



JUST **GO!** GOSPEL

MARK'S URGENT JESUS

September 9, 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 125)

Baptism

47 Holy, Holy, Holy

Days of Elijah

Prayer Kris Southward

Refiner's Fire

Before the Throne Above

Communion Brady Bryce

1 Corinthians 10:14-22

Bread

364 Come, Share the Lord

Cup

364 Come, Share the Lord

Offering

Kid's Corner Jennifer Welch

Firm Foundation

Mark 1:21-28 Cheryl Bacon

Caring is Daring Brent Isbell

490 It is Well With My Soul

Benediction (Philippians 4:7)

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

Just Gospel! The first horror movie I remember being aware of as a kid was *The Exorcist* (1973). By 2018 standards, the original was pretty tame and borderline silly. However, at the time, it was troubling and controversial and graphic. Today we come to a text in Mark 2:21-28 that contains an exorcism; a man with a demon comes to church (okay, synagogue). Mark has plenty of demons. This gospel is heavy on these action-stories in which Jesus—the *Holy One of God*—confronts and defeats forces of darkness, evil powers stealing precious lives.

But, interestingly, Mark is not interested in horrifying details. In fact, there are few details at all. Mark's story emphasizes what matters most—that Jesus has authority over evil powers. The unclean spirits know Jesus and obey him. Other teachers? Establishment religion? Not so much. Jesus sees past tradition and bad religious habits. He sees past what others fear. Instead, he sees and cares for persons. What if his disciples and his churches did the same? What if we fully shared his concern for humans being robbed of their humanity? I wonder what holy power we might see unleashed in our world? This morning: **Caring is Daring.** Our worship leader is **Eric Lemmons.**

We will mark the new school year with a sweet UCC tradition—**giving Bibles to our new kindergarten class!** These boys and girls are our future, so let's give them a lot of love and encouragement!

Adult Education Minute: Today our adult classes are in Week Three of our congregational series **God's Holy Fire.** Our focus today is *The Grand Narrative of Scripture.* The Adult Teaching Committee believes this is a critical study, and we encourage each of you to participate. Next week: *Basic Exegesis.* Please read Romans 8 to prepare.

Tonight's Chapel: At 5 p.m., we are hosting a **Service of Prayer for the Healing of Our Sick.** Many of our brothers and sisters are fighting disease or physical challenges. Everyone is invited!

Wednesdays at UCC. Join us Wednesday night at 7 p.m. in the Family Room as we continue our series on **Christ and Culture** with **James Thompson.** In MAC 501, Conversations will continue **Domestic Violence: What, Why and How to Help** with **Lisa Merchant** from ACU.

CLASS TIMES:

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

WORSHIP TIMES:

Sunday - 10 a.m., 5 p.m.
Sanctuary - 7 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: Sept. 2, 2018

Worship - **342** Northern Oaks - **38**
Bilingual - **73** Silver Spring - **20**
Coronado - **59** Chisholm Place - **12**

OFFERING:

Sept. 2 **\$18,450.53**

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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

Prayer Service This Evening: This evening we will have a special time of prayer in our 5 p.m. chapel. The MAC will be open for parents to drop off their children for a time of prayer and play.

Fall Family Fun: Make plans to enjoy the outdoors on Sunday evening, **Sept. 30** at the "Trammells' Bunkhouse" located near Coronado's Camp. More information will be headed your way soon. In the mean time, **mark the date on your calendar** and pack you lawn chair and mosquito spray in the trunk of your car. Food and drinks will be provided.

Children's Church: If you are in the youth or college group and would like to help with children's worship, one time a month, please visit with Jennifer Welch.

"We are looking forward to the new heavens and new earth he has promised, a world filled with God's righteousness." **2 Peter 3:13**

CAMPUS MINISTRY

Andrea Archer, Pablo Sanabria
campus@uccabilene.org

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

Our Sunday morning class begins at 9 a.m. in our regular classroom (MAC 503). We will be meeting at 7 p.m. on Wednesday in MAC 503.

Join us tonight for a meal in our classroom at 6:15 p.m., followed by Sanctuary at 7 p.m. in the Chapel.

