Open minds, loving hearts

Sunday Worship
Traditional • 9:00am | 11:00am
Simple Worship • 9:30am-9:50am
Childcare is available for all worship services

#allarewelcome #allmeansall
LEVEL 2

LEVEL 3

Open minds, loving hearts
Words from our Senior Minister

Where do we go from here?

Last month we sent out a congregational survey asking our members and friends what they thought about our congregation and where they thought we might focus our attention in the months and years ahead. Let me first offer my gratitude to those who took the time and energy to complete the survey. We had a really solid number of folks that did—361 to be exact. While that might not sound like a huge number for a congregation our size, that is slightly more than half of our average worship attendance, which our strategic consultant tells us, is remarkable. He is typically satisfied with a 25% return rate so, to get more than double of that is outstanding and encouraging. Well done, church!

There were several other encouraging aspects of the results that I’d like to highlight. The first is that there are an overwhelming number of folks who are deeply committed to our church. That question received the highest number of positive responses of any in the entire survey. It is clear that you all are deeply committed and invested in your church! In addition, we are exceedingly excited about our future, are growing spiritually and feel that worship at UCC is a meaningful part of our week. There is a strong belief that God is truly at work in our congregation. These are all good, positive signs!

You all were also willing to offer your ideas of where we need to focus our energies in the near future. Please know that the team is taking all the feedback seriously. It was incredibly insightful and helpful. You offered a lot of great ideas.

We are also very aware that we can’t do everything and will need to focus on just a handful of priorities to do them incredibly well. We will need to direct our efforts and resources to those few, rather than trying to accomplish too much simultaneously. I believe we achieve better results when we give our best to a few major initiatives or projects than 15 smaller ones. We will turn our attention toward the most pressing areas that will ultimately have the greatest impact.

Once those strategic priorities are identified, working groups will be formed each of them. These groups will develop and articulate the plans and goals for each and begin putting them in place and bringing them to fruition. All of this will enable us to create a clear path to live into our new vision.

We are working hard and anticipate this next phase will be complete this fall.

As I’ve said all along, this process will address three primary questions: Where are we? Where are we going? How are we going to get there? As we begin to move into phase three, I would invite you to continue be in prayer for our beloved church as we prayerfully listen and discern where God is calling us to go and be.

I am excited about this next season and truly believe that God is inviting us into an incredible, vital future.

Grace and peace to you,

Rev. Dr. Russ Peterman

Rev. Dr. Russ Peterman, Senior Minister
How to connect and get involved at UCC

Wear gratitude like a cloak and it will feed every corner of your life.—Rumi, 13th century poet

October is my second—favorite month (if you’re curious, November is my favorite). I love the colors associated with this season, pumpkin-flavored everything, and “fingers-crossed” the opportunity to wear a sweater by the end of the month (hey—I can dream, can’t I?).

This time of year is often associated with images of harvest—scarecrows, bales of hay, pumpkin patches. Deep down, we have an instinct that urges us to gather in and prepare for winter. After taking stock of what we have, we can then express our gratitude to God and to those who have walked with us through the planting and the tending.

When we “wear gratitude like a cloak,” then we can be generous with our time. There are many ways to share our gifts for ministry—through volunteering, by learning more about the members of our family of faith, and by welcoming the guests we encounter each week.

Along those lines, I’m happy to say that UCC has recently hired Stacy McCoy to serve as our Member Engagement Coordinator. Stacy is a long-time member who has a passion for hospitality. You’ll see her each Sunday greeting people, helping guests feel at home, and welcoming new members. I know you’ll join me in welcoming Stacy to our staff, and I hope you’ll join her in making everyone feel the radical hospitality of University Christian Church!

—Rev. Shannon Moore, Minister of Faith Formations

REGISTRATION & OTHER MISC INFO

In this section, you will find opportunities to sign up for future programming, events and service opportunities. Unless otherwise noted, registrations are online at: www.universitychristian.org/open-registration

CHI RHO FALL RETREAT
November 1-3
Disciples Crossing in Athens, TX
Grades 6-8
Middle school youth will gather in Athens, Texas for weekend of fellowship and fun.
jamie.plunkett@uccftw.com

CYF FALL RETREAT
November 8-10
Disciples Crossing in Athens, TX
Grades 9-12
High school youth will gather in Athens, Texas for weekend of fellowship and fun.
jamie.plunkett@uccftw.com

Welcome to all things UCC!

