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GOVERNANCE MEETINGS



Board of Stewards Meeting
December 17 • 6:00pm | RM 150

UCC SUPPORTS AND PRAYS FOR

Our Global Missionary Partners:
Elena Huegel, Mexico
Larry and Debbie Colvin, Ghana

This week we pray for:
 **Israel/Palestine**



AS A GREEN CHALICE CONGREGATION:

UCC joins churches across the country in faithfully caring for God's creation.

CONNECT WITH US



MINISTERS ON CALL—available after hours and on weekends for pastoral care emergencies.

If you have a need, call us at **817.926.6631** and follow the prompts, fill out the pastoral care request form found at the bottom of our website or email us at pastoralcare@uccftw.com.

JOURNALS • EMAILS • WATCH • LISTEN

We offer a variety of ways to connect with our many ministries from printed materials to digital resources. Visit our website for all the different ways we are trying to meet and support you on your spiritual faith journey. Please help yourself to printed materials found at the Information Points near the Front Desk or across from room 207.



ASSISTED LISTENING HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE

Devices are available; please ask an usher to obtain one.
Restrooms located in the Gallery (second floor).



Website
UniversityChristian.org



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817-926-6631



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UNIVERSITY
Christian Church

Open minds, loving hearts

December 15, 2019

Do Not
Be Afraid
#morejoy

www.UniversityChristian.org

A Disciples of Christ Congregation




WELCOME

TO UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

We're so happy that you have joined us today and pray your time with us be filled with a sense of connection. Please let us know if you need prayer support or if you're visiting by filling out a communication/prayer request card located in the back of the pews.

— Rev. Dr. Russell Peterman • Senior Minister



UCC

AND

YOU

If you want to learn more about UCC and what it means to be part of our faith community, please email stacy.mccoy@uccftw.com or speak to a minister. More information is available on our church website.

TODAY & FEATURED EVENTS

Youth Christmas Parties

Chi Rho • 6:30pm-8:30pm | Harris' Home

CYF • 6:00pm-8:00pm | Fike's Home

Contact: jamie.plunkett@uccftw.com

Christmas Poinsettias—Last Day to Order!

Purchase a poinsettia to remember, honor, appreciate or celebrate the special people or events in your life.

Finals Feast: Trip to the Tropics

Monday, DEC 16 • 5:00pm-7:00pm

College Students are invited to take a study break and join us for a night of food and fellowship- invite your friends and neighbors!

Contemplative Practices for Adults & Children

Wednesdays, DEC, 18 • 5:45-6:30 | Sanctuary

This Advent, explore different ways to connect with God and grow spiritually with contemplative prayer. Each session will focus on a different practice. A parallel program for children K-5 will be held in 211.

Prayer of Dedication

(9:00) Elder: Tod Miller

(11:00) Elder: Danyelle Ackall

(11:00) Communion Hymn 416, stanzas 1 & 4

Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face

Hymn Tune: CANDLER

Invitation to the Table and The Words of Institution

Prayer for the Bread and Cup

(9:00) Elder: Lyn Willis

(11:00) Elder: Stuart McDonald

The Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

Laudamus Te (from "Gloria") • Antonio Vivaldi

Dana Hapemen and Janet Hubbell, sopranos

*Hymn of Discipleship 119, stanzas 1 & 2

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Hymn Tune: VENI EMMANUEL

*Benediction and Choral Response


*Ringing of the Tower Bells

*Postlude

Toccata from Variations on HYFRYDOL • Albert L. Travis

The Lord's Supper (also called communion) is a celebration of Christ's love for the world. Christ is the host and invites all to share in this meal. Our communion bread is free of gluten, wheat, dairy, yeast, eggs, soy, nuts, and corn and we also use alcohol-free grape juice.

University Christian Church is dedicated to Living the Good News of Jesus Christ with Open Minds and Loving Hearts. If you proclaim Jesus as the Christ and would like to partner with us on your journey of faith, we invite you to speak to a minister after worship.



The angels that appear in the story of Jesus' birth gave short and to-the-point messages. Their favorite was #donotbeafraid.

This Advent, you'll see feathers and angel wings around UCC. Take a picture with the angel wings and share your experiences of #morehope #morepeace #morejoy #morelove on social media!

2

7

The Passing of the Peace is one of the most ancient worship responses. Having received Christ’s peace, we pass it on.

Today’s offertory anthem is a ballad, reportedly sung at the Feast of Corpus Christi in the early 15th century. It recites a story of Joseph and Mary traveling to Bethlehem for the census. This apocryphal text was arranged by David Willcocks (1919-2015), famously known as the organist at King’s College, Cambridge, and director of the Royal College of Music in London.

Doxology is a term used to describe an expression of praise to God. Feel free to sing the last phrase as “Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost” if you wish.

The Peace

One: The peace of the Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.

