



Top Ten Reasons to Love the Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival



10. The Boar's Head Guild—A group of dedicated individuals who share their time, talents and creative energy to organize and facilitate the BHYL Festival each year. This team of volunteers and church staff work year round to ensure the performances go smoothly.

9. Stage Build—A group of thirty-four volunteers transform our beautiful Sanctuary into a performance hall. It requires strong backs, lots of energy, a multitude of leaders and a little luck to install the stage. It's all worth it when the Triptych doors open and we see baby Jesus.

8. Volunteer Dedication—It takes over 200 volunteers including cast members, our Chancel Choir, hand bell choirs, stage builders, room assistants, ushers, marshals and back stage coordinators to put on each performance. They are wonderful ambassadors for UCC!

7. Props—Our props help create a feel of medieval days as different companies bring in trenchers filled with mince meat pie, plum pudding and the slain Boar's Head. Sprites spring into action with their lanterns, Kings bring their precious gifts and the Christ candle skips out into the world in the hand of our Senior Minister.

6. Costumes—Our beautiful handmade and one-of-a-kind creations take us back to the days of Old England and then

into the days of Christ's birth. From the jovial Jester to the stern Beefeaters, glorious Angels and simple Shepherds—each company and costume was created to take you back in time.

5. Community—The BHYL tradition at UCC is an event that all generations can participate in or watch. Our pre-festival group prayer and down-time between performances all help strengthen relationships between festival participants. It is also a gift to our community as clergy from many denominations join us and people come from far away to be moved by the performances.

4. Tradition—In our thirty-ninth year, the BHYL provides us many traditions that are uniquely ours. Families span three generations of participation (four if you include the four-legged family members), the Sprites meet baby Jesus, mince meat pies and plum puddings are lovingly baked and we all applaud as the Senior Minister skips. These traditions strengthen the experience.

3. Music—The music leads us through the story and fills us with emotion as the orchestra, organ, bells, choir and Herald perform together in glorious ensemble. The music arrangement is uniquely ours and ranges from the light hearted *Wassail Carol* to the reverent *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* (which still gives me goose bumps every time I hear it.)

2. Message—There is not a spoken script, but the two processions of the companies (secular Medieval and religious Biblical) take us to two different time periods. We learn the message of Good over Evil (knowledge over ignorance and reason over brute force) and the message of Christ's light shared unto the world.

1. It's Who We Are—In the end, the number one reason I love the BHYL Festival is because it is uniquely ours, and it weaves itself into each participant's life. All the time, energy and passion that go into the performance is worth it when you witness the smiles on the faces of those leaving the Sanctuary after seeing the Festival for the first or thirty-ninth time.

Performance Dates

January 3 and 4, at 3 and 5 p.m. each day. We hope you will bring a friend and experience the Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival with us!

Ticket Sales

The festival is free but reserved seating may be purchased for \$15. Proceeds go to sustain the festival in future years. Visit universitychristian.org to order online, call 817.926.6631 ext. 141 or email boarshead@uccftw.com.

Stay Connected!

Worship

Sundays, 9 & 11 a.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



Ringling in the New Year

by Rev. Larry Thomas, Senior Minister

There are some exciting things approaching as the New Year opens. The Brite Divinity School, with which we have had a long, meaningful and mutually beneficial relationship, has elected to name the second floor commons of the Harrison building "The University Christian Church Commons." This move recognizes the shared commitment we as a congregation have with the faculty, staff and students of Brite Divinity School to promote excellence in theological education and recognizes the special effort we have made to assist Brite to this end. It is a tremendous honor—one that I know we are all proud of and will gladly celebrate.

Dr. Williams is planning a dedication ceremony on the Sunday afternoon prior to the beginning of Minister's Week. His timing could not be more perfect as Brite will be celebrating one hundred years of excellence in theological education while looking forward to the next one hundred years of partnership with University Christian Church. We will advise you as to the specific time of the dedication and reception when it

has been determined. In the meantime, I hope many of you will plan to join us for the celebration.

I am also pleased to announce that we are moving forward with the hiring of a part-time Minister of Pastoral Care. Several months back the Personnel Committee and the Board supported my decision to bring someone on board to assist with the growing list of pastoral care needs in our congregation. Because the position would be part-time, we elected not to engage in an expensive and exhaustive search process. Making this a much more comfortable decision was the fact that there was, within the Metroplex, an ordained Disciple's minister and Brite Divinity School graduate with chaplaincy certification and Clinical Pastoral Education who was looking for a position much like the one we were developing. Her name is Reverend Christi McDowell. She was born and raised as an active member at Capilla del Sol Christian Church in Tucson, Arizona. She graduated from Brite Divinity School in 2006 and has had a variety of experience as a chaplain in both hospital and hospice settings. She most recently served as a staff chaplain at John Peter Smith Hospital

in Fort Worth. She currently lives in Colleyville with her husband, Michael, and their four year old son, Nathan.

I know from having visited with so many of you that you have recognized a need for someone like Christi on our staff. The rest of the staff will continue to provide pastoral care, as you would expect, we are nevertheless very excited to have Christi join our team. I know you will join me in welcoming her to the UCC staff.

On a bit of a sad note, I want to let you know that The Reverend Doctor Daniel Terry stepped away from his part-time position as Associate Minister for Men's Ministry at UCC on December 31. Daniel recently received a promotion at TCU and the added responsibilities of that position have necessitated his resignation.