TRANSITIONS

Andrew Huddleston
huddleston_andrew@yahoo.com

Tonight, we will meet at the Family Room at 5 p.m., hosted by the Kings'.

Next week, we will all meet together at Jason's Deli.

NEWS AND NOTES

Today from 2-4 p.m. come to a **Sip and See** to meet the new son of Hailey and Charles Rotenberry: **Campbell Paul Rotenberry** at the home of Cheryl Mann Bacon. Diapers and wipes are welcomed.

This Sunday, **Sanctuary will be at 7 p.m.** Join us for some community worship in the Chapel.

Quilting Day will be Monday, September 10 at 9 a.m. in room 208.

Ladies Bible Class will meet every Wednesday at 10 a.m. in the Family Room.

Tuesday Night Lights! The UCC ministry to young women gets a reboot this fall on **Sept. 11** at the home of Celia Tate at 6:30 p.m. All young women, 40ish and younger, are invited whether you're single, married, a mom or not. Join us for dinner, fun and fellowship. Childcare will be provided at 6:15 p.m. in the Early Childhood Center. RSVP no later than Monday noon to Jennifer Welch (Jenniferw@uccabilene.org).

Join the board members of **Haitian Christian Foundation** on a free BBQ meal on **Friday, September 14th at 6:30 p.m.** in UCC Family Room. A special presentation will be given on the Center for Biblical Training in northern Haiti. If you want to attend this dinner, please RSVP to 325-677-0033 or hcfcbt@gmail.com.

Fight Night with Les Parrott, at the Abilene Civic Center on Sunday, **September 16th** from 7-9:30pm. Fight Night will provide a time of growth for couples throughout the entire community, tickets can be purchased at lesandleslie.com

YOUTH MINISTRY

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

Prayer Service Tonight Followed by Youth Group Time: Join us tonight at 5 p.m. in the Chapel as we spend time as a congregation in prayer for many of our members who are sick. Afterwards, we will go to the Youth Center for a giant sandwich, followed by free time until 7:30 p.m. Make plans to join us for this important time, and invite a friend to share in this time with us. We know this is the second Sunday when we normally do not have an activity, but we will take off next Sunday instead at the beginning of ACU's Summit.

Huddles Begin Wednesday Night: During the school year, our Wednesday nights look a little different than during the summer, as we move to a smaller group format. Our HS students meet in a home, while our MS teens continue to meet in the Youth Center and occasionally other locations for a field trip. This week Huddles begin! The **HS Huddle** will meet again at the home of James and Mandy Scudder, just a half-mile down Campus Ct. Lance and Bicky Tolar will be leading this group. The **MS Huddle** will meet in the Youth Center, being led by Jason and Karla Craddock, along with Jacob and Marisol Groves. Everyone is asked to think of someone they can invite each week to join them for this time of sharing, prayer, study and fun. This is where we want our group to grow from as we relax in the middle of our week to share, pray, study and grow together. Did I mention there will always be snacks too?

Activity Schedules: If you or your kids have any activities (school or otherwise) coming up, please let Jason know so we can plan to make it out to support them.

Sign up for a CRADtalk: CRADtalks are "Conversations Worth Having" with Jason and/or Karla Craddock. During these conversations there will be a little small talk, but we want to dive into our students' spiritual lives, offering some coaching and strategies for spiritual growth and just focus on building students up. Our goal is to leave with a plan for growing deeper in relationship with God and praying over anything for which you may want prayer. Guys will generally just go out with Jason and girls will go out with either Jason and Karla or just Karla. So, please let us know when you can get together and we will set up for some time at Sonic, over coffee, or somewhere else.

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.

BILINGUAL MINISTRY

Vini Montesdeoca, Bilingual Minister
vini@uccabilene.org

Bilingual Potluck: Join us **today** at 12 p.m. in the Youth Center. Everyone is invited!

THANK YOU

Dear UCC Family, Thank you for all your expressions of love during my surgery and continued recovery. It is so comforting to have my dear family praying and caring for me. I am grateful for each of you and the loving work we share for the glory of God. **-Jana Davis**

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