



Fortieth Anniversary of the Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival

Saturday, January 2 and Sunday, January 3. Performances at 3 and 5 p.m. each day in the Sanctuary. Come an hour early to get your seats and visit with your friends.

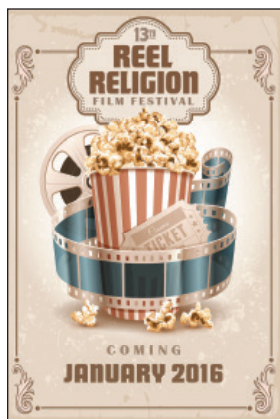
A brief history of the Boar's Head festival: In the days of the Roman Empire, a boar was the first dish served at great Roman feasts. Much later, in Medieval England, the boar, a ferocious and menacing animal, ruled the great forests of that land. Roasted boar was the staple of holiday banquets at the great manor houses.

Tradition, therefore, preceded the first recorded occurrence of the Boar's Head procession held at Queens College, Oxford shortly after its founding in 1340. Legend has it that an Oxford University scholar retreated to the woods with a volume of Aristotle to study. While there, he was confronted by a raging boar that had been menacing the nearby town. With no weapon available, the resourceful student rammed the metal-bound philosophy book down the beast's throat, killing the boar and saving his own life. That very night the boar's head, roasted, dressed and garnished was carried at the head of a procession into the dining room. The celebration of the student's life came to represent the victory of logic and reason over evil. Eventually a Yule log was added to the procession, since it was the custom to celebrate God's bounty by lighting a new Yule log at the beginning of the new year.

The church then endowed this custom with additional symbolic meaning. With the boar's head symbolizing evil, by portraying the Annunciation, the shepherds seeking out the Christ Child and the Magi following the star of the east, the procession was transformed into a worship of God and the triumph of Christ over evil. At a time when most people were illiterate, the dramatic and symbolic presentation was an effective way to share the Christmas message—that Christ has, indeed, overcome both evil and the threat of death. During the next three or four centuries the procession evolved into a more elaborate festival. Lords, ladies, knights, cooks, hunters, pages and yeoman guards, known as Beefeaters, were added. By 1607 at St. John's College, Cambridge, England, *The Boar's Head Carol* was sung during the processional as it is to this very day.

The Boar's Head Festival was brought to Colonial America by British settlers and French Huguenots. It is now celebrated in many diverse Christian settings throughout the United States. The festival is traditionally offered following Christmas during the season of Epiphany, which ends the 12th day following Christmas when tradition says that Christ was made known to the Magi.

The UCC Boar's Head Festival is the largest in the United States. We are proud of our unique drama, costumes and music. Celebrate the 40th anniversary with us! Commemorative ornaments, t-shirts and a children's book are on sale now!



13th Annual Reel Religion Film Festival

January 29-30 at University Christian Church.
See pages 6-7 for details on movies and schedule for the festival! Registration is currently open at www.lifelong.tcu.edu.

Movies are free and open to the public.
Saturday lunch available with prepaid reservation.

Registration also available in The Arches
on January 10 and 17 from 9:40 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

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



The In-Between-Time

by Rev. Larry Thomas, Senior Minister

The first of January is one of those exciting in-between-times. I have talked about in-between-times before, but primarily within the context of greater spans of time. Being in-between implies waiting; waiting for an experience or event that follows another. Is it resourceful to live one's life in anticipation of something...else... always; probably not, especially if you fritter away the time between. But how many of us do it anyway?

Time is a precious commodity that once it has expired, it cannot be gotten back. The time between Christmas and Epiphany is in-between-time that is taken for granted. It hasn't always been

this way. Many Christians were once accustomed to twelve days of Christmas and some still observe this tradition. We tend to put more emphasis on Advent and Christmas Day, relegating Christmas Tide (the in-between-space between Christmas and Epiphany) and Epiphany to lesser celebrations—if they are acknowledged at all.

I want to revisit a devotional reading that I encountered during Advent and I want to share it with you in this in-between-time in hopes of our being reminded of the magnitude of God's love made known to us in the person of Jesus of Nazareth; the babe in a manger—the savior on a cross.

It comes from one of my favorite devotional books, *Watch for the Light*.

The author of this selection is Madeleine L'Engle. This is an excerpt from her larger contribution entitled *A Sky Full of Children*.