We have so many ministries and events for everyone to participate in and enjoy throughout the month. Below is a color code to help you quickly navigate whether the programs on the following pages 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

Email for more information
TAKING THE NEXT-step ANNUAL GENEROSITY CAMPAIGN
October 6-27
Giving is a spiritual issue that is rooted in our call to be disciples of Jesus Christ—reflective of our understanding of the Bible and how we live out our faith in daily life. This year, we are taking a different approach to giving as we dive deeper into the meaning of generosity.

Taking the Next Step is the title for this year’s campaign. In the coming weeks, you will not hear about next year’s budget or the financial needs of the church. Instead, you will hear what God has to say to us about giving, and how your life and faith will be impacted as you take the next step. Only after we have offered our responses, will our leadership team create a ministry plan for the coming year.

In the past, we have measured success by gathering in enough money to allow University Christian Church to pay its bills. We believe a more faithful way to define success is the spiritual growth that comes from a closer walk with God.

How much do you need to give? That’s between you and God and begins with a season of prayer. “God, based on your goodness in my life, where would you want me to be in my giving?” Over the course of the next few weeks, we will offer tools to help you discover your next step in living and giving. This journey promises to be holy ground in the life of University Christian Church. Will you join us by taking the next step?

michelle@uccftw.com

WOMEN WALKING TOGETHER
Saturdays in October
Enjoy the outdoors this October with Saturday walks with the Women Together of UCC. Meet at Acme Brick parking lot (3024 Acme Brick Plaza) at 9:00am. Relaxed pace walk begins at 9:15am. Walk as far as you want to go. October 12 walk will follow Latte with the Ladies in Grapevine.

pam@kepmiller.com

YOUTH TRIALOGUE
Sundays, October 6-20
10:00am-12:00pm • Grades 8-10
This is a three week interfaith conversation between UCC, Beth-El Congregation, and the Islamic Association of Tarrant County. Each faith group will take a turn hosting youth from the other two communities to talk about their faith foundations, high holy seasons, and major symbols of faith.

UCC will host youth Sunday, October 13.

pam@kepmiller.com

BOAR’S HEAD CAST AND CREW SIGN UP
Sundays, October 13-27
8:30am-12:15pm | Arches
The Boar’s Head and Yule Log Festival is a medieval interpretation of the story of Christmas. This unique spin on a very special story is played out through a stunning procession to masterfully composed music.

Celebrate our 44th Boar’s Head and Yule Log Festival by being a part of the performing cast or by being a much needed and valued crew member. There is a place for all! By doing so, you participate in the life and mission of UCC, you get to know your fellow members and experience the camaraderie of being part of something great—sharing a wonderful gift with our community and church.

In order to accommodate the greatest number of participants, we ask that you come to the sign up with more than one part in mind. The cast and crew list will be released before mid-November.

rachel.ngurukie@uccftw.com

SABBATH IN THE SUBURBS AND BEYOND: FINDING REST, PLAY, RENEWAL & DELIGHT
Saturday, October 19
9:00am-3:00pm | RM 207
God invites us to rest from our work and to be renewed in the gift of holy time. But Sabbath often seems impossible given the demands of modern life: work, chores, errands, and kid activities, not to mention the constant nagging of email, Facebook and text messages. Join us for a day of conversation as we learn more about this ancient gift of Sabbath and how it can transform our lives in powerful ways.

Cost is $10 per person, covers lunch and a copy of the book, Sabbath in the Suburbs.

Childcare available, reservations needed by October 10. Register for workshop by October 16.

jessica@uccftw.com

2019 WOMEN TOGETHER FALL LUNCHEON—DREAM BIG
Sunday, October 20
12:15pm | Walker Hall
Join us for a delightful celebration of the women of UCC. We’ll preview plans for special events. Guest speaker Renee Hoke, Executive Minister of UCC. Invite a friend and make your lunch and childcare reservations online today.

Reservations needed by October 16. Lunch is $10 per person.

mgroom@uccftw.com
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.

**COMMIT TO LOVE—MEAL WITH A MISSION**
*Sunday, October 20*  
*6:30pm-7:30pm | Walker Hall*

Join us for a lively, informal conversation with Senior Minister Russ Peterman. This part two of a series where Russ unpacks the possibilities revealed in the new mission statement for UCC. What does “Commit to Love” look like in UCC’s relationship with the city of Fort Worth, in the way we share our resources, in the way we care for each other? Listen as Russ shares what God can do through UCC when “love” becomes the way we measure our success. Snack Supper offered at 6:00pm.

