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GOVERNANCE MEETINGS




No Meetings This Week.

UCC SUPPORTS AND PRAYS FOR

Our Global Missionary Partners:

Elena Huegel, Mexico
Larry and Debbie Colvin, Ghana

This week we pray for:

 **Colombia** and
Mission Coworker **Michael Joseph**



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 for assistance.
Restrooms located in the Gallery (second floor).



Website
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UNIVERSITY
Christian Church

Open minds, loving hearts

December 22, 2019

Do Not
Be Afraid
#morelove

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

Christmas Eve Worship Services

“Let Heaven and Nature Sing” • Luke 2: 1-20

Noon: A traditional worship service with communion and inspiring special music.

5:00pm: This family-friendly service includes an interactive re-telling of the Christmas story with a live nativity scene. With cherished carols and music by our youth handbell and children’s choirs, this service will engage worshipers of all ages.

8:00pm: This candlelight communion service begins with a thirty-minute prelude at 7:30pm, and includes music by our Chancel Choir, flugelhorn, and UCC Bell Ringers.

11:00pm: This candlelight worship service begins with a thirty-minute prelude at 10:30pm and includes music by our Chancel Choir, flugelhorn and Ad Deum Handbell Choir.

Joy to the World

- (11:00) Communion Hymn 398**
Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread
Hymn Tune: ST. AGNES

Invitation to the Table and The Words of Institution

Prayer for the Bread and Cup
(9:00) Elder: Sandra Soria
(11:00) Elder: Judy O'Donnell

The Sharing of the Bread and the Cup
Chorale Prelude: Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming
arr. J. S. Brahms

***Hymn of Discipleship 155, stanzas 1, 2 & 3**
Angels We Have Heard on High
Hymn Tune: GLORIA

***Benediction and Choral Response**

***Ringing of the Tower Bells**

***Postlude**
Toccata from Variations on a French Bell Carol
Jerry Westenkuehler

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!

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 blends a traditional spiritual “Behold That Star” with original music by Victor Johnson. An experienced composer, music educator and church musician, Victor writes heartfelt music for worship. This energetic gospel composition features a tenor soloist.

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 160**
Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming
Hymn Tune: ES IST EIN ROS

Invitation to Offering

Receiving of Tithes and Offerings
See That Star • Victor C. Johnson
Chancel Choir and Rick Hill, tenor
Dr. Todd Prickett, choirmaster
Behold that star! Behold that star up yonder! Behold that star! It is the star of Bethlehem.
See that star, see that star, see that star of Bethlehem!
There was no room found in the inn, for Him Who was born free from sin. The Wise Men traveled from the East, to worship Him, the Prince of Peace.
See that star, see that star, see that star of Bethlehem!
As the star sent forth its light, as it gleamed so bright from the highest height, a song broke forth upon the night and the star continued to beam so bright!
See that star, see that star, see that star of Bethlehem!

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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.

Prayer of Dedication
(9:00) Elder: Cheryl McDonald
(11:00) Elder: Ernie O'Donnell

UPCOMING EVENTS Register, RSVP or learn more online.

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!
Contact: jessica@uccftw.com

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.

Red Envelope Offering
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.

UCC Offices Closed
DEC 25-26 and JAN 1
In observance of Christmas and New Year’s Day UCC’s offices will be closed

BHYLF Stage Build—Volunteers Needed!
DEC 29 • 1:00pm • Sanctuary
Please bring work gloves along with a 9/16 socket wrench and crescent wrench if you have them; we will have a few spares. Food and drinks will be provided.

44th Boar’s Head Yule Log Festival
JAN 4 and 5 • 4:00pm and 6:00pm
The BHYLF is a wonderful way to celebrate Epiphany and ring in the New Year Beautiful music, costumes and pageantry make the festival a unique experience you don’t want to miss! [Tickets available to purchase online and by calling 817-926-6631, Ext. 139.](#)

WORSHIP STAFF		HELPING US WORSHIP TODAY
CLERGY		
REV. DR. RUSS PETERMAN Senior Minister	REV. ALLISON BRIGHT Assistant Minister for College	
REV. RENEE HOKE Executive Minister	ADDISON GARDNER Assistant Minister for Youth	
REV. SHANNON MOORE Senior Associate Minister	LEADING MUSIC TODAY	
REV. JAMIE PLUNKETT Minister of Youth and Families	JANET PUMMILL Senior Organist	
REV. DR. TODD PRICKETT Minister of Music	SUPPORT STAFF	
REV. JESSICA VACKETTA Minister of Connections	ANN BOWLING Childcare Coordinator	
REV. KERA WATTS Minister of Children and Families	SAM DEMPSEY Front Desk Reception	
		Chancel Guild: Lori Eagleton, Randy Eagleton, Ann Lesok, Mandy Teichelman
		Web Host: Rev. Renee Hoke
		Sound: Chris Shipman
		Video/Livestream: Jack Stewart
		Radio Announcer: Diane Cooper

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

Angels We Have Heard on High
Setting 1: Robert Lau
Setting 2: Alfred V. Fedak
Janet Pummill, organ

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Russ Peterman

Ringinɡ of Tower Bells and Procession of Acolytes

(9:00) Madelyn Prickett (11:00) Zoe Edwards and Henry Vitek

Introit and Lighting of the Advent Candle of Love

(9:00) Cliff & Maxi Millican representing People’s Bible Class
(11:00) The Butler Family: William, Anjie, Ward, Adelaide

(Following the reading and lighting of the candle, please sing the Introit with the choir)

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

*Call to Worship

Rev. Jamie Plunkett

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

All: Light in us your flame of love 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 love for us.

*Processional Hymn 159

There’s a Song in the Air!
Hymn Tune: CHRISTMAS SONG

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Rev. Jessica Vacketta

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 | Luke 2:1-15

(9:00) Stacy McCoy, reader
(11:00) Walter Echols, reader

Congregational Response

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

Sermon | This Will Be a Sign

Rev. Dr. Russ Peterman

Today’s sermon is part four 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

This Will Be a Sign • Luke 2:1-15

#morelove