



**SUNDAY WORSHIP**

9:00am & 11:00am

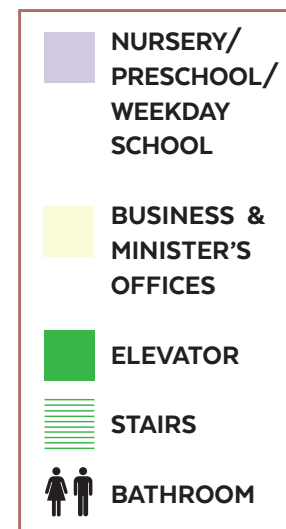
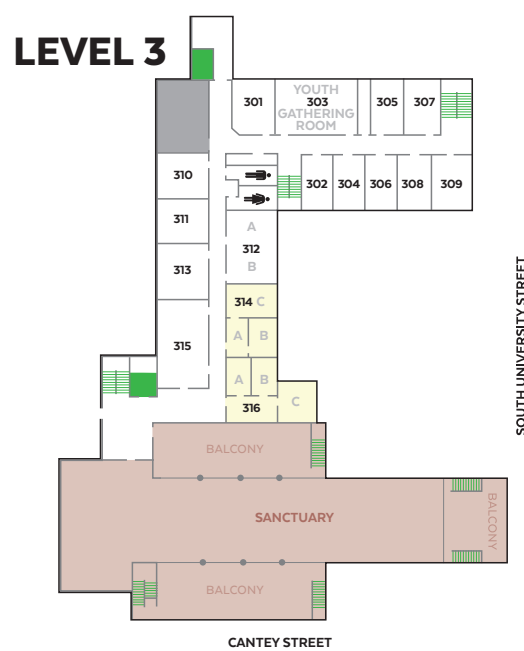
Childcare is available for all worship services.

*Open minds, loving hearts*





# Map of University Christian Church





## Words from our Senior Minister

I once heard someone say that one of the worst things that we say to our children: “I just want you to be happy.” Saying that places an unfair burden on them to strive constantly to be happy. Not that wishing happiness for them is a bad thing, but it needs to be said with happiness. Like other blessings, it comes as a by-product when we are focused on living out the life God calls us to live; being the person God created us to be. So, I wish for my children contentment and meaning, gratitude and joy. If they pursue those virtues, they’ll be happy.

It was Viktor Frankle, the death-camp survivor, who helped me see this. In his landmark book, *Man’s Search for Meaning*, he writes,

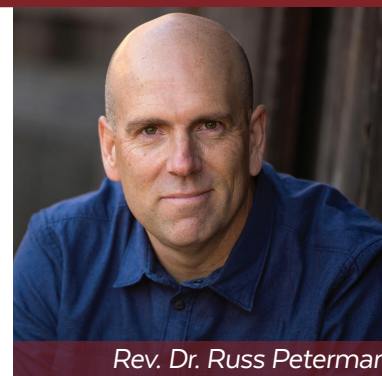
*“Don’t aim at success. The more you aim at it and make it a target the more you are going to miss it. For success, like happiness, cannot be pursued—it must ensue. It only does so as the unintended side effect of one’s personal dedication to a cause greater than oneself or as the by-product of one’s surrender to a person other than oneself... Happiness must happen and the same holds for success. You have to let it happen by not caring about it. Listen to what consciousness commands you to do: go out, carry it out to the best of your knowledge and then you will live to see that in the long run success will follow you precisely because you had forgotten to think about it.”*

Not long ago, I was having a conversation with a colleague about ways to get our churches to grow. We talked about programs and strategies, none of which seem to work with the effectiveness we hope. It then dawned on us that putting effort towards growth, like aiming at success, is the wrong effort. Perhaps the best way to “grow” the church is to focus instead on living out the call placed upon us to be the church that God created us to be, giving ourselves to causes much bigger than our own. When we do that, growth will ensue, but only because we stopped thinking about it.

I don’t think it’s an accident that we have all been brought together in this place at this time. I can’t believe that God would bring us together with all of our talents and resources, and that the ultimate thing that happens is that we all feel better about ourselves! I have to believe that God brings us together to effect massive change in our

community and in the world, that ultimately leads people to looking at this congregation and saying, “Jesus is real.”

I give thanks for all of you who gather with a willingness to give to something much bigger than yourselves and carry out the call that has been placed upon our lives. For as we do, success will follow, people will want to join us, and the world will be a better place for all.



Rev. Dr. Russ Peterman

It’s my privilege to be your pastor,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Russ".