We are grateful for Daniel's service to our church. He will be missed. I am glad to report, however, that he, Rebecca, Isabel and Sophia will remain active members at UCC. Please take an opportunity over the next few weeks to personally thank Daniel for his many years of ministry to this faith community.



Boar's Head "Behind the Scenes"

Sunday, January 4, you are once again invited to a special combined Sunday School class. This year's presentation will focus on the music and scenery of the production, with the composer/arranger of the Boar's Head music, Randol A. Bass, as our featured panelist, along with UCC members who work tirelessly on the construction (and deconstruction) of the set.

Join us in Walker Fellowship Hall at 10 a.m. on January 4, as we take a deeper look at this magnificent festival!

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.

New Members



We welcome Dr. Glen and Nita Walker! Nita is a retired high school Spanish teacher and Glen is a retired engineering technology professor at Dallas County Community college. UCC's Alice Phillips is their daughter and their son, Brian, lives in Murphy. Glen and Nita have five grandchildren. They both love to travel and Nita enjoys playing bridge. They feel God has sent them to worship at UCC.



Fred and Teresa Banda are back home in Fort Worth where they met while Teresa was a student at TCU and Fred at Brite. In their almost forty-four years of marriage, Fred and Teresa have lived as far south as Laredo, TX, and as far north as Vinton, IA, while Fred was a minister and Teresa an elementary school teacher. They have three grown children and one grandson. They both enjoy music and have been singing in the UCC Chancel Choir and volunteering at Room in the Inn.

Baby Dedications



Mabel Ruth Colby Corning, daughter of Scott & Halie Corning. Grandparent is Cheril Stevenson Hardy. Big brothers are Silas and Wyatt.



Marshall Reed Smith, son of Brian Smith & Nicole Duvall. Grandparents are Ed & Cathy Duvall and Kent & Charlene Smith. Great-grandparents are Richard & Chantel Duvall, Mary Morris, and Shirley Duvall.



Everly Katherine Edmondson, daughter of Kevin & Candice Edmondson. Grandparents are Randy & Beth Sanders, Kay Edmondson, Dave Edmondson. Great-grandparents: Harvey & Paulanna Milligan, and Jean Arnold.

Life of the Church

Births

Keegan Hyman, November 28
Parents—Carolyn & Ryan Hyman

Gentry David Addis, November 19
Parents—Devin & Dilyn Addis
Grandparents—Kim & Andy Kuehler

Deaths

Norman Hoover, November 15
husband of Cindy Hoover
brother of Lela Ashworth

C. L. Turner, November 14
father of Genie Knox

Holt Hickman, November 15
husband of Jo Hickman

Toni Newton, November 22

Rosemary Alland, November 24
wife of Larry Alland
mother of Mary Serafin,
Mark Alland and Kirk Alland

Carolann Krause, November 27
wife of Grant Krause

Terry Dunn, December 4
brother-in-law of Karen & Chuck Rigby

Maureen Paul, December 4
aunt of Jan Moore

Cohen Bass, November 27
father of Katherine Johnston

Lela Standifer, December 6

Weddings

Rachel Owen & Justin Rubicheau
December 13

Stacey Vitale & Woody Hatch
December 13

Rachel Lewis & Christopher Biggs
December 20



Virtual Dementia Tour®

They say to understand what someone is going through you must "walk in their shoes."

The opportunity to "walk in the shoes" and to gain understanding of those with dementia is coming to UCC on Sunday, January 25.

The Virtual Dementia Tour® will take place from 9 a.m.–noon in the Room In the Inn space.

P. K. Beville, a specialist in geriatrics, created The Virtual Dementia Tour® as a tool for family and professional caregivers to move from sympathy to empathy and to gain better understanding of the behaviors and needs of their loved ones and patients. The tour simulates symptoms of dementia and the obstacles that must be overcome to perform even the simplest tasks of daily life.

The tour takes approximately twenty minutes and advance registration takes place on Sundays, January 11 and 18, in The Arches. Following the tour you will have an opportunity to light a candle for a family member or friend who is suffering or has suffered from dementia.

We hope that those taking the tour will come away with an understanding of what people living with dementia are going through, and fostering understanding and empathy.

Would You Like to Schedule a Baby Dedication?



Dedications take place during 11 a.m. worship. Upcoming dates are: January 25, February 22 and March 15. 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 class offered is February 8 at 10 a.m. Email Susan at susan@uccftw.com for details.

Chapman University Singers Return



Friday, January 16, at 7 p.m. in the UCC Sanctuary, hear the Chapman University Singers, under the direction of Stephen Coker, as they present a wide variety of choral repertoire ranging from the Renaissance era to modern day composition. This group amazed and delighted our audience last January, and we are pleased to sponsor them again. This highly-select thirty-four voice mixed choir will also perform international folk songs as well as opera selections. Founded in 1963 by William D. Hall, the University Singers have been acclaimed throughout the world, performing at venues from the Vatican to the Hollywood Bowl. The all-undergraduate ensemble is comprised largely of vocal performance and music education majors from the university's heralded Hall-Musco Conservatory of Music. Traditions of the University Singers include annual national tours, semi-annual international tours, participation in the choral-orchestral presentations of the Conservatory's

spring Sholund Scholarship Concert and a yearly appearance in Chapman's Holiday Wassail Concert.

Founded as Hesperian College in 1861 in Woodland, CA, by members of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Chapman University is one of California's oldest and most respected private universities as well as the second largest Disciples of Christ school. It offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in the context of a liberal arts and sciences university. Endowed by the Valencia orange magnate Charles Clarke Chapman, the institution changed its name to Chapman College in 1934, and in 1954 moved to Orange, California. Chapman has grown into a highly regarded university attracting high-achieving students from all over the United States and around the world.

