



New Choirmaster at UCC



After a nation-wide search by a congregational search committee, Kyla Rosenberger, Director of Music, is pleased to announce Dr. Jerry McCoy will be joining the staff as Choirmaster this month. Dr. McCoy will begin conducting on February 23 and all UCC members are invited to meet him

at receptions in the Gallery after both morning services.

Jerry and his wife, Julie Whittington McCoy, live in Fort Worth. He is Director of Choral Studies and Regents Professor of Music at the University of North Texas where he conducts the A Cappella Choir and Grand Chorus, teaches graduate conducting and choral techniques, and guides the choral studies program. He is also Music Director of Schola Cantorum of Texas, a 65-voice professional metroplex choir that coincidentally was begun in 1962 by Bev Hinson, a former TCU and UCC choir director. Julie is a professional singer and Associate Professor of Voice at Texas Wesleyan University.

Jerry has an extensive choral professional history. Before coming to UNT in 2000 he taught at Oklahoma State University for fifteen years. He is the Immediate Past-National President of the American Choral Directors Association and is

currently Coordinator of International Affairs which has led to much music-making in Asia. His church conducting has been primarily for Presbyterian and Methodist churches in Austin and Dallas. After receiving a bachelors from The University of Texas at Arlington, he obtained master and doctorate degrees from The University of Texas at Austin.

Dr. McCoy will retire from his full-time position at UNT in September, 2015. Because of his university schedule he will not assume all Choirmaster duties just yet, conducting Sundays twice monthly. Eric Mullins and Jackson Yandell will continue as co-assistant directors of the Chancel Choir through this time, under Dr. McCoy's direction. So for the immediate future, UCC will be fortunate to have a choral Artist-in-Residence and two capable assistants. Please join the Chancel Choir in welcoming Dr. Jerry McCoy to our church family.

Labyrinth Opportunities



Every walk is made within a sacred space intentionally created to facilitate spiritual connection. How is this accomplished?

On Saturday, February 22, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Room 305, a mini-workshop on Opening and Closing Ceremonies will

be conducted on this important aspect of the labyrinth ministry.

This is open to everyone who wishes to experience and learn more about labyrinths. Contact Janet Ragsdale, 817.737.7958 or janet@janetragsdale.com, if interested in participating. A communal meal will follow.

On Ash Wednesday, March 5, following the 6 p.m. worship service, the Labyrinth will be open. In the silence of prayerful motion, join with other worshippers to connect to the sacredness of this time for Christians.

Stay Connected!

Traditional Worship
Sundays, 9 & 11 a.m.

The Search **Alternative Worship**
Sundays, 5 p.m.

Live broadcast of 11 a.m. service
on KTCU FM 88.7
or on our **website**
at www.universitychristian.org



The Vision of University Christian Church

Living the Good News of Jesus Christ with open minds and loving hearts



Continuing Commitment

by Rev. Larry Thomas, Senior Minister

It is unusual to be addressing the UCC stewardship campaign and budget information for 2014 in February, but this is necessitated

by the fact that we lacked the final data to speak of it definitively prior to our January Board of Stewards meeting. Here is how things look for our New Year.

- There were more new pledges than lost pledges.
- There were significantly more increased pledges than decreased pledges.

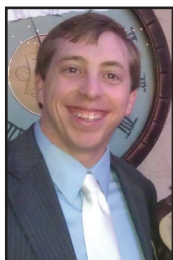
There were approximately forty more outstanding pledges this year than last, amounting to a \$140,000 decrease in pledged income.

There were no real concerns that emerged from the calling campaign. No one seemed to be discontented with the state of the congregation. We did discover that a number of people had moved away. We also learned of a number of pastoral care issues of which we had not been apprised. I and other members of the staff have already begun to address these concerns.

We began the budgeting process from a zero sum gain, which is to say, last year's numbers. In the midst of the process, we received a 7% increase in our health care premiums. We also needed to address some legacy needs regarding staff benefits. This amounted to an increase of about 2% from last year's budget.

As it stands, we are projecting a deficit of about \$5,500. As our budgets go, this is no cause for alarm. What does concern us is that this is a minimalist budget. We are holding our own, using last year as the benchmark but with no room for growth.

The staff and lay leadership have promised to work with together to carry out the ministry to which we believe God has called UCC. This is made possible by your generous support, for which we are all grateful. Please know that we will examine all available financial data at the end of the first quarter and will make any adjustments to the budget deemed necessary. Thank you again, for your love of this church and the many ministries to which we are committed.



Ordination of Justin Floyd

One of UCC's life-long members, Justin Floyd, will be ordained to the Christian ministry on Sunday, February 9, at 3 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The congregation is invited to this unique worship event with a reception following in the Gallery.

UCC has been Justin's "home" church. A graduate of TCU in December 2010, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in religion and sociology, Justin was a student at Brite Divinity School in the spring of 2011. Last December, he completed his Master of Divinity degree program at Claremont School of Theology in Claremont, CA. After being nurtured as a child and youth by this congregation, he served at UCC during college an usher, youth leader and participant in *The Search*. Justin currently serves as Youth Minister at First Christian Church of North Hollywood in

Studio City, CA. He and Catie Samson are engaged to be married in March.