Rev. Dr. Russ Peterman, Senior Minister



### SERMON SERIES: DEEP THOUGHTS FROM THE BELLY OF A WHALE Sundays, July 1-22

Join us as we dive into the story of Jonah and hear the important messages delivered through his experience.

## How to connect and get involved at UCC

During the summer, we live out our denomination’s mission, “To be and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, **witnessing, loving and serving from our doorsteps ‘to the ends of the earth.’** (Acts 1:8)” One way we invite you to stay connected with your UCC Family this summer is to pick-up/print off a “Flat Russ.”

“Flat Russ” is a spin on the children’s book *Flat Stanley*. In the book, a boy named Stanley becomes flattened and is able to be mailed to different places, having all kinds of exciting adventures.

We encourage you to take “Flat Russ” with you everywhere you go. Take a picture of him doing different things (going out to dinner, vacationing, camping, serving, swimming and being with friends/family).

It will be an amazing adventure! It is a great way to remember that church is more than just a building and that God, and our UCC family,

goes with us. We will also have University Christian Church Garden Flags and invite you to pick-up a flag to put in your yard or take with you as you travel.

Please share your “Flat Russ” adventures and/or UCC flag pictures on social media and tag us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Don’t forget to use the hashtag #ucconthego.

@uccfortworth, @uccftw, @uccftw

“Flat Russ” will be available at the sanctuary exits, front reception and online (downloadable). Flags will be available at the front reception desk. (Please only take one per household.)

We cannot wait to see all of your adventures! #ucconthego

*Open minds, loving hearts*



# Programs & Events

## Welcome to all things UCC!

We have so many programs and events for everyone to enjoy and participate in throughout the month. Below is a color code to help you quickly navigate whether programs are for: all (all ages and genders), men, women, college, youth, children and so on.

We look forward to seeing you all connecting, growing and serving!

● ALL

● ADULTS 18+

● MEN

● WOMEN

● YOUNG ADULTS

● COLLEGE

● YOUTH

● CHILDREN

## JULY'S FEATURED EVENTS & PROGRAMS

The following events and programs are highlights; specific to this month.

### SUMMER SABBATH

#### Month of July

Once again, UCC will observe Summer Sabbath during the month of July. The practice of keeping Sabbath is woven deep into the fabric of our faith as we remember that in the Creation story, God rested and took pleasure in all that God had made. Sabbath helps us reflect on the good work that has happened at UCC over the past year and allows us to honor the hard work of teachers, shepherds and congregational leaders.

#### What activities will take a break?

- No youth or children's classes—preschool classes and child care provided as usual
- Adult Sunday School Classes
- Most committees will observe Sabbath by not meeting in July

Consider using this gift of time in fellowship to get to know one another better. There will be spaces set up throughout the church for intentional conversations including the Gallery, Arches, and Reception area. We will also have small tables with creative materials for our younger folk.

#### While we take a break from a few activities, there are still ways to serve and participate in life-giving ministries during July. For example:

- Room in the Inn will host guests each Wednesday night through Thursday morning
- Bible studies on Wednesday morning at 10:00am taught by Rev. Shannon Moore
- Prayer Shawl Ministry on Sundays at 10:00am

Keeping the Sabbath holy gives us the opportunity to devote more focus to our worship and inspires us to let go of some of our busy-ness.

REMEMBER THE SABBATH  
AND KEEP IT HOLY

—Exodus 2

#### #UCCONTHEGO

##### Month of July

Summer is underway and UCC would love to enjoy it with you. Take a Flat Russ, a spin-off of Flat Stanley, to take selfies with or pictures of it during your vacations and fun in the sun. Then share them on social media and tag UCC. Use #ucconthego. Learn more on our website.

#### UNDERWEAR DRIVE

##### Month of July

The population served by the Presbyterian Night Shelter has increased with the addition of True Worth Place, their new Day Resource Center. We are collecting NEW adult underwear to help serve the increased number of guests. Sizes needed are Small to 3X for both women and men. Collection bins are located near the reception desk.

#### CYF SERVICE-LEARNING TRIP: PORTLAND/YAKAMA

##### July 1-8 • Grades 9-12

Service-Learning Trip is for grades nine through twelve to Portland, Oregon/Yakama Reservation. Youth in grades nine through twelve will travel to Portland, OR and Yakama, WA on the CYF Mission Trip, where they will work with Yakama Christian Mission. The group will fly to Portland on July 1 and return to DFW on July 8.