Stephen Coker, Director, assumed the post of Director of Choral Activities at Chapman University in the fall of 2009. Coker received his Bachelor and Master of Music Degrees from Oklahoma City University and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Choral Music from the University of Southern California.

Hye-Young Kim, Accompanist to the University Singers, is active as a collaborative pianist in a wide variety of repertoire and ensembles. Dr. Kim is an adjunct faculty member of the Chapman University Conservatory of Music.

We hope the congregation will join us for this very special concert! Free admission. A reception will follow in the Gallery.

UCC Women

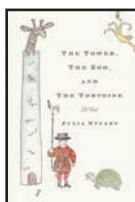


Women's Ministries engages women in meaningful enrichment, spiritual growth, study and worship while advocating for and reaching out to women in our community and around the world. Contact Cyndy Twedell, Associate Minister, for details.



Latte with the Ladies, Saturday, January 10, beginning at 9 a.m. at Brewed (801 W. Magnolia-76104).

Women of Valor will meet Sunday, January 18, for fellowship at 5 p.m. in Room 204 and continue the study on *Women of the Bible: Seeking Justice from Just Women*, an international Disciples Women's Ministries publication.



WILD Women Book Club

Meets on Monday, January 19, at 6 p.m. at Cat City Grill and Tuesday, January 20, at 11:30 p.m. in the UCC Library. We will discuss the

book *The Tower, The Zoo, and the Tortoise* by Julia Stuart (both will discuss the same book).



Regift Game Night, Friday, January 23, at 6 p.m. Bring a \$10ish gift to regift and a snack to share to Carol Stewart's house and enjoy an evening of games and regifting fun. For more information or directions to Carol's house, contact the Women's Ministries Office.

I Don't Have Time...

Exactly how many hours does it take to care for a congregation as large as UCC? How can one person do it? No one person can do it. All of us together can do it—maybe by keeping notecards nearby so that you can write, "Thinking of you!" to someone who doesn't get to church anymore; maybe by taking two nights a month to call a member you haven't seen in a while or someone who is not able to drive now.

What if every one of us pledged fifteen minutes a month in 2015 for pastoral care?

The Church Friends Committee is all about keeping those connections. It's also about sharing those beautiful flower arrangements from the Sanctuary each Sunday afternoon or Monday; and it's calling on each other in the hospital in a town with a bazillion hospitals.

If you've ever been part of the Church Friends Committee, or if you're willing to eat lunch with others to brainstorm and revitalize the group, please r.s.v.p. to Sandra Soria at sandra.pontouf.soria@gmail.com, or call 817.980.9654. We'll gather on Wednesday, January 28,

1:15 p.m. in the private room at Cat City Grill, 1208 West Magnolia Avenue.



(Pictured left to right: Sandra Soria, Ann Love, Tom Chancellor, Nancy DeWees and Tom's mother, Jean Chancellor, in front.)

Men's Ministry Events



Fat Tuesday

Join the men of the church as they prepare pancakes, sausage, fruit and all the fixin's for the Annual Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper on February 17. Every year, Men's Ministry leads this event for our church family. Bring the whole gang and join us in Walker Fellowship Hall for food, fellowship and music around

festive tables. We begin serving at 6 p.m. and wrap up at 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$5 per person (\$3 for children under twelve).

Men's Day Retreat

Home on the Range—A morning of sport shooting at Alpine Range and lunch. Saturday, February 28. Sign up at The Arches Information Desk.

UCC Journal

Carol Ann Fewell, Editor • Michelle Groom, Circulation

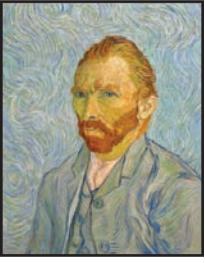
The UCC Journal (USPS 019-016) is published monthly for \$15 per year by University Christian Church, 2720 South University Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76109-1197. Periodicals Postage Paid at Fort Worth, TX, and additional mailing offices.

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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.

Faces of Impressionism: Portraits from the Musée d'Orsay



The Musée d'Orsay, which houses the greatest Impressionist paintings in the world, is sharing some seventy canvases with the Kimbell Art Museum. More than

a thousand visitors a day have been appearing in the galleries to see this amazing exhibition.

This exhibition is not a survey of Impressionist Art. Rather, it offers a rare opportunity to see masterpieces displayed

in such a way that invites us to absorb the narratives of portraiture, to explore the development of portraiture in all its variations, and to spark our imaginations.

Who are the so-called "revolutionaries" of the art world? What social mores do they challenge? Which colors jump out at you? How does the artist direct your attention? What elements on the canvas tell us about nineteenth century society? How does the painting move beyond natural appearance? Whether you are a history buff, art lover, or social scientist, there is something to consider.

If you would enjoy a Friday evening of light intellectual engagement, Larry and Orlew Lauger, docents at the Kimbell, invite you to join them for a tour, scheduled for Friday, January 9, at 5 p.m. You may use your membership ticket or purchase a half-price ticket of \$9 on site at 5 p.m. Meet in the lobby of the Piano Pavilion to begin the tour at 5:05 p.m. Wine and supper to follow!

Call Orlew Lauger at 817.715.1192 or email o.lauger@sbcglobal.net to reserve your spot.



Paris in the Springtime?

Make it happen this year! If you've been dreaming of a trip to France, we have just two spots still open for UCC's unique *A French Feast for the Senses* tour, May 8-17, 2015. Don't miss out! Sign up this week!