*** (11:00) Hymn of Response 125**
Come, O Long-expected Jesus
Hymn Tune: HYFRYDOL

Invitation to Offering

Receiving of Tithes and Offerings
The Cherry Tree Carol • David Willcocks
Chancel Choir and Dr. Todd Prickett, choirmaster
Joseph was an old man, and an old man was he, when he married Mary in the land of Galilee.
And as they were walking through an orchard so good, where were cherries and berries as red as any blood.
O then bespoke Mary, with words both meek and mild,
“Pluck me one cherry, Joseph, for that I am with child.”
“Go to the tree then, Mary, and it shall bow to thee; and you shall gather cherries by one, by two, by three.”
Then bowed down the highest tree unto our lady’s hand;
“See,” Mary cried, “see, Joseph, I have cherries at command.”
“O eat your cherries, Mary, O eat your cherries now; O eat your cherries, Mary, that grow upon the bough.”
Then Mary plucked a cherry as red as any blood, then Mary went she homewards all with her heavy load.

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***The Doxology 47**
Hymn Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host:
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

UPCOMING EVENTS Register, RSVP or learn more online.

Room in the Inn
Wednesday Evenings
Room in the Inn is open for the winter season. Sign up online to serve or stop by The Gallery after worship to learn more about this ministry of radical hospitality.

Longest Night Service
Saturday, DEC 21 • 6:00pm
Chapel of the Good Shepherd
A service for those dealing with grief and hardship during the holidays.

Young Adult Christmas Party
Sunday, DEC 22 • 6:30pm • JV’s House
College students and recent grads are invited to catch up with friends and celebrate the holiday season! **RSVP to Jessica Vacketta by December 20.**
Contact: jessica@uccftw.com

Christmas Eve Worship
“Let Heaven and Nature Sing”
Noon • 5:00pm • 8:00pm • 11:00pm
However and whenever you choose to worship this Christmas Eve there is a service for you! For descriptions of each service visit our website.

UCC Offices Closed—Christmas
DEC 25-26
In observance of Christmas UCC’s offices will be closed.

Red Envelope Offering
Throughout Advent, we invite you to prayerfully consider a special Christmas gift to the ministries and outreach of UCC. Red envelopes may be found in the Sanctuary pews.

WORSHIP STAFF

CLERGY
REV. DR. RUSS PETERMAN
Senior Minister
REV. RENEE HOKE
Executive Minister
REV. SHANNON MOORE
Senior Associate Minister
REV. JAMIE PLUNKETT
Minister of Youth and Families
REV. DR. TODD PRICKETT
Minister of Music
REV. JESSICA VACKETTA
Minister of Connections
REV. KERA WATTS
Minister of Children and Families
REV. ALLISON BRIGHT
Assistant Minister for College
ADDISON GARDNER
Assistant Minister for Youth
LEADING MUSIC TODAY
JANET PUMMILL
Senior Organist
SUPPORT STAFF
ANN BOWLING
Childcare Coordinator
SAM DEMPSEY
Front Desk Reception

HELPING US WORSHIP TODAY

Chancel Guild:
Lori Eagleton, Randy Eagleton,
Ann Lesok, Mandy Teichelman
Web Host: Rev. Jessica Vacketta
Sound: Mike Coffey
Video/Livestream: Jack Stewart
Radio Announcer: Troy Toumey

Advent is a season of waiting and anticipating the coming of Christ into the world.

Discovery Kids for grades K-5 is available during worship. Join us in Discovery Headquarters RM 211 and learn to put faith into action. Children will return to Sanctuary and sit with families during the Communion hymn.

Red text is read by the congregation. Asterisks (*) indicate times when you are invited to stand. Feel free to remain seated if need be.

As we worship, we are aware that no words can adequately describe God or encompass God's nature. In hymns and prayers, feel free to use language that reflects your image and understanding of God.

Prelude

Variations on HYFRYDOL • Albert L. Travis
Janet Pummill, organ

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Russ Peterman

Ringling of Tower Bells and Procession of Acolytes

(9:00) Kole and Kade Ewing (11:00) Lily Sanders and Josie Scanlon

Introit and Lighting of the Advent Candle of Hope

(9:00) TCU Students: Taylor Kurtz & Miranda Sullivan
(11:00) TCU Students: Naiomi Gonzalez, Sarah Davis & Kelly DeLameter
(Following the reading and lighting of the candle, please sing the Introit with the choir)

Do not be afraid; more joy is coming, now hear the angel:
Do not be afraid; joy is on the way!

*Call to Worship

(9:00) Rev. Allison Bright (11:00) Rev. Shannon Moore

One: Holy Living God, Blessed Jesus, Guiding Spirit.

All: Light in us your flame of joy as we worship today.

One: Open our hearts to hear your message and grant us courage to be your messengers in the world.

All: In the midst of fear, create joy for us.

*Processional Hymn 138

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn
Hymn Tune: REJOICE, REJOICE

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Rev. Renee Hoke

Call to Prayer

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

One: Let us pray.

Pastoral Prayer, Lord’s Prayer and Choral Response

All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

The Scripture in Context

Scripture | Matthew 1:18-25
Urbin McKeever, reader

Congregational Response

One: The Word of God, for the people of God.
All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon | Do Not Be Afraid
Rev. Dr. Russ Peterman

Today’s sermon is part three in the Advent series, Do Not Be Afraid, in which we look at the angels that appear in the story of Jesus’ birth. Their messages were often short and to the point—their favorite line being, “Do not be afraid!” As we look at the stories of these winged messengers, we will contemplate what messages we can offer that will counteract a culture of fear and bring more hope

SERMON NOTES

Do Not Be Afraid • Matthew 1:18-25

#morejoy