#### YOUTH STOCKHOLDERS & PRAYER PARTNERS LUNCHEON

##### July 29 • 12:00pm | Walker Hall

An appreciation luncheon honoring the members of UCC who purchased Youth Service-Learning Trip Stock, as well as those who participated in the Service-Learning Trip Prayer Partners program. The Chi Rho and CYF Youth plan to share their





stories and experiences from their recent Service-Learning Trips with the members who committed their prayers, time and financial gifts to making both trips a success.

## CONNECT

Meaningful fellowship, learning and spiritual development opportunities are available for all seasons of life at UCC. We offer an array of ways for you to grow and connect: Bible studies, book clubs, retreats, workshops and small groups.

### COLLEGE FIRST SUNDAY LUNCH

**July 1 • 12:15pm | RM 207**

A free lunch for college students the first Sunday of each month. Gather in the Gallery following 11:00am worship before heading offsite for lunch.

### YOGA WITH JULIE VITEK

**Mondays • 12:30pm | RM 205**  
**Thursdays • 10:30am | RM 205**

Julie Vitek teaches yoga every Monday and Thursday! All are welcome. \$8 if you come once a week, \$10 if you come twice a week. Bring a mat if possible. Contact: mgroom@uccftw.com

### JYF CAMP 1

**July 2-6 | Disciples Crossing Athens, TX • Grades 3-5**

This camp is for grades three through five to engage in bible stories and faith points through arts and crafts, games, swimming, interactive learning stations and child-centered worship experiences. Register online.\*

### CHI RHO CAMP 2

**July 16-20 | Disciples Crossing Athens, TX • Grades 6-7**

This is a week filled with exciting games, engaging small groups, meaningful worship experiences and great keynotes. Register online.\*

### WEDNESDAY FUN DAYS

**Wednesdays • 12:00pm-2:00pm | Offsite • Grades 6-12**

During the summer months, Chi Rho, grades six through eight, and CYF, grades nine through twelve will get together for lunch each Wednesday, and once a month will extend their time to go have fun and fellowship out and about in Fort Worth.

### SUMMER FUN SESSION 2

**Mondays & Wednesdays**  
**July 9-25 • 9:00am-12:00pm**  
**WDS Rooms**

Summer program designed to provide fun, engaging interaction for children ages 2 months to entering Kindergarten. Summer Fun is on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00am to 12:00pm for three weeks. Registration is closed.

### LATTE WITH THE LADIES

**July 13 • 9:00am | Black Rooster on Camp Bowie**

Join women of all ages for fellowship over morning coffee. We meet at local coffee bistros each month on the second Saturday. Contact: mgroom@uccftw.com

### ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

**July 12 • 3:30pm | RM 201**

A support group for caregivers of those suffering from Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. This group meets the second Thursday of the month. Contact: pam@uccftw.com.

### MEN'S THIRD THURSDAY LUNCH

**July 19 • Noon | Café Bella**

Join men of all ages for lunch and fellowship on the third Thursday of every month at Cafe Bella. Contact: robin.doyle@uccftw.com.

### WATER SPORTS CAMP

**July 30-August 3 | Disciples Crossing Athens, TX • Grades 6-12**

Water sports camp combines a love for water sports with the more traditional elements of church camp like small group Bible study and "camp" worship. Youth will learn to wakeboard and water ski. Tubing, blobbing and swimming will also be available. All sessions will take place at nearby Lake Athens and are taught by experienced adults. No previous water sports experience is required, but youth do need to be strong swimmers. This camp is currently wait listed.







# Programs & Events

## GROW

UCC offers Bible studies, classes, special speakers, small groups and more as, opportunities for you to continue your spiritual journey. Learn more about discipleship and grow your relationship with God.

### WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

**Wednesdays • 10:00am | RM 203**

A weekly Bible study led by Rev. Shannon Moore. We are currently studying Jesus' *Sermon on the Mount*. All are welcome to join at any time. Contact: [Shannon@uccftw.com](mailto:Shannon@uccftw.com).

### WILD WOMEN BOOK CLUB

**Monday, July 23 • 6:00pm | Cat City Grill**

**Tuesday, July 24 • 12:00pm | RM 150**

Join us for a special edition of WiLD Women Book Club on Monday, July 23, in the evening at Cat City or Tuesday, July 24, in Room 150 at 12:00pm (11:30am if you like to come early to share lunch and conversation). We will discuss *Lilac Girls* by Martha Hall Kelly. Contact: [mgroom@uccftw.com](mailto:mgroom@uccftw.com)





## SERVE

Part of discipleship is responding to the needs of others. From around the world and within our local community, we are being called to serve. We offer mission pilgrimages and many outreach programs to fulfill this calling.