The most distinctive portions of the ordination service are the Ordination Covenant and the Act of Ordination: The Laying on of Hands. The Covenant is a dialogue between Justin and Renee Hoke, an area minister of the Christian Church in the Southwest (CCSW). After Justin states his promises, the congregation makes its statement of affirmation of him and pledges its love and prayers. At that point, Justin kneels and a group of ministers and laypersons surround him to place their hands on his head while the ordination prayer is offered.

Persons, like Justin, who experience the call to ministry and pursue both a college and seminary education, do not make it to the moment of ordination alone. When UCC accepts the responsibility, in cooperation with the ordaining body,

the CCSW, to nurture and encourage a candidate, UCC has an established formal procedure. A Congregational Care Team met with him to discuss his progress toward ministry and counsel and challenge him. In addition, the Regional Committee on Ministry requires papers and interviews as part of its approval process.

At Claremont Theological Seminary, he was active in the Disciples Seminary Foundation, a cooperative endeavor supporting seminarians in several California schools. He also benefited from the experience of working as a student in both a small, older congregation and in a large, multi-cultural church in LA. After ordination he will have a supportive network as he has been invited to be part of the Bethany West Fellows, a Disciples of Christ national strategy to support and nurture young ministers from Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Oregon and Southern California.

UCC Journal

Carol Ann Fewell, Editor • Michelle Groom, Circulation

The UCC Journal (USPS 019-016) is published monthly for \$15 per year by University Christian Church, 2720 South University Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76109-1197. Periodicals Postage Paid at Fort Worth, TX, and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to UCC Journal, 2720 S. University Drive, Fort Worth, TX 76109.

The \$15 annual subscription to the UCC Journal is paid through members annual tithes and individually paid subscribers.

Visit us on the web at www.universitychristian.org for more information.



Ministers Week—It's Not Just for Ministers

Monday, February 17–Thursday, February 20

Ministers Week '14 promises to be three days of inspiring worship, thought-provoking lectures, enriching workshops and a world-class organ recital. University Christian Church continues to host this long-running continuing education event. Members of UCC are always invited to take advantage of what Ministers Week has to offer: joyful and exuberant worship; inspiring and challenging preaching; lectures and workshops designed to engage and energize; time with friends, old and new. Ministers Week is a gift from Brite, TCU and UCC: there is no fee or registration requirement.

This year, the Rev. Dr. Lance Pape, the Granville and Erline Walker Assistant Professor of Homiletics at Brite Divinity School, will preach the *Wells Sermons* during worship on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, February 17, 18 and 19,

at 7 p.m. His theme will be *What Do We Talk About When We Talk About Jesus?*

Other highlights of this year's schedule:

February 18

- Rev. Dr. Karen McClintock
Shame-Less Lives, Grace-Full Congregations

February 19

- Rev. Dr. William Kondrath
The Role of Emotions in Leadership and Communities

- Organ Recital Hymn Sing with Barbara Baird

February 20

- Rev. Dr. Willie James Jennings
The Revolutionary Impulse of the Gospel for Life Together

You can find additional information about all of the Ministers Week presenters and the full schedule at www.brite.tcu.edu/mw/.

Tuesday is the New Working Sabbath at UCC

by Scott Wheatley, Chair, Board of Stewards

We are told Sabbath has been with us since the beginning. Genesis 2:2-3. Over the millennia, it has been observed in different ways, and at its most sacred it is to be a day of rest made holy by God. Sabbath is a time for us to reconnect with God. In the modern era, this connection is challenged by the ever-growing drumbeat of emails, phone calls, text messaging, social media and meetings in the increasingly complex community we have created.

So, in the new year we have decided to implement a new kind of Sabbath for all of our staff at UCC: the Working Sabbath. Beginning immediately, the Working Sabbath for all UCC staff will be Tuesday of every week. The purpose of the Working Sabbath is to allow staff uninterrupted time to study,

plan, focus on the upcoming week and to meet internally without telephone calls or drop bys. All telephone calls other than pastoral care emergencies will go to voice mail, to be returned the following day (Wednesday) unless the staff member deems the matter to be pressing. The same will be true of email, text messaging and other social media.

Our hope is that the Working Sabbath will allow each of us at UCC to be more effective in our ministry by giving our ministers and staff the necessary space and time to allow them to be more productive and intently focused with their ears, eyes and minds on where God is calling us. I hope you will join me in supporting our staff in this endeavor with prayer, understanding and abiding respect for UCC's new Working Sabbath.

The Mountaintop



Church and the Arts invites you to attend a play at the Jubilee Theatre entitled *The Mountaintop*. The play re-imagines the last night in the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. We have reserved twenty seats for the 3 p.m. show February 23. Tickets are \$16.

Contact Marsha at 817.926.6631 ext. 152 for reservations.

Life of the Church

Deaths

Ted Stempel, January 12
brother of Jack Stempel

Lou Herring, January 9
mother of Mike Herring

Amanda Gill Adams, January 2
sister of Katie Alexander

Hermagean Culbertson, January 1
mother of Suzanne Ward

Harvey Frye, December 30
father of Robert Frye

Gordon Peeler Jorden, December 25
aunt of Mary Ruth Jones

Leta Mae Ramsey, December 25
mother of Jaye McLaughlin

William Leonard Bailey, December 23
grandfather of Colin Bailey

Dr. Harold B. Eudaly, Jr., December 20
husband of Margaret Eudaly
and father of Karen Eckels, Jonathan Eudaly, Tom Eudaly, Laura Santana

Joyce Stempel, December 18
sister of Jack Stempel

Lloyd Scurlock, December 14
husband of Sue Scurlock
and father of Carol Montague
and Cindy Adams

Sam D. Chaffin, December 9
uncle of James Chaffin

Sam Edwards, December 6
husband of Gloria Edwards
and father of Kashia DeChellis

Douglas Douthit, M.D., December 5
brother of Gay McKeever

Rev. Dr. James Wright, December 5
wife of Jeanette Wright

Births

Elizabeth Ann Swain, daughter of Lisa and Matt Swain, born December 17.
Grandparents are Susie and Robert Swain; Great-grandparent is Elizabeth Swain.

