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
Sara Trammell

Awesome God

Shepherd's Prayer
Mac Ice

He Leadeth Me

1 Corinthians 12:2-11
Jordan Turney

Bind Us Together

Luke 16:1-13
Today's Message

I Am Resolved

Ten Thousand Angels

Communion & Offering
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
Jim Clark

When My Love to Christ Grows Weak

How Great Is Our God

Benediction

Worship Leader: Topher Fangio

Today's Message
"True Riches"
Luke 16:1-13
Bradley Steele

August 2, 2026

Children's Ministry (Birth–5th Grade)

Teachers are needed for the Fall Wednesday Night Bible classes for children two years old through kindergarten. Please pray about this ministry opportunity. Contact Jennifer Welch if you are interested in volunteering.

Youth Ministry (6th–12th Grade)

Tonight we will be swimming at the Williams' house (6350 Summerhill Rd) from 5:30-8 p.m. Food will be provided.

We will host Mission Stay this week, August 5-8, for all middle school youth. Please sign up by Tuesday. Reach out to Randi Williams 254-413-2128, or Laura Ice 615-714-7189 for more information. You can also sign up at the church office.

Next Sunday, August 9, is promotion Sunday for all incoming 6th graders. Please join us as we welcome them to the youth group!

We will have a parent meeting for all youth group families on Sunday, August 9, in the Youth Center at 5:30 p.m. We will go over information regarding the fall semester and we encourage all youth parents to attend.

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

Wedding Shower — This afternoon there will be a wedding shower honoring Lorena Zuniga and Connor Collins at 2:30 p.m. in the Family Room. Lorena is the daughter of Lydia Zuniga. The couple is registered on Amazon.

Sanctuary — Our Wednesday night summer devotional meets on Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the Chapel. Cole Bennett will be this week's teacher. All adult classes will attend.

Covenant Group Interest Meeting — If you would like to join a Covenant Group this fall, please plan to come to an interest meeting on Wednesday, at 6:30 p.m. in MAC 504. This will be our final interest meeting before we launch our groups at the end of August.

Shepherds

Jeff Childers
childersj@acu.edu

Mac Ice
macice27@gmail.com

KB Massingill
ucckb@proton.me

Jason Morris
morrisj@acu.edu

Ted Presley
ted_presley@eli360.com

Robert Rhodes
robert.rhodes@acu.edu

Chris Shupe
cwshupe68@gmail.com

Kris Southward
kris@abilenecpas.net

James Thompson
thompsonja@acu.edu

Blake Williams
blakelee75@yahoo.com

2026 Elder Chair

Alan Caffey
alanrcaffey@att.net
(325) 513-5785

Ministers

Bradley Steele
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

Operation Blue Jeans Collection — Next Sunday , August 9, we will have our Operation Blue Jeans special collection! Jim Clark and Meredith Horn, the Coordinator of OBJ, will tell us this Sunday about the exciting expansion of this ministry to school children.

Back-to-School Bash — Make plans to join us for our Back-to-School Bash on Sunday, August 16, from 5:30-7 p.m. in the MAC. We will have dinner and activities! Join us as we kick-off the school year!

Daily Readings

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

Monday, August 3
Semi-continuous: Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Genesis 31:22-42; Romans 1:8-1
Complementary: Psalm 78:1-8, 17-29; Deuteronomy 8:1-10; Romans 1:8-15

Tuesday, August 4
Semi-continuous: Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Genesis 32:3-21; Acts 2:37-47
Complementary: Ps. 78:1-8, 17-29; Deuteronomy 26:1-15; Acts 2:37-47

Wednesday, August 5
Semi-continuous: Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Isaiah 43:1-7; Matthew 15:32-39
Complementary: Ps. 78:1-8, 17-29; Exodus 16:2-15, 31-35; Mt. 15:32-39

Thursday, August 6
Semi-continuous: Ps. 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b; Gen. 35:22b-29; Acts 17:10-15
Complementary: Psalm 85:8-13; 1 Kings 18:1-16; Acts 17:10-15

Friday, August 7
Semi-continuous: Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b; Genesis 36:1-8; Acts 18:24-28
Complementary: Psalm 85:8-13; 1 Kings 18:17-19, 30-40; Acts 18:24-28

Saturday, August 8
Semi-continuous: Ps. 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b; Gen. 37:5-11; Matthew 16:1-4
Complementary: Psalm 85:8-13; 1 Kings 18:41-46; Matthew 16:1-4

Lift Up In Prayer

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

Prayer Prompts

Pray for steadfast faith.
Gen. 32:22-31

Pray for joy in God's presence. Ps. 17:1-7

Pray for love of others.
Rom. 9:1-5

Pray for generous hearts.
Matt. 14:13-21

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*