### PRAYER BEADS

**June 7 • 10:00am | RM 204**

Prayer bead ministry meets the first Saturday of the month (except September and December) at 10:00am in Room 204. No experience needed, beginning beader skill taught and all equipment provided. Prayer beads are made for UCC and THR Harris Hospital for people in crisis situations. Contact: pam@uccftw.com

### PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

**Sundays in July • 10:00am  
RM 206**

Prayer shawl ministry welcomes all to gather to knit shawls—given in gratitude, to those undertaking a new journey in life, and to those facing surgery or loss. During July, we will meet during the Sunday School hour. Contact: mgroom@uccftw.com

### NEEDLERS

**Thursdays in July • 9:00am  
RM 312**

The Needlers gather to crochet, knit and do needlework. Learn more by emailing mgroom@uccftw.com.



### NOTE WRITERS

**July 12 • 10:00am | Arches**

The Note Writers gather on the second Thursday of each month in the Arches to send notes of encouragement, congratulations or condolences. Contact: mgroom@uccftw.com

### "ROOM IN THE INN" SIGN-UPS

**Sundays in July • Before & After  
Worship Services | Gallery**

Come by the Gallery on Sunday morning to learn more about Room in the Inn ministry and how to get involved. If you've already been trained, come sign up for your favorite job. Contact: carolmstewart@sbcglobal.net

## GOVERNANCE, COMMITTEE & LEADERSHIP

### OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING

**July 15 • 10:00am | RM 202**

This committee will meet to discuss current and upcoming outreach items. Contact: jessica@uccftw.com

### COLLEGE MINISTRY PLANNING RETREAT

**July 14 • Offsite**

This will be an all-day planning retreat. Contact: jessica@uccftw.com



## UCC MINISTRIES

### ADULT MINISTRY

We offer many ways for you to grow in your faith and connect with God and others through fellowship, spiritual development, Bible studies, book groups, retreats, workshops and small groups.

**Minister:** Rev. Shannon Moore  
**Leader:** Sue Gover

### CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

We provide a safe, welcoming and fun place for our children to discover and experience God.

**Minister:** Rev. Kera Watts  
**Leader:** Ali Briseno

### CHURCH AND THE ARTS MINISTRY

Church and the Arts enhances the understanding, shaping, and expression of our faith through the arts. We sponsor various cultural activities throughout the year.

**Staff:** Janet Pummill  
**Leader:** Lisa Wan

### COLLEGE MINISTRY

We cultivate life-giving community for students through worship, fellowship and service.

**Minister:** Rev. Jessica Vacketta  
**Leader:** Mark Tentinger

### MEN'S MINISTRY

Hang with "The Guys" for fellowship and opportunities to help serve.

**Minister:** Rev. Cyndy Twedell  
**Leader:** John Andrus

### MUSIC MINISTRY

Music enriches our worship experience and helps us understand our relationships with God and each other. All of our music ensembles are open to anyone who would like to participate.

**Minister:** Rev. Dr. Todd Prickett  
**Leader:** Bill Shelton

### OUTREACH MINISTRY

Called to demonstrate the love of God, we work within and beyond our community to build caring

partnerships and foster mutual ministries as we open our hearts in service to others.

**Minister:** Rev. Jessica Vacketta  
**Leader:** Kim McAdams Baker

### PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY

Together we share God's loving presence within the church community. We offer support in times of joy, illness, hospitalization, crises and other major life events. After hours and weekends ministers are on call: 817-926-6631, email pastoralcare@uccftw.com or use the Pastoral Care Request link found on the bottom of every page of our website.

**Minister:** Rev. Cyndy Twedell  
**Leader:** Sandra Soria

### WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Join with other women in fellowship and spiritual growth as we reach out and advocate for women in our community and world.

**Minister:** Rev. Cyndy Twedell  
**Leader:** Debbie Powell

### WORSHIP LIFE MINISTRY

We focus on ways to grow, support, and enhance how we worship as a congregation and community.

**Minister:** Rev. Shannon Moore  
**Leader:** Art Busbey

### YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Focused on ages 18 to 30, we are committed to equipping young people as the present and future of the church, by providing opportunities for spiritual growth and connection for young adults.

**Minister:** Rev. Jessica Vacketta  
**Leader:** TBA

### YOUTH MINISTRY

We focus on fun, fellowship, games, worship, opportunities to serve, spiritual growth and so much more.

**Minister:** Rev. Jamie Plunkett  
**Leader:** Julie O'Neil



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*A Disciples of Christ Congregation*