Weddings

Kate Taylor and Craig Team
December 28, 2013

New Members



The Lozano family is excited to be part of UCC. Julio is Superintendent at Trinity Industries and Alma is Executive Secretary at Cook Children's Health Care System. They have five beautiful children, live in Fort Worth and enjoy family outings and staying active. Julio plays softball, flag football and Alma enjoys softball, kickboxing and running. Julio, Jr, age 11, goes by "JC" and loves to draw. Kevin, age 10, loves to swim and play baseball. Brian, also 10, loves soccer. Audrey is 8 and loves to sing, Jacob is 10 months old and enjoys gymnastics. They look forward to Bible study, worship and getting involved with UCC.



Carl Hickey was born and raised in Fort Worth just three blocks from UCC. He went to Alice Carlson, McLean and Paschal and also attended UTA for three years before joining the Army Reserve. Carl owns Metroplex Roofing Contractors. He has three grown children, five grandchildren and one great-grandson scattered from Austin to San Diego. He enjoys golf, hunting and fishing. Carl lost his wife, Pat, last year. He has fond memories from when he was a member of UCC in the 1980s and is pleased to renew his membership.



David Lamb was attracted to UCC because of the spiritual and intellectual environment and the wonderful performances. He teaches AP and regular World History and Economics at Springtown High School. He spends a great deal of time in academic reading with interests in Biblical times, Ancient Greece and Rome, both World Wars and the American Civil War. He participates in ballroom dancing and is currently involved in a musical "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers." He lives with a six-pound black Chichwawa.



Arturo and Connie Montoya were introduced to UCC by friends. They are very excited to be part of the UCC family and call it their church home. They are both retired. They have two children and five grandchildren, all living in Berkeley, California. Arturo enjoys traveling, movies and trying new foods. Connie is a Master Gardner and an avid quilter.



Brian King is married to Lauren Morton King and they are expecting their first child in March. Brian works for Novartis in Basel, Switzerland (a two year term) and Brian and Lauren return to Fort Worth to visit their family and church when they can.



Andy Duncan has been a teacher in the FWISD for fifteen years, currently teaching second grade at Worth Heights. He attended UCC as a visitor for thirteen years and has always felt at home here. UCC has been a source of love and strength for him. Andy loves reading, listening to music, and is a member of Trident Triathlon team. He is proud to have finally made the commitment to be a member of UCC.

Newcomers Class

All are welcome to be a part of the Newcomers Class! Join us Sundays, March 2, 9 and 16 at 10 a.m. in Room 201.

Take this opportunity to invite a friend to learn more about UCC. The Newcomers Class provides an opportunity to get to know others, meet Rev. Thomas, learn about UCC and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and tour the building. Questions are always welcome. Contact Michelle Groom at 817.926.6631 ext. 138., or email mgroom@uccftw.com for details. The next Newcomers Class will be offered in May.

UCC Women

Mark your calendar for these special upcoming events:

Women's Retreat, February 28-March 1
Cost \$35. See article to the right for more details and how to register!

Quadrennial Assembly
2014



Quadrennial Assembly
June 25-29, Atlanta, GA.
Register online at discipleswomen.org.
Women around the world come together every four years at Quadrennial Assembly to be renewed, inspired and transformed. Join us! Scholarship available for first time attendees. Contact Cyndy Twedell for more information or to let us know you have signed up to go!

Women's Circles

First Tuesday October through May
Join us February 4 at 10 a.m.:

Lily of the Valley Circle

Broadway Plaza Parlor
5301 Bryant Irvin Rd-76132

Rose Circle - UCC Library



Cup of Blessing Bible Study

Thursdays at 11:30 a.m., bring your bag lunch and explore the Acts of the Apostles.

Women of Valor

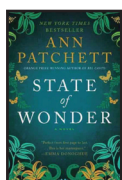
Usually the second Sunday evening of each month, 6 p.m. in Room 204. On

Sunday, February 9, we will gather for fellowship and continue conversation of the book, *An Altar in the World* by Barbara Brown Taylor.



Latte with the Ladies

Saturday, February 8,
beginning at 9 a.m. at Blue Bonnet Bakery (4705 Camp Bowie Blvd-76107)



WILD Women Book Club

Monday, February 10, at 6 p.m. at Cat City Grill and Tuesday, February 11, at 11:30 a.m. in the UCC Library. We will discuss the book *State of Wonder* by Ann Patchett.

Clergy Women's Breakfast

February 19 at 8 a.m. Again this year, the Women of UCC host the Clergy Women's Breakfast during Ministers Week. Women ministers from across the Southwest Region will be treated to a delicious breakfast and an opportunity to spend time together in Room 207. Thanks to the generosity of the women who share in the *Cup of Blessing* Bible Study.