Call Marsha Hodges for details, 817.926.6631 ext. 152 or email marsha@uccftw.com.

Growing Healthy Children



Thursday, January 15, 5:30-7 p.m., join us for an evening of (free) education and entertainment with Dr. David Welsh.

Raising emotionally healthy children in an increasingly toxic world is no easy task. Yet for parents as well as educators, surely it is the most important task we will ever encounter. In this entertaining and informative presentation, Dr. Welsh discusses basic "gardening" tips for growing happy, healthy children.

Dr. David Welsh maintains a private psychology practice in Fort Worth, Texas where he provides clinical services for children, adolescents, and adults. He also consults with schools, hospitals, community agencies and private businesses throughout the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex. A popular speaker and trainer, Dr. Welsh is in demand from coast to coast for his dynamic keynotes and breakout sessions. For more than eight years he produced and hosted his own weekly television talk show (*Issues of the Mind*), and he has appeared before millions of national television viewers

on the live call-in counseling show COPE. He is the author of *The Boy Who Burned Too Brightly*.

5:30 p.m. - Dinner (\$5 for fajitas)
6 p.m. - David Welsh
5:30-7 p.m. - free childcare
(cribs through K)

For details and registration, visit us online at universitychristian.org or sign up in the WDS Office with Ingrid Keller.

R.S.V.P. Deadline: Monday, January 12
Sponsored by the WDS Advisory Board

Calling All UCC Artists!

Church and the Arts announces the 2015 UCC Art Exhibit, to be held on March 22.

This year's theme is Fine Art, which includes:
Painting, drawing, printmaking, photography and sculpture.

Entry Deadline is March 14
Entry forms will be available at The Arches Information Desk and the Front Reception Desk

For details contact: Camille Kerr • phone 817.428.6644 or email cmgk@sbcglobal.net

The Children's Closet



In 2014 the Children's Closet provided 6,500 uniforms to 83 elementary schools in the Fort Worth ISD, as well as nine Middle Schools, Safehaven and the Women's Center. The school counselors place orders on behalf of the children and can choose from shirts (navy or white), pants (girls or boys, khakis or jeans), socks and underwear. In addition, a generous donor family shopped and purchased many coats which were very much appreciated by the school counselors during the cold weather in November and December.

Many other churches and organizations have adopted individual schools—the Children's Closet has adopted the entire district.

In addition to Bag-It-Night that distributes over 2,000 uniforms each

September to thirty schools, the Closet distributed forty uniforms to each of forty other schools in September.

We have the Outreach Committee to thank as well as many donors who provided the funding of over \$80,000 this past year, but also the many volunteers who helped with the distributions.

Gerry Houk says, "Heidi Reeder and many young volunteers have been doing a wonderful job in organizing Bag-It-Night which provides an

opportunity for our whole congregation to participate. This year I would also specifically thank Maurine Wood and Ethel Robinson who have served as day chairs in the Closet on either Monday or Thursday and Karen Boring who finds time to volunteer on both Monday and Thursday. All three have been active in the Closet for over ten years."

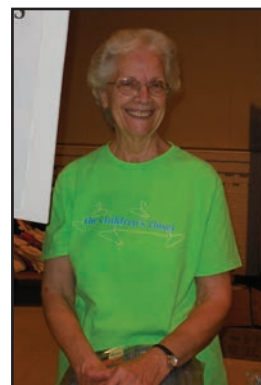
The Children's Closet and the Christmas Angels were the first of many projects UCC includes in its Outreach Ministry to children in need in Tarrant County.



Maurine Wood



Ethel Robinson



Karen Boring

Room in the Inn



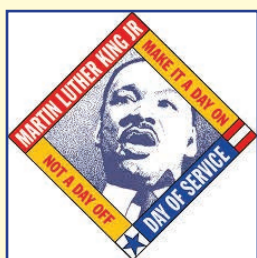
Laughter...
the smell of bacon cooking...
stories told by hosts and guests alike...
games...
a quiet night...
a guest who plays concert-worthy classics on the Fellowship Hall piano...

a delicious meal prepared by many...
happy conversations...
listening attentively to a guest who needs affirmation and acceptance...
a prayer before the meal or in response to a request...
fellowship while making beds, setting the tables, preparing food...
making new friends and renewing acquaintances...
the satisfaction of rooms that are clean and welcoming...
"thank you" many times over...
smiles and more smiles....

All these are experienced by the volunteers and guests at Room in the Inn.

It takes many people to make RITI happen, and the members of UCC are generous in their gifts of time, food and supplies. Please sign up online to take part in this meaningful ministry.

If you aren't receiving weekly emails from Dean Pauley with a link to our sign-up roster, notify Carol Stewart at carolmstewart@sbcglobal.net or look for the weekly sign-up display in the Gallery on Sundays.



MLK Day of Service

Make it a Day On—Not a Day Off!

The fifth annual Tarrant Churches Together MLK Day of Service is Monday, January 19, 8 a.m. -2 p.m. We'll meet at Baker Chapel A.M.E. Church for sign-in and a brief worship service and then head out to work at one of more than forty community agencies. The work day will conclude with lunch and fellowship around tables at Broadway Baptist church. Please contact Lynn Cross at 817.926.6631 ext. 139 if you plan to participate in MLK Day of Service.



