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
Jennifer Huddleston

Come, Thou Almighty King

Shepherd's Prayer
Jeff Childers

A Shield About Me

Genesis 18:1-15
Pablo Sanabria

Children's Church

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Matthew 9:35-38
Today's Message

Living Hope

What the Lord Has Done in Me

Communion & Offering
Matthew 26:26-29
Wendell Willis

What the Lord Has Done in Me

The Greatest Commands

Benediction

Worship Leader: Jeremy Meeks

Today's Message

"Compassion"

Matthew 9:35-38

Bradley Steele

June 14, 2026

Children's Ministry (Birth–5th Grade)

Terrific Tuesday: Children in grades 1st-5th are invited to the MAC on Tuesday, June 16 & 23, from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Jennifer Welch will provide crafts, games, and lunch!

D6 Summer: Families will meet on Wednesday from 7-8 p.m. at Nelson Park Pavilion C. We will enjoy singing, a family-inclusive devotional, play, and fellowship during this time.

Youth Ministry (6th–12th Grade)

Tonight we join the 20s & 30s small group in the MAC from 5-7 p.m. Please bring chips, fruit, or dessert to go with the provided pizza.

All youth girls are invited to the Ladies' Summer Lunch on Wednesdays from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Girls will help set up the lunch and enjoy the lunch with our UCC ladies.

On Wednesday we will join the rest the church for worship at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

BLAST: We will have BLAST on Thursday from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. More details will be sent out this week.

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

Manna Market — We will have two Manna Markets this month: June 15 & 29. The following items can be left at the Manna desk in the Welcome Center or the church office. Items needed: canned black beans, canned corn, pasta and pasta sauce, small peanut butter jars, pancake mix.

Ladies' Summer Lunches — Ladies' Summer Lunches meets on Wednesday, at noon in the Family Room. All ladies are invited to attend. Bring a dish to share!

Sanctuary — On Wednesday night we will have a worship service at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary. This week we will be worshipping with the Jovenes for Christ summer camp.

Shepherds

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Mac Ice
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2026 Elder Chair

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Ministers

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Lead Minister
bradley@uccabilene.org

Jennifer Welch
Children's Minister
jenniferw@uccabilene.org

Jason Craddock
Campus Minister
jason@uccabilene.org

Online Giving

uccabilene.org/give

Covenant Group Interest Meeting — If you are interested in joining a Covenant Group this fall, please join us for an interest meeting on Wednesday, June 24, at 6:30 p.m. in MAC 504.

Ice Cream Family Night— Make plans to join us for our Ice Cream Family Night at 7 p.m. in the MAC on June 24. Bring your favorite homemade or store-bought ice cream to share!

Mission Request — The Cuba team is in need of the items below for their trip in July. Donations can be dropped off at the Church Office or in one of the boxes in the Welcome Center or Chapel. Donation deadline is July 2. The team is also in need of large suitcases or duffle bags.

Medications: Pain reliever (for adults and children), Prednisone, Pepto Bismol, adhesive tape, acid and heartburn reducer, triamcinolone, allergy relief, multi-vitamins, vitamin C, D, E, triple-antibiotic ointment, folic acid, surgical gloves.

Food items: Coffee, powdered milk, dehydrated noodle-soup mixes, bouillon cubes, oregano, cumin, whole bay leaves, cinnamon powder, spaghetti, cornstarch, jell-o, cookies, electrolyte hydration packets.

Daily Readings

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

Monday, June 15
Semi-continuous: Psalm 126; Genesis 23:1-19; 1 Thessalonians 3:1-5
Complementary: Ps. 105:1-11, 37-45; Joshua 1:1-11; 1 Thess. 3:1-5

Tuesday, June 16
Semi-continuous: Psalm 126; Genesis 25:7-11; 2 Thess. 2:13-3:5
Complementary: Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45; 1 Samuel 3:1-9; 2 Thess. 2:13-3:5

Wednesday, June 17
Semi-continuous: Psalm 126; Nehemiah 9:1-8; Luke 6:12-19
Complementary: Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45; Proverbs 4:10-27; Luke 6:12-19

Thursday, June 18
Semi-continuous: Psalm 86:1-10; Exodus 12:43-49; Hebrews 2:5-9
Complementary: Psalm 69:7-10, 16-18; Jeremiah 18:12-17; Hbs. 2:5-9

Friday, June 19
Semi-continuous: Psalm 86:1-10; Genesis 35:1-4; Acts 5:17-26
Complementary: Psalm 69:7-10, 16-18; Jeremiah 18:18-23; Acts 5:17-26

Saturday, June 20
Semi-continuous: Psalm 86:1-10; Ezekiel 29:3-7; Luke 11:53-12:3;
Complementary: Psalm 69:7-10, 16-18; Jeremiah 20:1-6; Lk. 11:53-12:3

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 welcoming hearts.
Gen. 18:1-15

Pray for thankful spirits.
Ps. 116:1-2,12-19

Pray for hope in trials.
Rom. 5:1-8

Pray for compassion for the weary. Mt. 9:35-10:8

"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*