Women's Ministries engages women in meaningful enrichment, spiritual growth, study and worship while advocating for and reaching out to women in our community and around the world. For more information contact Cyndy Twedell, Associate Minister, 817.926.6631.

Men's Ministry Happenings

Men's Third Thursday Lunch

Join us Thursday, February 20, at 12 p.m. at Café Bella on South Hills Avenue as we continue our series, *Christianity: The Early Years*. As part of this monthly series, we are exploring some significant events in the history of Christianity that shape who we are as people of faith.

Men's Movie Nite

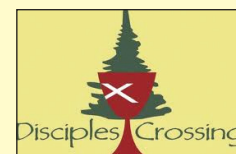
Saturday, February 22, at 6:30 p.m. in Room 207. Join us as we gather to watch *Big Fish*, a remarkable film from acclaimed director Tim Burton in which a man tries to learn more about his dying father by reliving the stories and myths he told about his life. \$5 gets you

the movie, a chicken dinner, fellowship, and great discussion.

Annual Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday, March 4, 6-7:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Men's Ministry puts on this annual church-wide event with pancakes, sausage, fruit and all the fixins. This year we welcome the Bucket List Jazz Band, a ten-piece ensemble playing Dixieland-style music. \$5 for adults, \$3 for children under age twelve. Activities for kids too!

Men, join us starting at 3:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall to help cook, decorate and prepare for the event.



Women's Retreat

The Women's Ministries retreat is February 28-March 1.

\$35 covers overnight stay and breakfast (vegetarian options available if requested ahead of time) at Disciples Crossing!

After an evening of fun and fellowship the group will head to Canton for a day of shopping and more fun!

Space is limited so make reservations as soon as possible! Sign up at The Arches Information Desk Sundays, February 9, 16 and 23, or contact Michelle Groom.

We will carpool from UCC at various times on Friday, February 28, so let us know when signing up if you are able to drive and how many passengers you can take. Be sure to factor in how many people can fit after the shopping trip to Canton!

College Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch is a weekly gathering of TCU students the meet on Wednesdays at 12 p.m. If you are interested in providing lunch or making a donation for the lunch, please contact thelia@uccftw.com for more information.



When Room in the Inn Becomes Real

by Monty and Alice Phillips

This year, Christmas Day fell on a Wednesday, which is UCC's day to host ten homeless men for supper, an overnight stay, and breakfast the next day. Unfortunately for the homeless, Christmas can be just another day to figure out where to sleep. UCC made the conscious decision to host Room In The Inn (RITI) as we would on any other Wednesday. Our family helped other RITI volunteers with the supper kitchen prep and cleanup, and Monty and John Rodenberg were the Innkeepers for the night. It felt good to be in service to others on a day when it truly means more to offer hospitality, shelter and warmth.

Four years before, on Christmas Eve 2009, our family was driving back from Colorado to Texas on Highway 287 just northwest of Wichita Falls when the snow and ice became so thick that passage was impossible. Semis were jack-knifed; passenger cars were stranded for miles along the highway. Eventually the National Guard was called out to rescue stranded motorists. We chose to try to head down a farm

road into the city of Iowa Park. Every car on that road (scores, if not hundreds) struggled for over four hours to navigate the six miles into town. Every hotel was packed; people were sleeping in their running cars in hotel parking lots. Through some cell-phone calls to family, we found out that the Lakeview Church of God in Iowa Park had opened its Fellowship Hall and Sanctuary to the stranded. Somehow we coaxed the car there without running out of gas.

What we experienced when we arrived at the church was nothing short of awe-inspiring. Hundreds of people were sitting at tables, in hallways, in Sanctuary pews, along the walls. Any, like us, had a pet or two. The minister and staff, after conversations with emergency personnel, knew how close they were to so many stranded, and called all of their members to try to come to the church with food, blankets, pet food, etc. We have never seen so much spaghetti cooked in one night. Everyone thought it was delicious. We shared stories with families just like us—worried and stranded but thankful for shelter, warmth and care.

By the time the four of us (five—counting our dog) were fed and ready to sleep, the only spot left for all of us was in the Sanctuary near the crèche. In a sense, we slept under the manger. Imagine the UCC Sanctuary filled—balconies, halls, pews, everywhere—with hundreds of sleeping stranded people. That's what we witnessed that night.

The next morning, church members had cooked pancakes, eggs and sausage, and the Guard and TXDOT had managed to clear a path along the highway. We ate, thanked everyone we possibly could, and ventured home. It dawned on us halfway home that this was Christmas Day. We were all exhausted and dirty but full of joy and thanks.

There are mile-markers in everyone's lives; times of suffering, pain or joy that we look back on and revisit in our minds. Christmas 2009 was such a time for us, and it changed—in a very real way—what the words "Room in the Inn" mean for us.

Mission Pilgrimage Opportunities



El Paso Spring Break Mission Pilgrimage March 9–15

A UCC group of families, college students, youth and adults will return to El Paso for UCC's Spring Break Mission Pilgrimage. In partnership with Rippling Hope, we will work together with residents of some of El Paso's 350

colonias to renovate and repair homes as we meet the people who live in Texas along the border and learn about the chronic poverty there.

The UCC group will stay at Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey in El Paso. The cost is \$300 per person, \$175 for youth twelve and under. A few spots remain so the registration deadline has been extended. For more information contact

Cyndy Twedell. Orientation meetings on Sundays, February 9 and 23, 12 p.m.

