



BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLESS

Tonight at 6 p.m.

UCC Family Room

August 19, 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 (Psalm 111)

Holy, Holy, Holy

Prayer Don Faver

Shout to the Lord

Light the Fire

Shout to the Lord

Communion Nathan Gibbs

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Bread

Listen to Our Hearts

Cup

Listen to Our Hearts

Offering

As the Deer

Philippians 4:15-23 Micaela Villanueva

To Live is Christ Brent Isbell

Lord Take Control

Benediction (Jude 24-25)

Worship Leader Eric Lemmons

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

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

REFLECTIONS

Brent Isbell, Preaching Minister

brent@uccabilene.org

Welcome to UCC! Visiting? If so, thank you for joining us! Please fill out one of our **Connections Cards** (on seat backs) and drop it in the offering plate later (or fill it out via phone at uccabilene.org/card). We are so glad you came today and hope to greet you in person. Come back soon!

Today we finish our summer series **Stellar: A Life That Shines**. At the end of Philippians 4, Paul signs off with gratitude. Philippians is basically an elaborate thank-you note from Paul to his dear friends who've done so much to help him. Good things happen when we give. As Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Let's talk about giving as we close out this great letter today. Next week, we begin a new set of messages from the **Gospel of Mark**. We will be emphasizing evangelism and outreach to our neighbors, so begin reading Mark 1 with sharing the Good News in mind. We're calling our fall series **Just GOSpel**.

God's Holy Fire! Looking ahead to next Sunday, all our adult classes will kick off an exciting new congregational series called *God's Holy Fire*. Join us in the auditorium at 9:00 a.m. as **James Thompson and Mark Hamilton** provide us a helpful orientation to our study. Our adult educational focus this fall is on the nature and function of Scripture and how to study it more faithfully. Separate classes will begin on Sept. 2.

Wednesday is our Back-to-School Cookout. It's ACU Wildcat Week, and we are planning to fire up the grill and invite all of our neighbors here on the Hill to join us for **hamburgers and all the fixings!** We will start at 7:00 p.m. in the MAC and go until 8:00 p.m. **Bring scissors, glue sticks, and pencil boxes** to help kids at our adopted school, Taylor Elementary. This is a great opportunity to bring friends, co-workers, people who live on your street, strangers, anyone who enjoys food and fellowship. It's also a great chance to help our community. We are preparing for a big crowd. See you Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m.!

Tonight is Back-to-School Bless. Join us this evening for our fourth annual **Back-to-School Bless service**. This simple time of worship is designed to bless all our students and educators on the eve of a new year. We will gather in the **Family Room at 6:00 p.m.** We will share communion. Several of our sisters and brothers will read Scripture, pray, and reflect over our coming academic year, which for many begins this week. This is a short but refreshing time, and there is something for everybody, so please come join us!

BAPTISM

Daniel Giddings

NURSERY FACILITIES

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

ATTENDANCE: Aug. 12, 2018

Worship - 284 Northern Oaks - n/a
Bilingual - n/a Silver Spring - 23
Coronado - 68 Chisholm Place - 12

OFFERING:

Aug. 5 \$18,960.09
Aug. 12 \$16,169.08

CLASS TIMES:

Sunday - 9 a.m.
Wednesday - 7 p.m.

WORSHIP TIMES:

Sunday - 10 a.m.
Sanctuary - 8 p.m.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

733 E. N. 16th Street
Abilene, TX 79601

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

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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

Promotion Sunday: Children start their new classes today. Please make plans to walk your child to their class and meet their Bible class teacher for the fall.

Children's Church: We start our new semester of Children's church today. This time of worship is provided for children three years old through kindergarten. Our theme this year will continue our VBS theme, "Build your life on Christ".

Back to School Blessings: If you are planning to attend the "Back to School Blessing" this evening at 6 p.m. in the family room, I am asking for children to bring their backpack for this special evening.

"Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it".
Proverbs 4:23

CAMPUS MINISTRY

Andrea Archer, Pablo Sanabria
campus@uccabilene.org

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

Starting August 26, our normal class schedule will resume. We will have class Sunday morning at 9 a.m. in our classroom (MAC 503).