**WALK TO END ALZHEIMER’S**
*Saturday, October 26 • 8:00am*  
*Panther Island Pavilion*

Bring your family and friends on Saturday, October 26, 8:00am at Panther Island Pavilion and lead the way to Alzheimer’s first survivor. The Alzheimer’s Association Walk to End Alzheimer’s® is the world’s largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer’s care, support and research. This inspiring event calls on participants of all ages and abilities to join the fight against the disease. UCC will have a team, you can sign up for our team or donate at universitychristian.org/alz.  
✉️ pam@uccftw.com

**LATTE WITH THE LADIES**
*Saturday, October 10*  
*8:15am | Grapevine*

A wonderful monthly opportunity for women of all ages! Join us on the second Saturday of October as we meet at the T&P Building to ride TEXrail together to Grapevine for coffee and shopping. Be at the station to purchase your ticket by 8:15am for the 8:43am departure. TEXrail round-trip tickets are $5.  
✉️ debdebpowell@sbcglobal.net

**CONNECT DINNER**
*Thursday, October 17*  
*6:00pm-7:00pm | Walker Hall*

Gather with us around the table monthly on the third Thursday to fill your soul and tummy with good conversation, connected community and a delicious meal prepared by Chef Louise. College students and children 5 and under eat free, grades 1-12 $7.50 and adults $15.  
Your paid reservation makes all the difference—in person at the reception desk the Sunday before or online through the church website.  
✉️ pam@uccftw.com

**STROKE SUPPORT GROUP**
*Tuesdays • 11:00am | RM 202*

A support group for caregivers and survivors of strokes. This group meets every Tuesday.  
✉️ pam@uccftw.com
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.

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. $5 per class. Bring a mat if possible.

FAITHFULLY FIT FOREVER
Mondays • 4:00pm | RM 205
Wednesdays & Fridays
11:00am | RM 205
Join us for a light aerobic exercise program and a faithful reminder of God’s loving presence in our lives. All ages welcome.

MEN’S SECOND THURSDAY LUNCH
Thursday, October 10
Noon | Café Bella
Join men of all ages for lunch and fellowship on the second Thursday of every month at Cafe Bella.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY
Wednesdays • 10:00am | RM 203
A weekly Bible study and discussion led by Rev. Shannon Moore. The conversations are lively, there’s no homework and all are welcome to join at any time.

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. $5 per class. Bring a mat if possible.

SIMPLE WORSHIP
Sundays • 9:30am-9:50am
Chapel of the Good Shepard
Simple Worship is just that—we worship simply. This twenty-minute, come-as-you-are service is an opportunity to worship in a casual atmosphere. All ages are welcome!

SUNDAY WORSHIP
Sundays • 9:00am and 11:00am | Sanctuary
Our traditional worship services connect us to God and one another through scripture, sermon and prayer. Music, led by organ and choir, is an important element of our worship each Sunday and at special services throughout the year. Our worship bulletin includes helpful information to guide you through the service.

Children are always welcome in worship, and worship activity bags are available to help keep children engaged. Preschool childcare is available for infants through kindergarten.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP
Sundays in October
Welcome to Worship is a program to help our children prepare to be part of our larger worshiping community. This program is for our Kindergartners and four-year-olds as they prepare to transition into worship during their first grade year. In this program they will learn about worship, meet our ministers, spend time in the Sanctuary and experience the meaning and purpose of why we do what we do when we worship together.

UCC Supports Read Fort Worth
The Goal: 100 percent of Third-Graders reading on grade level by 2025. Learn how you can help with this effort by visiting readfortworth.org.

robin.doyle@uccftw.com
shannon.moore@uccftw.com
beakailey@yahoo.com
jessica@uccftw.com
Part of discipleship is responding to the needs of others. From around the world to our local community, we are being called to serve. We offer many outreach opportunities to live out this call.