Nicaragua Mission Pilgrimage July 20–27

UCC will again travel to Nicaragua to work with La Mision Cristiana and Project Chacocente. Be sure to mark your calendars now if you want to be part of this life-changing mission. Contact Cyndy Twedell for more information.



Backpacks for Kids Every Wednesday

Weekends can mean hunger for children who depend on school meals for their primary nutrition. Backpacks for Kids, a program of the Tarrant Area Food Bank (TAFB), supplies backpacks filled with child-friendly, nonperishable and nutritious food which are handed out discretely at school each Friday to counselor identified students most at risk of being hungry

on the weekend. This growing TAFB program is now being supported by the Outreach budget of UCC with a three year commitment which will enable the introduction of one additional school.

TAFB opens its doors each Wednesday so the public can participate in filling the backpacks. This is a great ministry activity for individuals, the whole family or a group of friends who want to serve together before going out to dinner. A

new registration for participation has been instituted. UCC's Linda Smith is the Director of Volunteer Services at TAFB. In the past, a group from UCC has been assigned the fourth Wednesday, but now any Wednesday is available so participants schedules can be accommodated. Choose a Wednesday (6–8 p.m.) for yourself or invite your family or friends and call Linda at 817.332.9177 ext. 118 to reserve your spots. TAFB is located at 2600 Cullen Street.



Mime Workshop

Enclave of the Arts with special guest Dr. Lou Campbell and the Joshua Squad will conduct a

one-day workshop Saturday, February 15, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. for people interested in communicating God's love through theatre. During the workshop introduction to mime and pantomime techniques will be explored, as well as physical theatre and other performance media.

The Joshua Squad will also demonstrate several scripture-based performance pieces and teach them to participants. Participants (aged 15+) are invited to perform in *The Search* worship the following Sunday using materials learned. Funds from this workshop support the mission outreach of the Enclave of the Arts. Dr. Lou Campbell is a recipient of the Distinguished Achievement award from Cambridge University Men in Cambridge, England for his work in performing arts medicine and physical

movement for theatre. As Director for Joshua Squad, he has performed and taught in twenty-seven countries for over thirty-five years and is one of the last people to study with Marcel Marceau.

This workshop is open to the public and space is limited. Make reservations online, or call Marsha at 817.926.6631. Cost is \$45 per person, with lunch with advance reservation. Student discounts (\$30 per person) available for high school and college students with valid id.

A Classical Guitar Valentine's Treat

From Brazil and Uruguay with Love!

UCC is pleased to host a special concert on the Fort Worth based Classical Guitar Society series Thursday, February 13, at 7:30 p.m. in our Sanctuary. Listening to this couple will certainly be a sweet treat!

When Frenando Lima (Brazil) and Cecilia Siqueira (Uruguay) met in Brazil at the second International Guitar Competition in Caxias do Sul they both won first place. Then they fell in love, got married, and now they are one of the most important guitar duos in the world, Duo Siqueira-Lima. They have set the guitar world alight with stunning technique, sensitive phrasing and that

indescribable "something" that great artists bring to the stage.

Star-Telegram said: *The duo played with virtuosity, style and elegance. The music was immaculately performed, but there was an ease with the audience that made the performance involving. You felt as though you were in their living room.*

Their latest CD, *Um a Um* (2010), was released in Europe and the United States by GHA Records label. Their second CD *Lado a Lado (Side by Side)*, released in 2006, reveals the intimacy of the Duo with Brazilian music and opened doors to a broader musical universe. They

have also recently worked with the great Brazilian clarinetist and conductor, Paulo Moura, performing works of Radamés Gnattali and Astor Piazzolla.

The Duo enjoys performing in chamber music, popular music and jazz festivals internationally. They have toured in Europe, United States, South America, and South Africa.

Special ticket prices for UCC members available at the door: \$20 adults, \$10 students and senior citizens. For more information call 817.229.3617 or see GuitarSociety.org.

In Praise of the Decorative Arts

What are the decorative arts, you may ask? *The Encyclopedia Britannica* defines decorative art as any of those arts that are concerned with the design and the decoration of objects that are chiefly prized for their utility rather than for their purely aesthetic qualities. Ceramics, glassware, basketry, jewelry, metalware, furniture, textiles, clothing, and other such goods are the objects

most commonly associated with the decorative arts.

Church and the Arts will recognize the artisans in our congregation this year with a decorative arts exhibit and reception on Sunday, March 30. A registration form with details about the decorative arts exhibit will be available at The Arches and the Reception Desk.

Each year the congregation is amazed at all the talents of our members. Make this the year you share yours with all of us!

Questions? Contact Carolyn Critz at 817.292.6705 or carolyncritz1954@att.net or Martha Lunday at 817.831.1221 or martha@lunday.com.

UCC Mission Statement

University Christian Church is dedicated to proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ through deeply spiritual worship, study, and service.

Founded on the campus of Texas Christian University and shaped by our academic heritage,

University Christian Church encourages a spirit of openness and freedom of thought.

We are called to create a loving and caring community for all people, and work together for justice and peace in our world.

Recognizing that our spiritual journeys are all different,

we strive to be respectful and inclusive concerning each individual's relationship with God.



