**Facebook Page:** Make sure to check our Facebook group for more information.

## TRANSITIONS

**Andrew Huddleston**  
[huddleston\\_andrew@yahoo.com](mailto:huddleston_andrew@yahoo.com)

**Tonight** we will be combined for a **potluck dinner in the Family Room for our LTC Showcase**. We will meet at the UCC Chapel at 5PM and have dinner after.

During the Chapel service and dinner, we will be featuring our **LTC** participants. We will also have their art and children's book entries on display. It is a night you won't want to miss.

## BILINGUAL MINISTRY

**Vini Montesdeoca**, Bilingual Minister  
[vini@uccabilene.org](mailto:vini@uccabilene.org)

Regardless of religious practice, we are very close to time of year when Christians throughout the world celebrate the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. But leading up to this time, each one of us, should prepare spiritually to commemorate that unique moment full of meaning and transcendental importance for the life of the human being. It is necessary to understand that, although Jesus' sacrifice was *physical*, the meaning and the benefits are *spiritual* and should be understood as such.

So, what does Lent means to Christians? It is a time in which we value the ministry of Jesus (Love God above all and love your neighbor as you love yourself), his submission to the Father's will and his extreme love for his creation that put him on the cross. Perhaps it is possible to value such actions through a serious; deep and intimate prayer; perhaps doing an act of contrition where we repent and keep silent; perhaps making an honest and serious commitment to maintain a relationship with the Creator; perhaps offering cordiality and even some words of encouragement to my neighbor. May this week be filled with spiritual moments and that next Sunday we arrive with a heart that is more intentional with God.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR – March 25- April 04

- MAR. 25** 8:30 a.m. – Coffee, Juice and Donuts, MAC  
9 a.m. – Bible Classes  
10 a.m. – Worship, Brent Isbell – speaker, Steve Austin – worship leader  
2 p.m. – Sip and See honoring James Crockett Bailey, UCC Family Room  
5 p.m. – Chapel Service – LTC showcase  
8 p.m. – Sanctuary Worship Service, Chapel
- MAR. 28** 10 a.m. – Ladies' Bible Class, Family Room  
5:45 p.m. – Wednesday Night Supper, MAC (Burgers)  
7 p.m. – Bible Classes
- APR. 1** 8:00 a.m. – Easter Sunrise Service, UCC Courtyard  
9 a.m. – Easter Breakfast, MAC  
10 a.m. – Worship, Brent Isbell – speaker, Eric Lemmons – worship leader  
11:15 a.m. – Easter Egg Hunt, ACU lawn  
4:30 p.m. – Easter dinner/fellowship, Nelson park festival gardens  
8 p.m. – Sanctuary Worship Service, Chapel
- APR. 4** 10 a.m. – Ladies' Bible Class, Family Room  
5:45 p.m. – Wednesday Night Supper, MAC (Chinese)  
7 p.m. – Bible Classes

## UCC ELDERS

Tim Archer  
Steve Austin  
Richard Cox  
Mark Hamilton  
Eddie Mahanay  
Ted Presley  
Paul Rotenberry  
Kris Southward  
David Swearingen  
Mark Tate  
James Thompson  
Rusty Towell  
Gustavo Villanueva, chair

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Submit your bulletin items to Marisol before noon on Wednesday.  
[marisol@uccabilene.org](mailto:marisol@uccabilene.org)



# PALM SUNDAY

HOSANNA TO THE KING

March 25, 2018

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

**Welcome/Family News** Bradley Steele

**Call to Worship**

**Responsive Reading** UCC Kids  
**John 12:12 - 16**

**167 Hosanna**

*Shout Hallelujah*

**Prayer** James Scudder

**218 Blessed Jesus**

**350 When My Love to Christ Grows Weak**

**Communion** Tim Archer

**John 17:17 - 26**

**Bread**

**318 O Sacred Head**

**Cup**

**318 O Sacred Head**

**Offering**

**590 Jesus is All the World to Me**

**Missions Special Collection** Francisco Rojas

**Children's Church**

*How Deep the Father's Love for Us*

**John 19:31 - 37** Joyce Cole

**Thorns of Silence** Brent Isbell

**628 If the Name of the Savior**

**Benediction: Ephesians 3:20 - 21**

**Worship leader** Steve Austin

*If you would like to have someone pray with you, or for you, please make your way to Room 101 at the end of service where there are UCC members waiting just for you.*

*Our Sunday morning service is broadcast live at [www.uccabilene.org](http://www.uccabilene.org).*

## REFLECTIONS

**Brent Isbell**, Preaching Minister  
[brent@uccabilene.org](mailto:brent@uccabilene.org)

**Welcome to UCC!** University Church of Christ is a great group of believers. If you are visiting today, we are very glad you came! Please take a minute to fill out a **Connections Card** (found in the seats). Use that card to share information, request prayers, or perhaps let us know you want to be a UCC member. Drop your card in the offering plate later, or fill it out online at [uccabilene.org/card](http://uccabilene.org/card). Please, come back soon!