12th Annual Reel Religion Film Festival at University Christian Church

featuring films of religious, cultural & philosophical significance

January 30-31, 2015

Make reservations online at www.lifelong.tcu.edu, call 817.257.7232, email to lifelong@tcu.edu or in The Arches at UCC on Sundays January 11, 18 or 25.

Throughout all the film showings, *free popcorn, coffee and bottled water will be available in The Arches at UCC.* Lunch, catered by *Potbelly Sandwich Shop*, is available on Saturday, January 31, starting at noon. Cost is \$9 per person and includes a sandwich, choice of chips, cookie and drink (vegetarian available). *Paid reservations* due by January 28.

Friday Evening Film Schedule



Nicky's Family (2011), Discussion Leader–Ellen Lewis, UCC, Not Rated

In 1939, Sir Nicholas Winton personally and by his own initiative saved the lives of 669 children from Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia and brought them across Hitler's Germany to Britain. For nearly 50 years, he kept secret how he rescued these children; not even his wife knew anything about it. The story only emerged in 1988 when the BBC broadcast a thrilling show about the first meeting of approximately one hundred of the rescued children with their secret rescuer, about whom they had known nothing for 50 years. Today he is often called Britain's Schindler. Unlike Schindler and Wallenberg, Winton is today still alive and well at 102, and still diffident about why he kept his secret for so long. He also is an immensely compelling symbol of how the caring of one man can truly make a difference.

Philomena (2013), Discussion Leader–Jorene Swift, BBC, Rating: PG-13

A world-weary political journalist picks up the story of a woman's search for her son, who was taken away from her decades ago after she became pregnant and was forced to live in a convent. Nominated for four Oscars.



Labor Day (2013), Discussion Leader–Michael Yandell, UCC, Rating: PG-13

Depressed single mom Adele and her son Henry offer a wounded, fearsome man a ride.

As police search town for the escaped convict, the mother and son gradually learn his true story as their options become increasingly limited. Nominated for a Golden Globe.

Nebraska (2013), Discussion Leader–Gail Ryan, UCC, Rated R

Nebraska is a father and son road trip that gets waylaid at a small town in central Nebraska, where the father grew up and has scores to settle. Told with deadpan humor and a unique visual style, it's ultimately the story of a son trying to get through to a father he doesn't understand. Nominated for six Oscars.



Dead Poets' Society (1989), Discussion Leader–Larry Thomas, UCC, Rating: PG

Painfully shy Todd Anderson has been sent to the school where his popular older brother was valedictorian.

His room-mate, Neil, although exceedingly bright and popular, is very much under the thumb of his overbearing father. The two, along with their other friends, meet English Professor John Keating, who inspires his students to a love of poetry and to seize the day. One Oscar win, plus three other nominations.

12 Years a Slave (2013), Discussion Leader–Max Krochmal, TCU, Rating: R

Based on an incredible true story of one man's fight for survival and freedom. In the pre-Civil War United States, Solomon Northup, a free black man from upstate New York, is abducted and sold into slavery.

Facing cruelty, as well as unexpected kindnesses, Solomon struggles not only to stay alive, but to retain his dignity. In the twelfth year of his unforgettable odyssey, Solomon's chance meeting with a Canadian abolitionist will forever alter his life. Three Oscar wins, plus six other nominations.



Saturday Morning Film Schedule

Oscar Nominated Short Films: *Henry; The Confession; The Shore*, Discussion Leader–Larry Ivy, UCC, Not Rated (1, 2 & 3)

(1) *Henry*, a great concert pianist, has his life thrown in turmoil the day the love of his life, Maria, disappears mysteriously. He'll then discover the inevitable verdict of life. Oscar nominee. (2) Quiet and sincere 9-year-old Sam is worried about making his first confession. His conscience is clear, therefore he cannot hope for any relief from the experience. He and his friend Jacob decide to remedy that situation, but their initially innocent prank turns unexpectedly tragic. Oscar nominee. (3) The story of Jim and Paddy, whose childhood friendship is shattered by the troubles in Northern Ireland. Twenty five years later they are reunited. Won Oscar.



***Rising from Ashes* (2012)**, Discussion Leader–William Shelton, UCC, Rating: Not Rated

Rising from Ashes is a feature length documentary about the first Rwandan national cycling team in their bid to make history and represent their country at the 2012 Olympics. Competing in a white man's sport, reserved for the privileged, a rag tag group of cyclists coached by the first American to ride in the Tour de France, are transformed into a powerful symbol of hope for a country recovering from one of the world's most devastating genocides.



***Fill the Void* (2012)**, Discussion Leader–Ariel Feldman, TCU, Rating: PG

A devout 18-year-old Israeli is pressured to marry the husband of her late sister. Declaring her independence is not an option in Tel Aviv's ultra-Orthodox Hasidic community, where religious law, tradition and the rabbi's word are absolute. Won in seven categories from the Israeli Film Academy.



***The Story of Luke* (2012)**, Discussion Leader–Naomi Ekas, TCU, Rating: Not Rated

Sheltered by his grandparents, Luke, a young man with autism, is thrust into a world that doesn't expect anything from him. But Luke is on a quest for a job and true love. And he isn't taking no for an answer.



***The Chorus (les Choristes)* (2004)**, Discussion Leader–Jane Andrews, BBC, Rating: PG-13

The new teacher at a severely administered boys' boarding school works to positively effect the students' lives through music. Nominated for two Oscars.



***Oh, God!* (1977)**, Discussion Leader–Drew Herring, BBC, Rating: PG

A supermarket assistant manager and a good, yet non-religious person, suddenly finds a note in the mail one day that grants him an "interview" with God. Thinking it to be a hoax he tosses it away, but when it keeps reappearing he finally gives in. Skeptical at first, he ends up carrying His personal message—that the world can work with what God has given us. Oscar nominated.



