

BLESSING BRIGADE

The Blessing Brigade Needs You! God has blessed each of us with gifts and calls us to use those gifts generously to His glory. Is one of your gifts the ability to visit with those in our family who are in the hospital, or at an extended care facility, or homebound? If so, the Blessing Brigade would really like for you to consider being a part of a large team whose goal is to visit and bless our UCC family members who are dealing with health issues.

The Blessing Brigade is a new UCC ministry that is actively searching for members who love to brighten the day of others, to give a word of encouragement, a hug and a smile to those who are looking for hope, to offer a word of prayer...to simply bless those with health needs. We want to make sure everyone is visited on a routine schedule and that nobody is overlooked.

Many of you are already doing this while others have this gift and are looking for a way to use it in this area but aren't sure how to get plugged in. This is your opportunity and we need you!

Our goal is that each team member will be asked to visit once or twice a month in areas they feel comfortable. Some may feel more comfortable visiting the homebound and some may feel best at a hospital. Some have more time on the weekends and some during the week. No matter your time availability we would love to visit with you about joining this group.

Currently there are about 40 people in the Blessing Brigade but we need more...we really need you!

Interested? Please let one of the Blessing Brigade committee members know: Wanda Bradford, Roberta Brown, Becky or Bo Green, Janette or Gene Linder, Karen or Kris Southward.

upcoming events

Dec. 17: We will show "Christmas with the Kranks" on Tuesday, Dec. 17 at 1:30 p.m. If you need a ride, visit with Jennifer so we can make arrangements to pick you up. We will provide popcorn and drinks, but you are welcome to bring your own candy or other movie snack.

Dec. 22 and Dec. 29: There will be no Bible classes for any age.

Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Service, **Carols and Candles**, will be held in the **Chapel** from **6-7 p.m**

LTC Registration: Registration for Leadership Training for Christ is now open. LTC is open for anyone from 3rd grade through 12th grade. The registration link has been posted to the UCC Transitions Facebook page. If you have any questions, or need a link to the registration page, please email Eric Lemmons at eric.lemmons@acu.edu.

A Note From the Adult Teaching Committee: As we conclude our Advent series this week, we want to tell you about next year's spring curriculum. We will be studying "**The Letter to the Ephesians and to UCC: Being the Church That God Calls us to Be.**" These lessons will emphasize how, in Christ's body, great barriers between people are overcome as we are empowered by God's Spirit. These will be timely lessons for our community as we travel a new path on our ongoing journey as a faithful community. We will announce details soon. Meanwhile, we hope you all have a blessed Christmas as we live into our joyous expectations for the coming of Christ, our Savior!

WELCOME

Bradley Steele, Lead Minister
bradley@uccabilene.org

Good morning! Welcome to UCC! Today we'll continue our short walk through the Gospel of Matthew as we prepare ourselves for the celebration of Christ's coming at Christmas; our text is from **Matthew 11:2-11**. Today, John the Baptist asks the question that arises when things fall apart: "Are you really the One?" Is Jesus really who he says he is, or is this just wishful thinking? This morning, we'll explore what we can learn both from Jesus' answer and John's question. Our worship leader today is **Eric Lemmons**.

Make sure and join us for our annual **Christmas Eve Service, Carols & Candles**, on **December 24** in the **Chapel** from **6-7 p.m.**

Please mark your calendars for the **UCC Family Retreat** on **February 28-March 1** at **HEB Camp** near Leakey, TX. It's sure to be another wonderful weekend of worship, fellowship, and rest.

Come join us at our **5 O'Clock** evening service tonight at **5 p.m.** in the **Chapel**. **Vini Montesdeoca** will be speaking, and **Daniel Garcia** will lead singing.

WORSHIP

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Welcome Jennifer Huddleston
Call to Worship *Isaiah 35:1-10*

*Shout to the Lord
How Great Though Art
Worthy is the Lamb*

Shepherd's Prayer Ted Presley

Emmanuel

Communion Tom Milholland
Mark 14:22-25

Bread

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Cup

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Offering

Children's Church

Every Giant Will Fall

Matthew 11:2-11

Are You Really the One? Bradley Steele

His Grace Reaches Me

Worship Leader: Eric Lemmons

CLASS TIMES

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

WORSHIP TIMES

Sunday - 10 a.m.
5 p.m. in the Chapel

SMALL GROUPS

meet each Sunday night.
Check the bulletin for times and locations.

We also have a Spanish-English **Bilingual Service** that meets in the Chapel at 10 a.m.

NURSERY FACILITIES

are available during worship in the Early Childhood Center for your convenience.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY (Birth–5th Grade)

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

Thank you: The “Winter Wonderland” Christmas party was a lot of fun! I would like to recognize a few individuals who worked behind the scenes. **Lenis Zuniga**, works very hard in many different areas here at church, but she always has the kitchens ready and stocked for us to use. Willing to come early and get the drinks made and ready for everyone was **Maggie Trammell, Kate Tolar, Ellie Ice and Kaila Craddock**. This group was full of smiles and kept me laughing. During our party, **Celia Tate** prepared a festive, fun Hot Cocoa Bar for everyone to enjoy, Thank you Celia, it was a delightful treat.

Wednesday Night: Children kindergarten through fifth grade will meet upstairs in Room 231. We will enjoy some fun festive games and treats to wrap up our year together.

