



MISSIONS COLLECTION

SUNDAY MARCH 31

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.

March 10, 2019

WORSHIP

Welcome/Family News
Communal Reading (Psalm 51)
Jason Craddock

66 *Doxology*

134 *The Lord's My Shepherd*

Shepherd's Prayer Rusty Towell

10 *A Mighty Fortress*

How Deep the Father's Love for Us

Communion Kris Southward

Bread

383 *Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross*

Cup

383 *Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross*

Offering

Children's Church

Be Thou My Vision

Ezekiel 36:22-32

Whose Story is This? Bradley Steele

867 *To Canaan's Land I'm on My Way*

Benediction: Philippians 4:7

Worship Leader Mark Tate

*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.

REFLECTIONS

Brent Isbell, Preaching Minister
brent@uccabilene.org

Good morning! If you are visiting today, we welcome you to UCC. If you are a guest, we invite you to fill out a guest registry card and place it in the offering plate. We hope to greet you in person. Please return soon!

Follow Me: Mark's Path to the Cross is our current series going through Easter Sunday. Today **Bradley Steele** is preaching for me. Our worship leader is **Mark Tate**.

Adult Education Minute: Today, our adult classes are in Week 8 of our series **Pilgrim Heart: The Way of Jesus in Everyday Life**. This study, based on a book by author Darryl Tippens, introduces us to practical, daily disciplines of discipleship, ways we can follow and imitate Jesus all week long. Today's lesson is *Confessing*. Next week: *Forgiving*. We encourage all UCC members to attend a weekly class.

5 p.m. service: There is no 5 p.m. worship tonight, Next week, **Rusty Towell** will be speaking.

Wednesdays. This week is Spring Break, and many will be traveling. There will be no mid-week classes here at the building. In addition, there is also no Wednesday Night Supper this week. New adult class options and meals will resume next week (March 20).

CALENDAR NOTES

March 11-15 - Spring Break (AISD and ACU)

March 13 - No Classes or Wednesday Night Supper

March 31 - Missions Special Collection

April 14 - Unity Service and Potluck with Bilingual

April 21 - Easter Sunday

8 a.m. - Sunrise Service in the Courtyard

9 a.m. - Easter Breakfast in the MAC

10 a.m. - Easter Worship

11:15 a.m. - Egg Hunt for Children

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: March 3, 2018

Worship - **160** Northern Oaks - **28**
Coronado - **59** Silver Springs - **30**
Chisholm Place - **14**

OFFERING:

March 3 **\$13,342.76**

ELDER MINUTES

The UCC elders held their monthly meeting with ministry staff on Sunday afternoon, February 17, 2019.

There were a number of items discussed and prayed over this month, among them:

1. Prayed for those who are in the hospital/skilled nursing, for those battling cancer and dementia, prayers of rejoicing on the recent birth of baby **Higen Daniel Garcia** to Daniel and Yukari and the **61 men baptized in the prison ministry** in January, prayers of comfort for the families of **Tom King, Clyde Morgan and Jimmy Sinclair** who all recently passed away, and for many others;
2. Grateful for those at UCC (**Benny Gallaway, Chip Morgan, Odell Wilson, and others**) who go to the nursing homes each week to take the message of good news to these sweet individuals and share communion with them;
3. Updated check signing cards for the new year at the bank;
4. Read reports from our ministers;
5. Spent about 2 hours fleshing out a vision for UCC that we have been working on, and praying about, since last fall; Broke out into small groups of elders and staff to further fine tune the vision that we pray will encourage us more in our worship to God, the sharing of our gifts to build up the UCC family, and our ability to reach out to others with the Good News.
6. Set the next meeting date for March 17th.

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 elder's meeting, or on any other UCC/spiritual matter, please contact me...we would appreciate the opportunity to visit with you.

Mark Hamilton, 2019 Chairman of the Elders
(325) 721-4256

MISSIONS SPECIAL COLLECTION - March 31

We will have our Missions Special Collection on **Sunday, March 31**.