**PRAYER BEADS**  
Saturday, October 8  
10:00am | RM 204  
Prayer Bead ministry meets the first Saturday of the month. 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.  
✉️ pam@uccftw.com

**NOTE WRITERS**  
Thursday, October 10  
10:00am | Arches  
The Note Writers gather each month to send notes of encouragement, congratulations or condolences.  
✉️ mgroom@uccftw.com

**PROM DREAMS**  
Thursdays, October 3-October 17  
5:00pm-7:00pm  
Prom Dreams Boutique  
Help high school students “shop” for a Homecoming dress and accessories. Sign up online or drop off gently used jewelry and/or shoes at the front reception desk. No more dress donations are needed at this time.  
✉️ maray413@gmail.com

**YOUTH HANDBELLS**  
Sundays • 5:00pm  
Regular rehearsals for the youth handbell choir.  
✉️ todd.prickett@uccftw.com

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**  
Sundays • 5:00pm | RM 206  
Prayer Shawl ministry welcomes all to gather to knit and crochet shawls—given in gratitude, to those undertaking a new journey in life, and to those facing surgery or loss.  
✉️ mj.alland@att.net

**NEEDLERS**  
Thursdays • 9:00am | RM 312  
The Needlers gather to crochet, knit and do needlework.  
✉️ mgroom@uccftw.com

**UCC CHANCEL CHOIR**  
Thursdays • 7:00pm | RM 147  
Regular rehearsals of the Chancel Choir in Shirey Hall. Childcare provided.  
✉️ todd.prickett@uccftw.com

**AD DEUM HANDBELL CHOIR**  
Thursdays • 6:00pm | RM 229  
Regular rehearsals for the adult bell choir.  
✉️ todd.prickett@uccftw.com

**KIDS HOPE USA**  
UCC partners with Rosemont Elementary to support educators and mentor students. Kids Hope USA builds life-changing relationships one at a time: One Child. One Hour. One School. One Church. If you are interested in serving as a mentor, contact Mike Wager.  
✉️ tcuwags@aol.com

**HELP FEED HUNGRY COLLEGE STUDENTS**  
Wednesdays • 12:00pm | RM 223  
We are looking for individuals or groups to help provide food for our weekly College Lunch Bunch. Please sign up online under open registrations.  
✉️ jessica@uccftw.com
GOVERNANCE, COMMITTEE & LEADERSHIP

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE
Sunday, October 6
9:00am | RM 226
The committee addresses maintenance and improvement of UCC buildings and surrounding grounds.
✉ renee.hoke@uccftw.com

MUSIC COMMITTEE
Tuesday, October 8
5:30pm | RM 150
A bi-monthly meeting to discuss the musical life of the church.
✉ todd.prickett@uccftw.com

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
Tuesday, October 8
5:30pm | RM 202
The committee regulates policies relating to our employees regarding staff hiring, salaries, employee contracts, benefits, leave and other administrative matters.
✉ renee.hoke@uccftw.com

CHILDREN’S TEAM MEETING
Sunday, October 20
9:00am | Third Floor Kitchen
Team members meet to plan and discuss children’s programming.
✉ kera@uccftw.com

COLLEGE MINISTRY MEETING
Sunday, October 20
12:30pm | College Lounge (RM 223)
Team members meet to plan and discuss college ministry programs.
✉ jessica@uccftw.com

BOARD OF STEWARDS
Tuesday, October 22
6:00pm | RM 150
The Board of Stewards has the general responsibility to govern and manage the business and affairs of the Congregation.
✉ betsy.ferguson@uccftw.com

MISSION PILGRIMAGE MEETING
Wednesday, October 23
6:00pm | Los Vaqueros
This committee meets the fourth Wednesday each month to discuss current and upcoming Mission Pilgrimage opportunities.
✉ coffey@imperativeinfo.com

ASSEMBLY MEETING
Tuesday, October 29
6:30pm | Walker Hall
The Assembly will meet and vote on the approval of At Large Nominees to CLG (Committee for Leadership and Governance), review updates from various governing committees, including Board of Stewards, Finance and the Senior Minister as well as the Annual Giving Campaign.
✉ betsy.ferguson@uccftw.com

UCC Children and Youth Ministry

Sunday Children Ministry
Preschool Childcare & Sunday School
8:45am-12:15pm
Infants-Kindergarten • Check-in
Discovery Headquarters (RM 211)
Kindergarten–Grade 5
Children will start off the morning in a fun and interactive large group and then, move to smaller groups with more specialized, age-appropriate faith-learning opportunities.
Worship and Wonder • 11:00am
Grades K-5 • Gallery
During the Scripture in Context portion of our service, children are invited to join a Worship and Wonder leader in the Gallery—we listen to the scripture used in worship, wonder about what it means for our lives, and return to worship following the Communion Hymn.