There will be no Dwelling Place that night; it will resume **September 2.**

On August 29, we will have class in MAC 503 at 7 p.m.

GATHERINGS

Bradley Steele, Associate Minister
bradley@uccabilene.org

Tonight, check Facebook for more details

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.

TRANSITIONS

Andrew Huddleston
huddleston_andrew@yahoo.com

Tonight, we will join the Back-To-School blessing at 6 p.m. There will be no other activity or meal.

OPERATION BLUE JEANS: THANK YOU!

Dear University Church family:
Thank you so much for your very generous outpouring of **\$20,000** last Sunday towards Operation Blue Jeans! You will enable us to help the many, many school children who have been coming here all summer to get new school clothing, new shoes and children's Bibles. This past week we focused mainly on helping school kids with these items and our clothing room was full of children, including many refugee students!

If you were out of town last Sunday and did not have a chance to give, you can still make a donation by writing a check to "Christian Service Center"; and put it in an envelope and then in the collection plate.

"Whoever is kind to the needy honors God."
Proverbs 14:31

You certainly honored the Lord in how you blessed many low-income Abilene school children this summer through your generosity!

With much gratitude in Christ,
Jim Clark
Director, Christian Service Center

YOUTH MINISTRY

Jason Craddock, Youth Minister
jason.craddock@uccabilene.org

Summer Recap and Celebration Today

Before our UCC Back-to-School Bless Service at 6 p.m., we will meet in the Youth Center to share some of the best memories, stories, photos and videos from this past summer. Because of our time crunch (being right before the 6 p.m. service), we will begin at 4:30 p.m. in the Youth Center. We will have snacks afterward. Send your favorite photos and videos to Jason, and start pulling up your memories.

Wednesday Night: We will have a devo and class on Wednesday night from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Youth Center, followed by snacks and hangout time.

END OF SUMMER DATES

Summer Recap/Celebration - Sun., Aug. 19
AISD Begins - Wed., Aug. 22

BILINGUAL MINISTRY

Vini Montesdeoca, Bilingual Minister
vini@uccabilene.org

Ladies prayer group will meet on Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. Every lady is invited to join us for dinner and prayer time. **(Even if you don't speak Spanish).**

NEWS AND NOTES

Sanctuary will resume today at 8 p.m. Join us for some community worship.

Quilting ladies will meet Monday, August 20 at 9 a.m. in Room 208.

Sip and See Shower: You are invited to attend a come and go **Sip and See/Baby Shower** in honor of **Heather and Ted Moreno** to celebrate the birth of **Baby Judson Thaddeus**, on **August 26th** in the Family Room right after service (11 a.m.). Gift cards are requested.

SEASONS: This new intergenerational **women's Sunday school class** will begin meeting in **Room 123 on September 2.** It is a special time of Bible study and prayer, encouragement, shared wisdom and spiritual support for women walking side by side through all seasons of life. Dr. Carisse Berryhill will be teaching **God's Holy Fire: The Nature and Function of Scripture.** If you are already part of a class, or serve in a specific ministry function each Sunday morning, thank you! If, however, you would enjoy studying the Bible with other women in a comfortable setting where you can bless and be blessed, please treat yourself to this hour of peaceful fellowship. SEASONS was designed with you in mind. See you there!

Fall semester ESL classes will resume on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. in the MAC, starting on **September 5.** **Anyone interested in helping with this ministry** is invited to an organizational meeting at 7 p.m. in the MAC on Wednesday, August 29.

Our **Wednesday Night Meals** will start on **September 5th from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.** in the MAC. Our first meal will be chicken!

UCC ELDERS

Tim Archer
Steve Austin
Mark Hamilton
Ted Presley
Paul Rotenberry
Kris Southward
David Swearingen
Mark Tate (Sabbatical)
James Thompson
Rusty Towell

Chair
Gustavo Villanueva

Please submit your bulletin items to Marisol Groves before noon on Wednesday, marisol@uccabilene.org