Holiday Schedule: Children, Nursery and Adult Bible classes will not meet on Sunday, Dec. 22 or Sunday, Dec. 29. Also, during this holiday break, Children's church will not meet. We will resume Sunday, January 5.

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to see the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.” Luke 4:11;18-19

YOUTH MINISTRY (6th–12th Grade)

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

Youth Ministry Christmas Party: Our own UYM Christmas Party is **tonight from 5-9 p.m.** in the Youth Center. We will have food, games and a Christmas movie so make plans to join us and invite a friend. As usual, we will provide the main course and teens will prepare side dishes and desserts (on their own or with some help). Go to our sign-up and sign up for a dish here: <https://tinyurl.com/uymchristmas2019>.

Combined Huddles Wednesday Night: We will have a combined Huddle on Wednesday night from 7-8 p.m. in the Youth Center with snack and a devo. Make plans to join us for this special time together as our last formal meeting before the holidays.

NEWS AND NOTES

To our UCC family, Words are inadequate to express our gratitude to you for what you did for us when I had my heart incident. Thank you for every prayer, thought, card, visit, meal, and other expression of love and concern. We are truly humbled by your love and kindness. I continue to get stronger and am thrilled to be able to rejoin you in our church activities.

With love, Paul Rotenberry

Dear All, I can't begin to thank you for your continued love and care of my father's beloved cousin, Marion Bush. I take great comfort in knowing that your ministry surrounded and comforted her as she was ushered home.

Love, Katie Bush Barrett

SHEPHERDS

Tim Archer
(325) 668-9327

Steve Austin
(281) 787-3721

Ted Presley
(325) 370-8638

Paul Rotenberry
(325) 673-2600

Kris Southward
(325) 513-6784

David Swearingen
(908) 803-6811

James Thompson
(325) 660-8882

Rusty Towell
(325) 320-0831

Gustavo Villanueva
(325) 338-7827

2019 Elder Chairman

Mark Hamilton
(325) 721-4256

elders@uccabilene.org

NUMBERS

December 1, 2019

ATTENDANCE

Worship – 282

Bilingual – 42

Online Viewers – 216

Northern Oaks – 34

Silver Springs – 20

Coronado – 72

Chisholm Place – 17

Bright Pointe – 26

OFFERING

\$15,063.14

CAMPUS MINISTRY (Young Adults)

Jason Craddock — jason.craddock@uccabilene.org

Morgan DeBoer — morgan@uccabilene.org

Sunday AM: We invite all university students to come join us for our weekly Sunday morning Bible class at 9 a.m. in MAC (Gym) Room 503. We'll even have donuts and K-cups ready! So set an alarm (or two) and come join us!

The Peak Continues Wednesday Night: Our Wednesday night Campus Ministry program is called The Peak and is open to all college students or those around that age. It will be a relaxed time of sharing, prayer and faith discussions right after Wednesday Night Supper from 7-8 p.m. in the MAC (Gym) in room 503.

If you ever have any questions, don't hesitate to email the campus ministry or find Jason Craddock at the front after morning worship!

GATHERINGS (20's & 30's)

Bradley Steele — bradley@uccabilene.org

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

Wednesday, join us for Bible study, coffee and dessert at 7 p.m. in room 504.

TRANSITIONS (Young Families)

Andrew Huddleston — transitions@uccabilene.org

Due to many other activities occurring, there will be no small group tonight. We will start back up on January 5th.

The calendar for spring small groups has been posted on our Facebook page. If you would like to host, you can sign up there or let Christine Bowman know the date.

BILINGUAL MINISTRY (Spanish-English Group)

Vini Montesdeoca, Bilingual Minister — vini@uccabilene.org

Ladies Bilingual Bible Class gathers every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. The location changes every week; please call the church for more details.

Men's Prayer Group every Saturday at 7 a.m. at McDonald's on Judge Ely.

Friday, Dec.20 at 7 p.m. we will meet for a **Christmas Party** in the Family Room

SMALL GROUPS

Ezzell & McCaleb	Linda Ezzell — lindaezzell@hotmail.com
Rotenberry's	Liz Rotenberry — rotenberryl@acu.edu
20s & 30s	Bradley Steele — bradley@uccabilene.org
Southward's	Kris Southward — msscpas@suddenlink.net
Green's	Bo Green — bo.e.green@gmail.com
Young Families	Rusty Towell — rxt01a@acu.edu
S.A.L.T	Sandra Morrow — smor1944@gmail.com
Presley's	Ellen Presley — ellen_presley@eli360.com
Transitions	Andrew Huddleston — aph97a@acu.edu

LIFTING UP IN PRAYER

Immediate Concerns

Zach Ice
Salem Micklely
Carol Alford
Carl Brecheen
Cathy Chisholm
Milton Evitt
Ian Williams
Marianna Rasco

Health Concerns

Ellis Anderson
Roma Lee Aberegg
Gay Barton
Vicki Blair
Phyllis Gilbreth
Ina Green
Myra Holmans
Exa Fay Hooten
Ann Hulett
Bob Hunter
Shirley Hunter
Marshal Kellar
Shirley Kellar
Mary Leija
Jeannette Lipford
Dale McAnulty
Imogene McAnulty
Martha Morris
Virginia Mosier
Norma Franklin
June Presley
Carlos Reyes
Marilyn Reyes
Kay Robbins
Gina Sadler
Michael Sadler
Alex Shead
Bettye Shipp
Yvonne Sinclair
Micaela Villanueva
Nancy Witt
Harry Rowland