We continue our sermon series **Thorns: Finding God in Pain**. Today is Palm Sunday, which means Easter is only a week away. Today is the day Jesus entered Jerusalem one last time to shouts of Hosanna! and palm branches covering the road. There was chaos when Jesus wrecked the temple, overturning the tables of the hucksters. There were heated arguments and questions. Friday brought shouts to "Crucify him!" It was a noisy week. But when he died, heaven was noticeably quiet. Today: **Thorns of Silence**. Our worship leader is **Steve Austin**.

Today is our **Missions Special Collection!** Be ready for our second offering to fund all our mission projects. What a blessing to be part of a church that digs deep to take **Good News** the ends of the earth!

**Eric Lemmons** and some of our kids will offer an **LTC Showcase** at our 5 p.m. evening chapel service today. Come support our **LTC group!**

This week, our new Wednesday classes continue. **Lou Seckler** will teach in the Family Room on **The Holy Spirit: God's Living Presence in the Church Today**. In Conversations (MAC 501), **Lisa Merchant** will talk about **Addressing Our Addictions**.

**Meet Marisol!** This past week, we welcomed a new employee at UCC. **Marisol Groves** is our new Administrative Assistant. Marisol will work at our front desk, answer phones, book facilities, coordinate funerals, and—in many ways—serve in the role Carla Copher-Robinson did the past few years. Many of you know Marisol and husband Jacob. We are very glad to have her as part of our team. Help us make her feel welcome!

**One week to Easter!** Next Sunday, we will have our usual special schedule in place: **Sunrise Service** in the courtyard at 8 a.m.; **Easter Breakfast** in the MAC at 9 a.m. (no classes).; **Worship** at 10 a.m.; and an **Egg Hunt** for all our children outside on the ACU lawn at about 11:15 a.m. Use this opportunity to invite someone—a friend, neighbor, co-worker—to join us for a celebration of Jesus' Resurrection.

### 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](http://www.uccabilene.org)

### NURSERY FACILITIES

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

### ATTENDANCE:

Worship - **305**  
Chapel PM - **63**  
Bilingual - **67**

### March 18, 2018

Northern Oaks - **31**  
Silver Springs - **N/A**  
Coronado - **50**

### OFFERING:

March 18 **\$9,995.92**

## FROM THE ELDERS

*Gustavo Villanueva, 2018 elder chair*

The UCC elders held their **monthly meeting** with ministry staff on March 18, 2018. There were a number of items discussed and prayed over this month, among them:

- Prayed, by name, for those who are in the hospital/skilled nursing, for those battling cancer and dementia, for the family of **Norma Williams** who had recently passed and the family of **Vini Montesdeoca** whose mother had just passed away in Ecuador, and prayers of rejoicing over **Julio Marines** who was recently baptized, and for many others.
- Welcomed new elders **Tim Archer, Ted Presley and Dave Swearingen** to the eldership (also grateful for new elder, **Rusty Towell**, who could not be with us due to family vacation). Also glad to have our new bilingual minister, **Vini Montesdeoca** with us for the first time;
- Reviewed **monthly reports** from staff members, and discussed the *large turnouts for high school huddles, excited about summer VBS* being put together by **Jennifer**, and grateful for staff as they have taken on extra duties over the past few months;
- Very glad that **Marisol Groves** had accepted the role as our administrative assistant. She and **Jacob** have been an encouragement to so many at UCC, and we are thrilled that she will be part of our office team!
- Discussed the **missions special contribution** and thankful for the *Missions Committee* working on each of these summer trips and for all of those wanting to be God's servants in foreign places;
- Thankful for **Brandon Lemley and Lance Tolar** who have spent many volunteer hours working with various areas of communication, information technology, Sunday morning A/V, and other issues on behalf of UCC. **Thank you, Brandon and Lance!**
- Discussed the need to replace **Tim Archer** as the chairman of the *Missions Committee* and **Dave Swearingen** as *Chairman of Committee Chairs* now that they are assuming new roles as elders;
- Discussed where we are at UCC and where we feel God is leading us;
- Set **April 28th as a retreat date for ministers, elders and spouses** as a way of orienting incoming elders to the eldership. This retreat will take the place of our regular monthly meeting for April.