Saturday Afternoon Film Schedule

***Joyeux Noel* (2005)**, Discussion Leader–David Grebel, TCU, Rating: PG-13

In 1914, World War I was well under way. However on Christmas Eve, numerous sections of the Western Front called an informal and unauthorized truce where the various front-line soldiers of the conflict peacefully met each other in No Man's Land to share a precious pause in the carnage with a fleeting brotherhood. This film dramatizes one such section as the French, Scottish and German sides partake in the unique event, even though they are aware that their superiors will not tolerate its occurrence. Nominated for an Oscar.



***The Reluctant Fundamentalist* (2012)**, Discussion Leader–Andrew Fort, TCU, Rating: R

A young Pakistani man is chasing corporate success on Wall Street. He finds himself embroiled in a conflict between his American Dream, a hostage crisis and the enduring call of his family's homeland.



***The Book Thief* (2013)**, Discussion Leader–Cyndy Twedell, UCC, Rating: PG-13

While subjected to the horrors of World War II Germany, young Liesel finds solace by stealing books and sharing them with others. In the basement of her home, a Jewish refugee is being sheltered by her adoptive parents. Nominated for an Oscar.



***The Butler* (2013)**, Discussion Leader–Brent Beasley, BBC, Rating: PG-13

As Cecil Gaines serves eight presidents during his tenure as a butler at the White House, the civil rights movement, Vietnam and other major events affect this man's life, family and American society.

Nominated for two British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) Film Awards.



***Eat Pray Love* (2010)**, Discussion Leader–Scott Green, BBC Rating: PG-13

A married woman realizes how unhappy her marriage really is, and that her life needs to go in a different direction. After a painful divorce, she takes off on a round-the-world journey to "find herself."



***Advise and Consent* (1962)**, Discussion Leader–Jim Riddlesperger, TCU, Rating: Approved

A Senate investigation into the President's newly nominated Secretary of State gives light to a secret from the past, which may not only ruin the candidate, but the President's character as well.

Nominated for a British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) Film Award.



The Joy of Giving!

*The holidays at UCC were filled with generous giving!
Thank you to all who brought joy to our community through Thanksgiving Baskets, Gifts of Hope and Christmas Angels.*



People of all ages gathered to fill bags with new coats, jeans, sweat shirts, shoes, socks, underwear, toys, books and a Bible that were delivered to fourteen Fort Worth schools, bringing joy to almost 500 children and their families.



Many hands of all ages took part in preparing Thanksgiving baskets!

Learning to Use My Bible



A Special Class for Third Graders
Families of third graders will receive a letter giving

details about the special class, *Learning to Use My Bible*, that begins January

11. The six week class will conclude on Sunday, February 15, with a special moment in the 11 a.m. worship service when each child will receive a Bible as a gift from UCC.

Please be sure your third grader is with

us each Sunday at 10 a.m., in Room 218, to participate in engaging lessons and activities that will give them the skills they need to be able to use their new Bibles, now and for a lifetime. If you have questions, please contact Kera Watts in Children's Ministries.

What an Epiphany! Month in CCF/JYF



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

kick off 2015 on January 11 at 5 p.m. with a month full of epiphanies. We will talk about the season of Epiphany in the church, but we will also be discovering some knock-your-socks-off facts and stories each and every week. It will truly be a month of WOW!

Join us from 5-6:15 p.m. in Room 211 for fun, fellowship, learning, service and worship on Sunday nights in January – and bring a friend!

After CCF/JYF each week, we are invited to join the Youth on the third floor for an optional \$3 Snack Supper until 7 p.m.

JYF Mid-Winter Retreat



Who: Third, Fourth and Fifth Graders
Where: Disciples Crossing, Athens, TX
When: January 23-25
Cost: \$45

What is it? JYF Mid-Winter Retreat is a chance for our third through fifth graders to experience Disciples Crossing in Athens, TX, develop and strengthen relationships with friends from UCC, develop new friendships with kids from the Tri-Area and to grow in faith. All worship and learning opportunities will be created by kids and for kids. Of

course, the weekend will also be full of time around the camp fire, songs, games and lots of free time to explore the beauty of Disciples Crossing.

Children's Ministries will email registration information and details to families. All registrations will be completed online through Disciples Crossing. Scholarships are available. Email Kera Watts at kera@uccftw.com with any questions.

Important Summer Dates for Children's Ministries



Ignore the cold...families are already making plans for summer! Please put these important dates on your calendars now.

Vacation Bible School, June 23-26, 2015
Mark your calendars to 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.

Camps for Children and Families
at Disciples Crossing in Summer 2015

Grand Camp

I: May 29-May 31 or II: July 31-August 2
(children ages 4-10 and a grandparent)

Discovery Camp, June 5-7

(completed second or third grade and a parent)

Family Camp at Disciples Crossing

I: May 22-24 or II: August 7-9
(families with at least one child under 18 and an adult over 21)

JYF Camp I, June 29-July 3
(completed fourth or fifth grade)

JYF Camp II, August 10-14
(completed fourth or fifth grade)



Summer Fun

(for children two months to entering K)

Mondays and Wednesdays, 9 a.m.–noon
Session I–June 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17
Session II–July 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22
Details coming in the months ahead.

Just Say Know

Comprehensive Sexuality Education



University Christian Church is pleased to offer the *Just Say Know* sexuality education program for children and youth in grades four through eight.

