If you're new to UCC, or to Churches of Christ, welcome! We want you to feel at home.

BE OUR guest

Worship Practices

Why do we sing a cappella? Churches of Christ have a rich tradition of singing without musical instruments. This enables us to focus on the words of the songs and enjoy the harmony of our voices. Some sing various musical parts (as projected on the side screens). If this seems confusing, just follow along with the song leader (words projected in the middle).

Why do we stand when reading scripture? We do this as a sign of respect to distinguish the Word of God from any other words that are spoken during worship. For the Lord's Supper reading, we sit to signify sitting at the table with Jesus.

What is the Lord's Supper, and who takes it? The Lord's Supper (communion) originated when Jesus ate with his disciples before his crucifixion. During that meal, Jesus took bread and broke it for his disciples to eat. He also took cup of wine and shared it with them. Jesus said to them, "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." When the communion trays are passed, you will have the opportunity to eat the bread and drink the wine (grape juice), just as Jesus and his disciples did. We welcome all who wish to remember and celebrate the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus to participate.

Do I need to give during the offering? The offering is collected from UCC members to support the ministry of the church. Some give when the plates are passed. Many others give online. Anyone is welcome to give, but visitors should feel no obligation to do so.

Guest Information

What is Children's Church?
Listening to a sermon can be difficult for young children. Most weeks, we have an optional Children's Church service for children ages 3 through 2nd grade.
An announcement will be made when it is time for Jennifer Welch, our Children's Minister, to lead the children to the place they gather for worship. She will return them to the Sanctuary before the end of service.

What if my child is crying or needs to move around? We love the sound of babies! If your baby or toddler becomes restless, we have a toddler's area in the back of the Sanctuary to allow children to move around. A moms-only sitting room in the rear foyer provides a comfortable space for nursing or feeding your baby. A staffed nursery is also available in the Early Childhood Center.

Servicio Bilingüe en la Capilla – Si deseas adorar a Dios en español, te invitamos a unirte a nuestro servicio especial en la capilla a las 10 a.m. ¡Todos son bienvenidos!

Next Steps

What are the Guest Connection Cards? These cards on the back of the pew in front of you provide a way for us to reach out to you and pray for you if you would find that helpful. Please complete the card and drop it in the collection plate when it is passed.

Who can I talk to if I have a spiritual, physical or emotional need? Our Lead Minister, Bradley Steele, would love to meet with you after service. Or feel free to call the church office if you'd rather come by at another time.

Campus Map
Scan this code for a map of our facilities.
uccabilene.org/map

Connection Card
Scan this code to fill out your connection card online.
uccabilene.org/card

WEEKLY focus

A GUIDE FOR WORSHIP & LIFE TOGETHER

Welcome to UCC!

We're so glad you've joined us for worship this morning. This guide is here to help you engage fully in today's service and to support your spiritual practices throughout the week. Inside, you'll find today's songs, Scripture readings, and the names of those participating in worship.

If you're a guest, the back page explains some of our worship practices—things that might be new or different to you. We hope these notes make you feel more at home as we worship and live life together here at UCC.

In the center pages, you'll discover family news, upcoming events, Bible classes, small group opportunities, and a list of our church family members who need prayer. You'll also find Scripture readings for the week to nurture your spirit, plus contact information for our ministers and shepherds.

We invite you to explore these pages, pray over the sick, rejoice with those celebrating milestones, lift up our ministers, shepherds and staff, and walk with us through the week's daily readings.

May this guide help you connect more deeply with God and with our church family.

Worship Slides
Scan this code with your phone camera for worship slides.

UCC UNIVERSITY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Worship

Doxology

Welcome & Call to Worship
Randi Williams

I Love to Tell the Story

Shepherd's Prayer
Kris Southward

Create in Me a Clean Heart

1 Peter 3:13-22
Lily Lemmons

Children's Church

Freely, Freely

Acts 17:22-34
Today's Message

As the Deer Thirsts

Surround Us, Lord

Communion & Offering
Matthew 26:26-29
Jordan Turney

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

Benediction

Worship Leader: Jeremy Meeks

Today's Message

"In Him We Live"

Acts 17:22-34

Bradley Steele

May 10, 2026

Children's Ministry (Birth–5th Grade)

BIG VBS Meeting: Anyone participating in VBS should plan to meet on Wednesday, May 13, at 6 p.m. in MAC 504. You are welcome to bring your dinner and eat during the meeting.