As always, the UCC elders are grateful for each of you and covet your continued prayers, just as we remember you in our prayers.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns about what was discussed in this elders' meeting, or on any other UCC/ spiritual matter, please contact me...we would appreciate the opportunity to visit with you.

For the elders,  
**Gustavo Villanueva, 2018 Elder Chairman**

## NEWS AND NOTES

**Thank you! Bea Speck** and her family send a big thank you to all UCC friends who sent cards and remembrances on her **100th** birthday.

**LTC Showcase:** Tonight our LTC Participants will showcase all the hard work they have put in over the last 10 weeks. Our **5PM chapel** service will feature LTC participants and we will dismiss to a **potluck dinner in the Family Room**. Here we will have art and books on display and our Drama, Chorus, and Puppets teams will perform for us. Everyone is welcome to join us as we celebrate the efforts of our kids.

**Ladies Bible Class** continues in the Family Room on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Free baby-sitting is offered for anyone who attends.

You are cordially invited to attend a **Sip and See/Baby Shower** honoring **Lyric and Ben Bailey**, to celebrate the birth of **James Crockett**, today from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., at the **UCC Family Room**. The proud parents are requesting diapers, wipes and gift cards.

Have you missed a past sermon? Did you know you can access past sermons via **uccabilene.org**? Click on "Media" and "Sermon Archive" and you can see past sermons you may have missed. You can also find **bulletins** uploaded on a weekly basis.

The **Impressions Ministry** needs more people to help greet members and guests on Sunday morning. If you are willing to greet guests one or two Sundays a month, please see **Bradley Steele** or send him an email at [bradley@uccabilene.org](mailto:bradley@uccabilene.org) or call the church office (673-6497).

Need a place to volunteer? See **Jim Holmans** (safety team), **Bradley Steele** (Impressions) or **Lance Tolar** (media).

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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

### Children's Church Schedule:

**March 25** - Nathan B., Bridgette W., Ella I.

**April 1** - No children's church

**Egg Hunt:** If your child will be participating in the **egg hunt on Easter** morning following worship, **please bring one dozen filled eggs and place them in the boxes located by the welcome desk and sliding glass door.** You will need one dozen eggs per child participating. We will have visitors, so if you would like to bring an extra dozen filled eggs just place them in the basket also.

**Bible Classes:** It will not be long before summer is here, and it will be time for **new teachers** in the classroom. Please be in prayer for our children's ministry as we fill the teaching roles for this summer.

*"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."* **John 16:33**

## CAMPUS MINISTRY

Andrea Archer, Pablo Sanabria, Michael Kennedy  
campus@uccabilene.org

**Welcome:** We would like to welcome any college students with us today.

**Class:** Our Sunday morning class will meet in the MAC 503 at 9 a.m. Our Wednesday night class meets at 7 p.m. in MAC 503.

**Dwelling Place,** a time of fellowship, discussion and worship, meets Sundays at 6 p.m. (MAC 503).

## YOUTH MINISTRY

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

### REEL Faith Tonight:

In honor of **Baseball's Opening Day** later this week, we will have a baseball-themed **REEL Faith today from 4-7:30 p.m.!** This time we will be watching Jason's favorite baseball movie, **The Natural** (PG but edited for some content). With a bat made from a tree struck by lightning, a baseball wonderboy, headed for the big leagues in the 1920s, mysteriously disappears after a life-threatening incident only to return 15 years later as an unknown, 35-year-old rookie. Spiritual themes abound in this classic movie, so we will have a more open-ended discussion. Because this is baseball-themed, we will have hot dogs, Cracker Jacks and nachos for dinner and everyone is encouraged to dress up in their favorite baseball gear, bring props, and wear eyeblack. We will also have a fun, baseball pre-show, so come early.

**Huddles Continue Wednesday:** Our small-group Huddles continue on Wednesday from 7-8 p.m.. **HS Huddle** meets at the Scudder home (658 E N 22nd), and the **MS** meets in the Youth Center.

**Spring Retreat - April 27-29:** Two weeks in a row, I have made some mistake with the date, and I apologize. Our Spring Retreat will actually be **April 27-29 at Camp Butman.** The cost will be \$40 per person (\$35 if there are two or more attendees in your family). We are offering the special price of \$25 for any friends you bring who are not regular attendees. It will be a ton of fun and spiritually meaningful, so make plans to join us! As always, we will need adult volunteers so please let Jason know if you are interested. **Again, the correct date is April 27-29.**