Details on topics covered in the curriculum can be found on the CLER Ministries website at clerministries.org.

Schedule for 2015 workshops:

Middle school workshops

(grades 6-8 with a parent)
Sundays, February 15 & 22
12:15-3:15 p.m.

Cost: \$20 per youth participant

Elementary school workshops

(grades 4-5 with a parent)
Sunday, February 8
12:15-3:15 p.m.

Separate workshops for boys and girls
Cost: \$20 per child participant

Registration cost includes lunch, course materials, and a copy of Kate Ott's book *Sex+Faith: Talking with Your Child from Birth to Adolescence*. \$10 discount for each additional child registered per family or if you attended a course last year (since each family only needs one book). Scholarships for all courses will be available upon request. Register online today at uccyouth.org/justsayknow, and spread the word to friends and neighbors who would like to take advantage of this important program!

Mission Pilgrimage Opportunities



Spring Break Mission Pilgrimage

El Paso, March 8-14
Informational Meeting
Sunday, January 11, at 12:15 p.m.

Families, youth, students and adults will return to El Paso for UCC's Spring Break Mission Pilgrimage. Again this year we will work in partnership with

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

Any who have questions or are interested in participating in the Spring Break Mission are encouraged to attend the informational meeting, Sunday, January 11, in Room 211. The cost is \$300 per person, \$175 for youth twelve and under. Orientation meeting is scheduled for noon on Sunday, February 8.

Nicaragua Mission Pilgrimage

July 26-August 1

UCC will travel again to Nicaragua to work with La Mision Cristiana and Project Chacocente. Mark your calendars if you want to be part of this life-changing mission.

Contact Cyndy Twedell for details on these mission opportunities!

Frozen Finals Feast Fun!



Each Monday evening of TCU's finals week, UCC's hosts its Bi-Annual Finals Feast. This year's theme was *Frozen* and the students dined on homemade soups, sandwiches, cookies and ice cream as they took a break from studying.

Many of our students brought friends and roommates to this event, and they were so appreciative of the love and support from this congregation. A special thank you to the College Ministry committee and the many volunteers who helped cook, greet, decorate, clean-up and plan for this event!



The Marriage Well

Friday, January 9
Room 207, 6-7 p.m.
Childcare reservations necessary
(susan@uccftw.com)
Deadline for childcare is
Monday, January 5, 12 p.m.



The 1's

Friday, January 9
Room 203, 6-8 p.m.
This month's topic: *The Enneagram*
email jessica@uccftw.com for details!



Blood Drive

Sunday, January 11
9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Walker Fellowship Hall

For details contact:
Carole Widmann, RN, 817.964.1659



Weekday School Enrollment 2015-16 Deadline

The UCC Weekday School Advisory Board is making plans for the 48th year of the school's program, which will begin in the fall of 2015. The school follows the High Scope Approach to preschool education, an experiential, developmentally appropriate curriculum as well as the criteria outlined by the NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children). The Weekday School offers morning classes from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. for cribs (eight weeks) through Kindergarten. Optional Early Bird and Discovery Time enrichment programs are also available.

Enrollment forms and fees for the 2015-16 school year will be accepted **Monday, January 26, through Wednesday, February 11.** If you are a church member not currently enrolled in the school and are interested in requesting a space for your child(ren), packets will be available in the Weekday School Office, Room 101, beginning Monday, January 26, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Accommodating church members is a priority, but please be aware of the demand for our program and that the number of church members turning in packets may be greater than the number of classroom spaces available in any given age level. *Requesting a space does not guarantee a place for your child.* Note that the church member must be a parent or legal guardian in order to pick up a packet.

WDS Priority Placement Guidelines:

Crib Room:

1. Church members' children—*Please note that the church member must be a parent or legal guardian.* (If all things are equal,

number of years of church membership will be taken into consideration.)
2. Siblings of current students
3. Children on waiting lists

One year olds-four year olds:

1. Students currently enrolled in the program (Priority will be given to those families with the most years in program.)
2. Number of years family has been enrolled in program
3. Siblings of current students
4. Church members' children who are not currently enrolled—*Please note that the church member must be a parent or legal guardian.* (If all things are equal, number of years of church membership will be taken into consideration.)
5. Children who have been placed on the waiting lists throughout the year

Kindergarten:

Placement of the Kindergarten Class will be determined using the same guidelines listed above. However, acceptance will also take into account girl/boy ratio and age balance within this class. Director discretion will be used in final placement. Additional information about the Kindergarten program is available in the Weekday School Office.

The Advisory Board invites all interested church members to come by the Weekday School office to learn about our outstanding program. Additionally, if you have any questions concerning Enrollment, please contact Alison Coffey, WDS Enrollment Chair, at alisongcoffey@gmail.com or Claire Graham, Director of the UCC Weekday School, at 817.926.3960 or claire@uccftw.com.

Newcomers Class in February



Join us Sundays, February 1, 8 and 15, at 10 a.m. in Room 201. The Newcomers class is a great introduction to UCC. Invite a friend to come to the class and experience the welcome of UCC.

All are welcome to be a part of the Newcomers Class!

The Newcomers Class offers an opportunity to get to know others, meet Rev. Thomas, learn about UCC and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Questions are always welcome.

For details, please contact Michelle Groom, Ministry Assistant to Rev. Cyndy Twedell, at 817.926.6631 ext. 138, or email her at mgroom@uccftw.com.