Sunday Youth Ministry
Morning Sunday School Classes
10:00am-10:50am
Girls, Grades 6-8 • RM 304
Boys, Grades 6-8 • RM 308
Grades 9-12 • RM 312
Youth Handbell Choirs
5:00pm-6:00pm
Grades 6-12 • RM 229, RM 205 & Sanctuary
Youth Snack Supper • 6:00–6:30pm
Grades 6-12 • RM 312
Chi Rho and CYF • 6:30pm
Grades 6-12 | Gathering Room

Sunday Youth Ministry
Chi Rho Youth Groups
6:30pm-7:30pm
Grades 6-8 | 3rd Floor
CYF Youth Groups • 6:30pm-7:30pm
Grades 9-12 | 3rd Floor
Chi Rho • Grades 6-8
CYF (Christian Youth Fellowship)
Grades 9-12
Both youth groups Mission for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is to respond to the needs of youth for relationships, events, and opportunities where they can be themselves, discern their gifts, and be empowered to be effective leaders and servants as called by God to be the body of Christ in the world.
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. Renee Hoke
email: renee.hoke@uccftw.com

CARPENTERS MINISTRY
A ministry that’s equal parts carpentry and fellowship and everyone is welcome! Check us out on Fridays—we meet at 11:00am, at 2700 Rogers, followed by lunch at 11:30am.
Minister: Rev. Renee Hoke
email: renee.hoke@uccftw.com
Leader: Charles Kendall

CHILDREN’S MINISTRY
We provide a safe, welcoming and engaging place for our children to discover and experience God.
Minister: Rev. Kera Watts
email: kera@uccftw.com
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
email: janet.pummill@uccftw.com
Leader: Lisa Wan

COLLEGE MINISTRY
Our hope is to cultivate life-giving community for students through worship, fellowship and service.
Minister: Rev. Jessica Vacketta
email: jessica@uccftw.com
Leader: Mark Tentinger

CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY
We’re a large church with a BIG heart. Care is provided in personal and compassionate ways through visits to hospitals and to the homebound, prayer groups and countless interactions that help us sense God’s loving presence and provision. Contact: 817-926-6631, pastoralcare@uccftw.com or use the Pastoral Care Request link on our website.
Minister: Rev. Shannon Moore
email: shannon.moore@uccftw.com
Leader: Sandra Soria

FOOD FELLOWSHIP MINISTRY
One sure way our faith grows is through relationships with other believers. Food Fellowship events at UCC encourage time around the table for our members and guests. It’s a great way to begin new friendships and strengthen “the ties that bind” us to each other.
Minister: Rev. Renee Hoke
email: renee.hoke@uccftw.com

MEN’S MINISTRY
Open to all, UCC’s Men’s Ministry offers events and programs in response to the unique interests and needs of men. Join the men of UCC as they serve the needs of others and share in opportunities for fellowship and fun together. All are welcome!
Minister: Rev. Jamie Plunkett
email: jamie.plunkett@uccftw.com
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
email: todd.prickett@uccftw.com
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
email: jessica@uccftw.com
Leader: Kim McAdams Baker

WOMEN TOGETHER
Open to all, UCC’s Women Together offers events and programs in response to the unique interests and needs of women. Join us as we share together in fun, fellowship, spiritual growth and opportunities to advocate for women in our community and around the world. All are welcome!
Minister: Rev. Renee Hoke
email: renee.hoke@uccftw.com
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
email: shannon.moore@uccftw.com
Leader: Rich Darr

YOUTH MINISTRY
For our youth, we focus on fun, fellowship, games, worship, opportunities to serve, spiritual growth and so much more.
Minister: Rev. Jamie Plunkett
email: jamie.plunkett@uccftw.com
Leader: Matt Wagner
SAVE THE DATE!

FREE FLU SHOTS FOR ADULTS
Sunday, November 3
10:00am-1:00pm

Free flu shots will be provided to adults. We give thanks for UCC’s Faith Community Nurses and their faithful service in promoting good health and quality of life.

mgroom@uccftw.com

EMPOWER TO SERVE—MEAL WITH A MISSION
Sunday, November 17
6:00pm-7:30pm | Walker Hall
Please refer to page 6 of this Journal for more information.

russ.peterman@uccftw.com