VBS Camp Chaos Registration: Registration is open for VBS for children four years old through fifth grade. Register at uccabilene.org/vbs. VBS will be held May 28 and 29 from 6-8 p.m. and May 30 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Youth Ministry (6th–12th Grade)

Huddles continue this Wednesday from 7-8 p.m. in the Youth Center.

Campus Ministry (Students & Non-Students)

The Campus Ministry slows down during the summer, but we will still have our Sunday morning Bible studies as well as getting together for dinner, games, movies, and maybe even a fun trip.

To find out about any activities we may have, subscribe to our GroupMe Group: bit.ly/CampusGroupMe or text Jason at (325) 668-4457.

Bilingual Ministry (Open to All)

The Bilingual Ministry meets at 9 a.m. on Sunday morning for class in room 109, and worship at 10 a.m. in the Chapel.

News & Notes

Farewell to the Santiagos — Today is Michael, Whitney, and Mia Santiago's last Sunday with UCC. Please stop by the portico foyer after worship today to wish them farewell and sign a gift for them.

LIFT Domino Night — Ladies, join us on Tuesday from 6:30-8 p.m. in the Family Room for domino fun! Choose a domino game (42, Chicken Foot, Mexican Train) and join in with other ladies for fun and fellowship! Or just join a table to watch and visit!

Save the Date — Make plans to join us for our End-of-School Bash on Wednesday, May 20, from 5:30-7 p.m. in the east MAC parking lot. We will have water slides for the kids and hamburgers and hotdogs!

Audio/Visual Team Volunteers Needed — We are expanding our AV Team and invite those high school age and older to serve. No experience necessary and training provided. Please see Jason Craddock for more information.

Manna Needs - May Manna will be held on May 18. The following are the needs for this month: canned corn, pasta sauce, peanut butter (small jars), seasonings packets, instant oats, and dry soups. Canned beans or meats, pasta, jelly, and snacks are not needed this month. Donations can be left at the Manna desk in the Welcome Center.

Shepherds

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2026 Elder Chair

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Children's Minister
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Michael Santiago
Youth Minister
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Jason Craddock
Campus Minister
jason@uccabilene.org

Online Giving

uccabilene.org/give

Wednesday Bible Class Offerings

All classes begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Conversations - MAC 501 - Faith & Professions
Wednesday Recharge - MAC 502 – Currently watching videos by Ray Vander Laan on the book of Exodus.
The Bridge - MAC 504 (will resume in the fall)
20s & 30s - Main Building, Room 101
Bilingual Ministry - Main Building, Room 109
Youth Ministry - Main Building, Youth Center
3-18 Months - Early Childhood Center, Room 302
18-24 Months - Early Childhood Center, Room 305
Two-Four Year Olds - Early Childhood Center, Room 309
Kindergarten-Fifth Grade - Main Building, Room 233

Daily Readings

Our Readings for this week from the *Revised Common Lectionary*

Monday, May 11
Psalm 93; Genesis 9:8-17; Acts 27:39-44

Tuesday, May 12
Psalm 93; Deuteronomy 5:22-33; 1 Peter 3:8-12

Wednesday, May 13
Psalm 93; Deuteronomy 31:1-13; John 16:16-24

Thursday, May 14
Acts 1:1-11, Psalm 47, Ephesians 1:15-23

Friday, May 15
Psalm 93; 2 Kings 2:1-12; Ephesians 2:1-7

Saturday, May 16
Psalm 93; 2 Kings 2:13-15; John 8:21-30

Lift Up In Prayer

Don Baber
Shirley Baber
Vicki Blair
Lucy Hatch
Marshal Kellar
Eddie Mahanay
Peggy Marler
Imogene McAnulty
Tom Milholland
Mike Nance
Kelly Roberts

Prayer Prompts

Pray for courage to follow God's call. Acts 16:9-10

Pray for joy under God's just rule. Ps. 67:4

Pray for hope in God's new creation. Rev. 21:22-23

Pray for Christ's peace over fear. Jn. 14:27

"When joy is gone and hearts are sick, O God, you give us Christ as our healing balm. He came in human flesh that he might give himself as a ransom for our salvation and anoint us with the Spirit of consolation and joy. Hear the cry of your people, that we may rejoice in the richness of your love and be faithful stewards of your many gifts. Amen."

Reproduced from *Revised Common Lectionary Prayers*