FitQuest participants Walt Hatter, Amy Yandell, Jessica Vacketta, Drew Ruiz, Scotty Jones, and Michael Yandell

Join UCC Members at Our FitQuest

Coming from years of experience with stereotypical boot camp workouts, the founders of Our FitQuest were looking for something more to help them achieve their overall health goals. The founders believe that the group exercise format is hard to beat. Accountability is arguably the most important factor in sustaining any fitness program. Fellow workout members encourage each other and friendships are formed.

A typical class includes interval training, speed and agility drills,

circuit-type stations, plyometrics, strength conditioning using dumbbells and body weight, cardio exercises and stretching.

Try out FQ for free before joining. While there are multiple locations, we hope you'll join the UCC FitQuest crew every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 5:30-6:30 a.m. in the University Dr. parking lot.

Learn more about the program at www.ourfitquest.com or email Scotty Jones at sjones@dunhamlaw.com.

Chancel Choir Leadership

In November, the church regrettably accepted the resignation of our Choirmaster, Dr. Jerry McCoy, due to health reasons. His tenure here was short but very memorable as he taught the choir advanced singing skills and

led the congregation in glorious Easter and All Saint's Day worship services. We appreciate all he did to increase the excellence of our music program. For the foreseeable future the Chancel Choir will be led by two Assistant Choirmasters,

Jackson Yandell and Eric Mullins. The combined music staff will make certain that the music in worship at UCC continues to teach and inspire each of us to a closer connection with our Creator.

College Lunch Bunch Says Thanks a Bunch!

A big thank you to these folks who provided food and/or money for Lunch Bunch, a weekly gathering of TCU students on Wednesdays at noon. If you are interested in providing or financing a

lunch, email thelia@uccftw.com for details.

Genesis SS Class • Seekers SS Class
PEW Team • Roundtable SS Class
Bridges SS Class • Logos SS Class (twice!)

Vickie & Larry Thomas
Koinonia SS Class • Avis Herndon
Tom & Jennifer Lanter
Jim & Susan Smith/Fitfully Fit Forever
Geoff Hummelke/God Talk SS Class

UCC Quick Financial Summary - Unified Budget November 2014

| Description | 2013 YTD Actuals | 2014 YTD Actuals | Budget YTD 2014 | Budget Annual | YTD Variance |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Income | | | | | |
| Pledges | \$1,845,759 | \$1,867,317 | \$1,837,889 | \$2,047,567 | \$29,428 |
| Non Pledge Contributions | \$169,795 | \$214,642 | \$221,853 | \$276,300 | (\$7,211) |
| Offering | \$30,753 | \$28,553 | \$32,045 | \$38,700 | (\$3,492) |
| Misc. Unrestricted Income | \$119,682 | \$112,660 | \$119,330 | \$161,605 | (\$6,670) |
| WDS Income (Net) | \$93,362 | \$67,852 | \$93,855 | \$86,595 | (\$26,003) |
| Endowment Income | \$203,954 | \$218,149 | \$218,878 | \$291,010 | (\$729) |
| Participant/Restricted Income & Reserve Use | \$511,125 | \$331,425 | \$348,197 | \$403,994 | (\$16,772) |
| Total Income | \$2,974,428 | \$2,840,598 | \$2,872,046 | \$3,305,771 | (\$31,448) |
| Total Personnel Expense | \$1,628,295 | \$1,597,236 | \$1,628,065 | \$1,760,791 | \$30,830 |
| Total Program/Admin. Expense | \$976,794 | \$869,744 | \$963,862 | \$1,050,984 | \$94,119 |
| Total Mission/Outreach Expense | \$486,234 | \$406,385 | \$377,739 | \$488,315 | (\$28,647) |
| Total Expenses | \$3,091,324 | \$2,873,365 | \$2,969,666 | \$3,300,090 | \$96,302 |
| Net Operating Income (Loss) | (\$116,895) | (\$32,767) | (\$97,620) | \$5,681 | \$64,854 |

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: End of year giving for tax purposes needs to be received by or post marked by December 31. Tax Statements will be mailed by January 31, 2015. If you have questions regarding this report please contact Michelle Ingram, Director of Accounting, at 817.926.6631 or by email to michelle@uccftw.com.

Congregational Meetings

Personnel Committee

Tuesday, January 6, 5:30 p.m., Rm 202

Communications Committee

Wednesday, January 7, 5:30 p.m., Rm 202

Building & Grounds

Sunday, January 11, 12:15 p.m., Rm 202

Finance Committee

Tuesday, January 13, 5:30 p.m., Rm 203

Board of Stewards

Tuesday, January 20, 6:30 p.m., Rm 207

Assembly Meeting

Tuesday, January 27, 6:30 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

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

Happy Anniversary Prayer Shawl Ministry

Every January we give thanks for UCC's Prayer Shawl Ministry and the lives touched by the warmth and care of these shawls. Prayer Shawls are given in gratitude; to those undertaking a new journey in life; and to those facing surgery, treatment or loss. Baby blankets, crocheted and prayed over, have also been given to families at the occasion of the Blessing and Dedication of their children.

UCC's Prayer Shawl Ministry celebrates its tenth anniversary in worship on Sunday, January 11. Over 1,800 prayer shawls have been knit or crocheted since this ministry began at UCC in January 2005.



Each prayer shawl is lovingly knit or crocheted, held by the group as they pray for its recipient and then presented to someone who needs to be wrapped in God's loving embrace.

Open to the wonderful working of God's

Spirit, this ministry welcomes all who wish to participate. Join us on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. or Sundays at 5 p.m. in Room 206.