Funding will support upcoming short-term missions in **Cuba, Mexico, Honduras, Ecuador, and Zambia**. The goal set for the 2019 special contribution is **\$51,000**.

Please plan and pray for a generous offering so we will reach or exceed this goal and continue UCC's long-standing missions tradition.

PRISON MINISTRY

Hal Howell

Dear Brethren,
Greetings in Christ Jesus our Lord! I've got great news to share this month. First **we baptized 60 men into Christ bringing our yearly total to 120!** On the 4th Wednesday I had the privilege of baptizing **21 men** that night. So we praise God who is at work through us.

Who is that in the picture? This is **Tim LeClear** holding his newest addition Aves Rose LeClear. Tim is one of my former students and he is doing great. Tim goes out to Middleton with another volunteer on Fridays to, as he puts it, to pay it forward! Karen and I went baby shopping and took everything over a couple of weekends ago to celebrate with Tim and his wife. I even got to hold Aves and have the pictures to prove it!

The work continues and as always I want to say 'Thank You' to all who help in supporting this important effort.

Please keep us all in your prayers that the doors stay open.

Shalom,
Hal



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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

Children's Church Helpers: Maggie Trammell, Valeria Zuniga.

Spring Break Activities: On Tuesday, March 12 children first - fifth grade can meet me at Max Air at 1 p.m. The cost is \$12 for 2 hours and parents can pick up at 3 p.m. **On Wednesday, March 13**, children three years old through kindergarten are invited to bring a sack lunch and meet me at the gym from 11-1.

Take the Plunge: This will be our VBS theme this year. Our VBS will be for children four years old through fifth grade. **Save the date: June 3-5.** This will be a church wide event, so be in prayer for how God will use you. I will begin visiting adult Bible classes this month.

VBS Decorations: If you have anything swim or water related you are willing to donate for VBS decorations, please drop it off in the box located by the welcome center. Some examples, beach balls, floaties, pool noodles, goggles, inflatable pools, etc...

"I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel I preached is not of human origin. I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ."

Galatians 1:11-12

NEWS AND NOTES

Under Construction! Please be careful, we keep having repairs and construction. Follow the signs and go around the closed off areas, **do not try to cross through them.**

Thank you for blessing us and our baby with your presence at our baby shower. All of the notes and gifts made us feel extra special during this new adventure we are soon to have. We are thrilled and counting down the days until April 19th. While we do not know the gender or the name of our baby yet, we do know that our baby is loved by our church family. Thank you so much for everything! **Marisol and Jacob Groves**

Bea Speck, a friend to many of us when she lived here, is about to have her **101st birthday, on March 15.** She enjoyed the **card shower** we sent her last year when she turned 100. You can help us give her another one by sending her a card

Charlie Meeks, son of Dawne & Jeremy Meeks, has been admitted to a 6-8 week program at Children's Hospital in Plano. **Prayers are requested for Charlie's health & for the family.**

Dempsey Simpson will be celebrating his **90th birthday on March 23.** If you would like to send him a birthday card,

YOUTH MINISTRY

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

No Activity Tonight: It's the second Sunday this week so we will not have an organized youth activity.

Spring Youth Retreat: Our Spring Youth Retreat is now scheduled for **May 3-5** and our theme is **"Climb."** There is a lot of history behind the idea of a spiritual ascent, climbing throughout our lives to grow closer to God, and this will be the focus of our weekend. As part of that, we will also be enjoying some actual climbing of our own, for those of every age and skill level, from fun and simple to extreme and high. We are still ironing out the details but right now, it will also be camping-based and we will stay in tents as though we are on a trek up a mountain. So yes, we will be roughing it a little but we still have all (most/many) the amenities we normally have in a retreat. This has been an especially difficult retreat to schedule with so many personal and school schedules as well as our own UCC retreat last weekend to work around. I recognize this may still not be a good time for you or your teen, so please let me know ASAP if you have a conflict and we will see if we have any flexibility. If you are an adult who would be interested in attending, please let Jason know as soon as you are able too.