A February Organ Concert

Annually during Ministers Week, UCC is privileged to host a guest organ recitalist for a concert and hymn sing in our Sanctuary. This year's event, underwritten

by The Emmet G. Smith Endowment Fund at TCU, will be on Wednesday, February 19, at 3:30 p.m. and features Dr. Barbara Baird. She has been a member of the University of Oregon music faculty since 1988, teaching organ, harpsichord, and piano. She has also been Director of Music Ministries at First Congregational Church, Eugene, Oregon, since 1982.

After earning her Bachelor of Music degree in Organ Performance from Texas

Christian University, working with Prof. Emmet Smith, she studied three years at the Cologne Conservatory of Music in Cologne, Germany. Baird received her Master of Music degree in Harpsichord Performance from Southern Methodist University in Dallas and her Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Organ and Harpsichord Performance from the University of Oregon.

An active recitalist since 1971, Baird has performed throughout the United States as well as Argentina, Brazil, Europe and Australia. A frequent adjudicator and clinician, she regularly conducts workshops and master classes for keyboardists. Baird has been a presenter and recitalist at both national and regional conventions of the

American Guild of Organists, and for the Southeastern Historical Keyboard Society, the Organ Historical Society, the Historical Keyboard Society, and the Oregon Bach Festival.

Performing in Fort Worth holds additional special meaning for Barbara, since her uncle William R. Baird, retired Brite Divinity School Professor and New Testament Scholar, continues to make his home in Fort Worth. Dr. Baird and his wife, Shirley, have been active members of UCC since 1967 and are very proud of their professional organist niece, Barbara. Plan to join them for a wonderful hour of listening and singing on the afternoon of February 19.



Week of Compassion Special Offering February 16-23

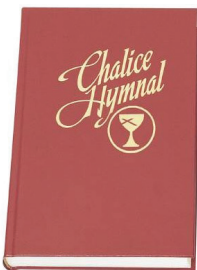
For 70 years, Week of Compassion (WOC) has made a difference in the lives of people and communities around the world by pooling resources, leveraging funds and serving through partnerships. Doing more together than we could ever do alone—that's the power of WOC.

Confronted by great need and suffering, we might wonder how we can make

a meaningful difference. The WOC offering is our opportunity to join with hundreds of thousands of people to express our Christian witness and create real change in the world. When a tornado destroys homes, how can we reach out to the victims? We may be able to contribute enough to purchase a window, or maybe a door. But when we give to WOC, we join our gift with others to rebuild the entire home. When we see people with land but living in

hunger, how can we assist them to grow nutritious food? Alone, we may be able to offer some tools or seeds. But our gift leveraged with others provides a village with gardening tools, seeds, access to clean water, and expertise in techniques that yield more robust crops.

Your individual offering matters. Each resource shared answers God's call to love our neighbor, because in Christ Jesus, we are one family. We Are One.



Musical Musings

by Kyla K. Rosenberger, Director of Music

Our *Chalice Hymnal* is a treasure trove for any practicing Christian. Consider these ideas to use the hymnal for your own spiritual enrichment.

As a set of theological teachings, investigate the five divisions of our hymnbook. *God Beyond All Name and Form, God Known in Jesus Christ, God Present in the Holy Spirit, God's Church, and God's World.* Poets and ministers from Jesus' time to our own consider every mystery of faith.

To prepare for Sunday or home worship, read pages 771-776. Prayers on these pages outline not only what UCC

ministers present every Sunday, but what Christian disciples the world over have used for centuries to approach God.

Read through the Topical Index of Hymns and Index of Worship Materials at the back of the hymnal. Are you in need of comfort from grief, worried about continued war and hunger, wondering about grace or justice or forgiveness in your own life? In these sections you can quickly find readings and songs to help.

Reading the Holy Bible can seem a daunting task. Consider using the friendly three-year cycle of scriptures and hymns outlined in yet another back section of the hymnal.



Finally, take advantage of the music itself. Sing the hymns, *Gloria Patri*, and *Doxology* each Sunday in worship. Using breath and voice in unison with your congregation feels good! To explore the tunes, authors and composers more in-depth, visit the Harmony Sunday school class, led by Rev. Ernie O'Donnell, in the Library across from our Chapel from 10-10:30 a.m.

A Martin Luther quote reminds us of a duty too often taken for granted: *Music and notes, which are wonderful gifts and creations of God, do help gain a better understanding of the text, especially when sung by a congregation and sung earnestly.*



Mark your calendars and save the date for the first annual Weekday School Spring Party, Friday, March 21, at 6 p.m. Join WDS families (current, past and future) as we gather to dine, dance and

Toiletries Drive for South Central Alliance

In February UCC collects toiletries for South Central Alliance of Churches which serves families in need in our neighborhood. Individuals, Sunday School classes, and other groups are encouraged to select one or more of

WDS Spring Party

bid to benefit the Weekday School. The Spring Party will be held at Colonial Country Club with live music provided by Poo Live Crew. Auctions—both silent and live—will feature things to do, services provided and places to go!

For tickets or sponsorship information, please contact Meredith Garcia (event co-chair) at WDSSpringParty@gmail.com or Claire Graham (WDS Director) at 817.926.3960. Tickets may also be ordered via a link on the Weekday School website.



Third Annual Sack Lunch Chuck Wagon

UCC is once again preparing sack lunches for day laborers at the Fort Worth Stock Show, many of whom are homeless. Using funds from our generous adult Sunday School classes, we are buying enough nutritional and non-perishable food to fill 300 sack lunches to be distributed on February 8, the final day of the Stock Show. Our college students will assemble the sack lunches during their weekly lunch time gathering on Wednesday, February 5. If you would like to make a donation to help fund this ministry, contact Lynn Cross at 817.926.6631.

Caring for God's Creation

Past, Present and Ongoing



Past

Remember the evening of October 6, when members and friends of CFGC gathered in Fellowship Hall to assemble Drip Bucket Irrigation Kits? That evening 64 drip irrigation kits were assembled. Over 1.5 miles of drip irrigation line was measured, cut, processed and kitted. The total product is helping 160 limited resource farmers in the developing world feed themselves and their families. The accompanying photo features the kits being delivered in Binga, Zimbabwe.

The tree dedication for the new red oak tree in the courtyard was postponed due to the icy weather in December. Watch for the new date.

Present

Every Sunday: Washing coffee cups! We need a new team leader and more worker bees. We have a new dishwasher which is much easier to use than the old one. We wash mugs at 11 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. each Sunday. If you aren't currently receiving the request to wash and want to be added, please respond to Margaret DeMoss at mdemoss@demossco.com. Help keep those Styrofoam and paper cups out of the landfill!

Ongoing

Recycling at UCC

Thanks to Jana Morgan and the Connections Sunday School Class for collecting the recycled materials one Sunday a month. UCC has revised its waste management contract to include recycling and are ordering new recycling containers for the building. Please help us re-educate our members about using recycle containers. Neither volunteers nor staff want to deal with drippy cans and sticky cups dumped in our bins.

Community Garden

The regular workday for the *Growing Up Green* Community Garden is the third Saturday of the month. Join us from 9-11 a.m. (Unless weather isn't cooperating!)

Wish to Schedule a Baby Dedication?

Dedications take place during 11 a.m. worship or *The Search*. Upcoming dates are February 23, March 16 and May 11. The baby dedication is a blessing of the child and a promise from parents to their child to raise them in a Christian home. But, it is also the public acknowledgement of a covenant with the people of UCC that we as a community of faith will surround the child with the spirit of Christ as they grow in our midst.

In order to affirm these provisions, parents will participate in a Baby Dedication class to learn about some of the intricacies of a child's faith journey and about how UCC can help foster their family and child in the process of understanding Christ's love. The next classes offered begin March 30 at 10 a.m. Contact Susan Henry in the Children's Ministries Office, susan@uccftw.com, or ext. 165 for details.

CCF/JYF is Exploring the Meal, the Messiah and Mission



Children's Christian Fellowship (first through third grades) and Junior Youth

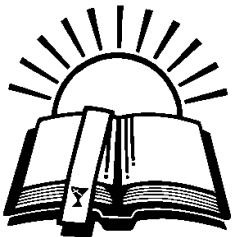
Fellowship (fourth and fifth grades) will explore The Meal and the Messiah in February as we take a look at scripture from the Gospels.

We are also excited to have Whitney Peters, missionary in Nicaragua, join us on February 16 to share her story

and experiences of serving with our neighbors in another part of the world. We begin each week at 6 p.m. in Room 211 with a snack supper (\$3).

Join us for fun, fellowship, learning, service and worship on Sunday nights in February—and bring a friend!

Third Grade Bible Presentations



UCC third graders have been enjoying a special six-week class on *Learning to Use Your Bible*. The series will continue through February 16, during the 10 a.m. Sunday School hour. The class culminates that day with the

presentation of Bibles during 11 a.m. worship. The Bible gifts are made possible by the generous giving of the following: an endowment, created in memory of Mrs. May Henson, a beloved teacher who taught children in Church School at University Christian Church for over forty years; a foundation created in loving memory of Jeff D. Conatser; and Steve and Amy Shineman.

Please extend your thanks to Rebecca Terry and Stephanie Wellman who

helped provide leadership and expertise during the Bible series. Our goal for third graders receiving Bibles is to help children view the Bible as more than a book with big words; and instead, help children feel confident in navigating through the pages with knowledge and inspiration. It truly takes our entire church family to mentor our children in faith.

We are blessed to have adults sharing their time and talents in this way.

Important Summer Dates for Children's Ministries

Camps for Children and Families at Disciples Crossing this Summer

Grand Camp I • May 30-June 1 (children ages 4-10 and a grandparent) or Grand Camp II • August 1-3 (children ages 4-10 and a grandparent)

Discovery Camp • May 23-25 (completed second or third grade and parent)

Family Camp • June 6-8 (families with at least one child under 18 and an adult over 21)

JYF Camp I • June 30-July 4 (completed fourth or fifth grade)

JYF Camp II • July 21-25 (completed fourth or fifth grade)



Summer Fun
(for children two months to entering K)

Mondays and Wednesdays, 9 a.m.–noon
Session I – June 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18
Session II – July 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23
\$120 per session

UCC member registration begins Sunday, February 16, 8:45-11 a.m. Register at the Reception Area by Crib Room 118. Open registration for non-members begins Monday, February 24, at 12 p.m. if space is available. For more information, contact Joy Milton at cjoym@yahoo.com.

Vacation Bible School • June 24-June 27
Be a part of UCC VBS (ages two to third graders) or Mission VBS (fourth and fifth graders).

VBS online registration for UCC members at ucckids.org will begin March 1 and continue through April 1.