HS Mission Trip: Our HS Mission Trip is set for **July 12-20** in Nashville, Tennessee where we will be working with the Nashville Inner City Ministry for the week. Total trip cost and more details will be coming soon but as usual, the cost will be quite reasonable so that everyone will be able to attend. If you are an adult who would be interested in attending with us (and maybe even helping drive a van) please let Jason know as soon as possible.

No Huddles Wednesday Night: Since so many will be out of town for Spring Break, *we will not have Huddles this week.*

CRADtalk: All of us have things we want to change at the beginning of each new year, so let's start off your new year with a CRADtalk to talk about your's. 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 focus on building students up. 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.

Senior Sunday is set for May 19. More details and senior information packets coming soon.

UYM Girls Event: "Shine!" Saturday March 23 from 9:30am - 11:30am. More details to come (or you can text Morgan with questions!)

CAL HER BLESSED LUNCHEON

Join *Christian Homes* on **April 10th** at the Abilene Convention Center for a fun-filled lunch featuring **Melissa Radke**. After working in Nashville as a session singer for many notable artists, She returned to Texas where she has embraced a life of exciting and unexpected adventures. **Eat Cake. Be Brave, her best-selling book**, will be available for purchase. Yes, we will have cake!

For information and tickets, visit the website at www.christianhomes.com or call 325-677-2205. See you there!

CAMPUS MINISTRY

Andrea Archer, Pablo Sanabria

campus@uccabilene.org

We would like to welcome all college students joining us today!

We do not have any activities for this week due to spring break. Have a blessed time with family, volunteering or just enjoy relaxing without classes!

We will be meeting back in the classroom Sunday, March 17th!

20's & 30's

Bradley Steele, Associate Minister

bradley@uccabilene.org

Tonight, check Facebook for small group details.

Wednesday, there will be no activities or classes.

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

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

TRANSITIONS

Andrew Huddleston

huddleston_andrew@yahoo.com

Tonight, there is no small group.

A host is needed for next week.

BILINGUAL MINISTRY

Vini Montesdeoca, Bilingual Minister

vini@uccabilene.org

Ladies Prayer Group will meet Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. Join us for dinner and fellowship. For location, please call the church office.

Today, join us for our monthly potluck at 12 p.m. in the Youth Center. Everyone is invited!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR - March 10 - April 3

- MAR. 10** 8:30 a.m. - Coffee, Juice and Donuts, MAC
9 a.m. - Bible Classes
10 a.m. - Worship
5 p.m. - No Chapel Service
- MAR. 13** **No Wednesday Night Supper**
- MAR. 17** 8:30 a.m. - Coffee, Juice and Donuts, MAC
9 a.m. - Bible Classes
10 a.m. - Worship
5 p.m. - Chapel Service. TBD - Speaker; Art R. - Song leader
- MAR. 20** 5:45 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. **WNS:** Hamburgers and Hot Dogs
7 p.m. - Bible Classes
7 p.m. - **Family Room.** *How We (Really) Got the Bible - Wendell Willis*
7 p.m. - **Classroom 501.** *Being a Diverse United Church - Vini M.*
- MAR. 24** 8:30 a.m. - Coffee, Juice and Donuts, MAC
9 a.m. - Bible Classes
10 a.m. - Worship
5 p.m. - Chapel Service. TBD - Speaker; TBD - Song leader
- MAR. 27** 5:45 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. **WNS:** Chinese Food
7 p.m. - Bible Classes
7 p.m. - **Family Room.** *How We (Really) Got the Bible - Wendell Willis*
7 p.m. - **Classroom 501.** *Being a Diverse United Church - Vini M.*
- MAR. 31** **MISSIONS SPECIAL COLLECTION**
8:30 a.m. - Coffee, Juice and Donuts, MAC
9 a.m. - Bible Classes
10 a.m. - Worship
5 p.m. - Chapel Service. TBD - Speaker; TBD - Song leader
- APR. 3** 5:45 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. **WNS:** Chicken
7 p.m. - Bible Classes
7 p.m. - **Family Room.** *How We (Really) Got the Bible - Wendell Willis*
7 p.m. - **Classroom 501.** *Being a Diverse United Church - Vini M.*