Music Makers Camp



This summer at UCC we will offer our second annual Music Makers Camp. This camp will be held following VBS from 12-3 p.m. Lunch will be provided as well as a wonderful musical experience for the children. Music Makers is led by our Children's Choir Director, Mary Farmer, and will include

basic music theory, music history, Orff and percussion instrument instruction and singing. The camp is \$45 per child (which includes the cost of their lunch) and is limited to thirty-five second-sixth graders. Please plan to sign up for this great musical experience at UCC! Registration begins March 1.



Nurses Notes

February is National Heart Disease Awareness Month.

The American Heart Association recommends the following: know the warning signs of a heart attack, stroke and cardiac arrest. Resolve to check, change and control your blood pressure in 2014. Engage in consistent exercise, thirty minutes a day, at least five days a week. Overcome obesity, lower cholesterol, control blood sugar, quit smoking and take medications faithfully. Our nurses are here to answer any questions, in addition to measuring blood pressure.

Better Choices, Better Health

A second class offering of Better Choices, Better Health managing chronic diseases, begins February 25, from 1-3:30 p.m., in Room 203 and meets every Tuesday for six weeks. This class, developed by Stanford University, is for people trying to cope with heart disease, lung disease, cancer, arthritis, depression, dementia, obesity and more. Learn methods of coping, share with others, and become more independent in managing your chronic disease. To sign up, contact Carole Widmann, RNcarole@gmail.com or Joanie Grimm, u4me71ar50@att.net.

American Heart Association Basic Life Support or Heartsaver Courses

In keeping with Heart Health Awareness, consider taking one of the above courses. The Basic Life Support class is a four and a half hour class and issues a two-year certificate. The Heartsaver course is approximately ten minutes and teaches chest compressions only. This course does not include testing or a certificate. To sign up, contact Carole Widmann at RNcarole@gmail.com.

Leader Positions for Alzheimer's Disease Support Group at UCC

UCC is seeking a facilitator and co-facilitator to lead a support group for those who are caring for family members with Alzheimer's and other dementia

diseases. Candidates who are approved by the Alzheimer's Association to lead a support group will be trained at the Fort Worth Alzheimer's office. Please

contact Jennifer Cricchio in Pastoral Care at 817.926.6631 for Volunteer Job Description or to complete an application.

UCC Spring Softball Team

Dust off your bat and glove and meet us at the ball park this spring as we bring back the UCC softball team!

Sponsored by Adult Ministries, men and women ages sixteen & up are welcome to join the team. Games are Friday evenings at Gateway Park in Fort Worth from March 14-May 23. The cost to play is \$20, which includes a team t-shirt. We are also looking for a team manager, someone to coordinate with players to make sure we have enough people at each game and a coach. If you are interested in playing, coaching, or managing, contact Rev. Jessica Vacketta at jessica@uccftw.com.

UCC Quick Financial Summary - Unified Budget December 2013

Description	2012 YTD Actuals	2013 YTD Actuals	Budget YTD 2013	Budget Annual	YTD Variance
Income					
Pledges	\$2,091,863	\$2,163,910	\$2,136,134	\$2,136,134	\$27,776
Non Pledge Contributions	\$292,870	\$236,622	\$300,000	\$300,000	(\$63,378)
Offering	\$37,142	\$37,915	\$36,500	\$36,500	\$1,415
Misc. Unrestricted Income	\$156,693	\$161,664	\$156,176	\$156,176	\$5,488
WDS Income (Net)	\$90,338	\$103,916	\$94,127	\$94,127	\$9,788
Endowment Income	\$241,950	\$272,896	\$266,526	\$266,526	\$6,369
Participant/Restricted Income & Reserve Use	\$387,286	\$597,583	\$623,834	\$623,834	(\$26,251)
Total Income	\$3,298,141	\$3,574,504	\$3,613,297	\$3,613,297	(\$38,793)
Expenses					
Total Personnel Expense	\$1,789,171	\$1,804,893	\$1,814,346	\$1,814,346	\$9,453
Total Program/Admin. Expense	\$919,825	\$1,100,199	\$1,178,240	\$1,178,240	\$78,042
Total Mission/Outreach Expense	\$470,103	\$614,818	\$599,577	\$599,577	(\$15,242)
Total Expenses	\$3,179,099	\$3,519,910	\$3,592,163	\$3,592,163	\$72,253
Net Operating Income (Loss)	\$119,041	\$54,594	\$21,134	\$21,134	\$33,460

This is a summary report of our Unified Budget. The full report is available for download from the UCC website or copies can be picked up or requested from the Business Office. Please note: The 2013 YTD totals are subject to year end adjustments and won't be final until they are audited in March. End of year Statements for tax purposes were mailed on or before January 31. Contact the Business Office if you did not receive a Statement. If you have questions regarding your statement, contact Michelle Ingram, Director of Accounting, at 817.926.6631 or by email michelle@uccftw.com.



UCC JOURNAL

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2720 S. University Drive
Fort Worth, TX 76109-1150
817.926.6631

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Congregational Meetings

Personnel Committee

Tuesday, February 4
5:30 p.m., Room 202

Finance Committee

Tuesday, February 11
5:30 p.m., Room 203

Board of Stewards

Tuesday, February 18
6:30 p.m., Room 207

Elders Meeting

Tuesday, February 25
6:30 p.m., Room 207

All members of the congregation may attend congregational meetings with the exception of any portion of a meeting held in Executive Session.

UCC Members Take Part in A Day of Service



UCC folks enjoyed a day 'on' as they participated in MLK day service opportunities with Tarrant Area Community of Churches.