A sky full of God's children! Each galaxy, each star, each living creature, every particle and sub-atomic particle of creation, we are all children of the Maker. From a subatomic particle with a life span of a few seconds, to a galaxy with a life span of billions of years, to us human creatures somewhere in the middle in size and age, we are made in God's image, male and female, and we are, as Christ promised us, God's children by adoption and grace.

I believe this as much as I believe anything! How about you?

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 workshops is as follows:

Middle school workshop

(grades 6-8 with a parent)

Sunday, February 21, 12:15-3:45 p.m.

Cost: \$20 per youth participant

Elementary school workshops

(grades 4-5 with a parent)

Sunday, February 28, 12:15-3:15 p.m.

Separate workshops for boys and girls

Cost: \$20 per child participant

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 previously attended a course (since each family only needs one book). Scholarships for all courses available upon request. Register at uccyouth.org/justsayknow and spread the word to friends and neighbors who would like to take advantage of this important program!

Trip to Crystal Bridges



Weekend Trip to Crystal Bridges
Bentonville, Arkansas
Friday, April 22-Sunday, April 24

Cost: \$275 per person for double occupancy room. Single occupancy available.

The Church and the Arts Committee invites you to join them on a trip to Bentonville, Arkansas, to visit Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art and the Frank Lloyd Wright Bachman-Wilson House. The trip cost includes transportation, hotel accommodations, museum fees, breakfast and two gourmet dinners at the museum and Bentonville's famous 21c Hotel. Before heading back to Fort Worth, the group will worship at Waterway Christian Church. Email marsha@uccftw.com to reserve your spot today. Trip space is limited.

Christmas Angels Thank You!

Thanks to UCC's generosity and compassion almost 500 children and their families experienced the joy of Christmas with a red bag filled with a new coat, shoes, jeans, sweatshirt, socks and underwear, toy, book and Bible. It was another amazing Christmas Angels Wrap Night. Thank you, UCC! And a big thank you to Kate Williams and her hard working Christmas Angels team.



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.



Get Ready for Global

Children's Christian Fellowship
(first through third grades)
and Junior Youth Fellowship
(fourth and fifth grades)
will kick off 2016 on
January 10 at 5 p.m.

CCF/JYF will be taking our children on a journey of discovery through an adapted Global Ministries youth curriculum designed to broaden views of who we are, our place in the church, and our place in our community. This curriculum is a wellspring of information and resources to equip youth with the tools to continually evaluate who they are, their world, and God's mission. In January, we will begin by challenging stereotypes, and prejudices in our community and world.

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.

Retreats at Disciples Crossing



Youth Mid-Winter Retreats

This winter UCC's youth will join with Disciples from around the area for two retreats at Disciples Crossing, our beautiful church camp in Athens. Both retreats offer the opportunity to grow closer to God and one another through worship, recreation, prayer, small groups and interest groups that include options like sports, dance, art, service, photography and more.

Chi Rho Mid-winter Retreat for grades six through eight will be February 5-7, and registrations are due by January 22.

CYF Mid-Winter Retreat for grades nine through twelve will be February 19-21, and registrations are due by February 5. Participants will meet at UCC at 5:30 p.m. on the Friday of each retreat to take a charter bus to camp and will return around 12:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Thanks to fundraising income from TCU football parking, the registration cost for each retreat is only \$50 and additional scholarship assistance is available upon request. Additional details and online registration is available at uccyouth.org/retreats.

JYF Mid-Winter Retreat

Who: Third, Fourth, and Fifth Graders

Where: Disciples Crossing, Athens, TX

When: January 22-24

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 camp fire, songs, games, and lots of free time to explore the beauty of Disciples Crossing.

Disciples Crossing registration is now open. Scholarships are available. Additional details and online registration is available at uccyouth.org/retreats. Email kera@uccftw.com with questions.

Young Adult Mid-Winter Retreat

When: January 8-10

Where: Disciples Crossing, Athens, TX

Join young adults (graduated from high school up to twenty-five years of age) from North East Area, North Texas Area, Trinity Brazos Area (NEA, NTA, TBA) for a weekend of catching up with friends and recharging your soul. Costs vary from \$50-\$90 and scholarships are available. Email jessica@uccftw.com with questions or register online at disciplescrossing.org.

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.

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 Rev. Cyndy Twedell, Associate Minister, for more information.



Regift Game Night

Friday, January 8, 6 p.m.
Bring a \$10ish gift to regift

and a snack to share to Diane Hawley's house and enjoy an evening of games and regifting fun. For more information or directions to Diane's house, contact the Women's Ministries Office.



Latte with the Ladies

Saturday, January 9,
beginning at 9 a.m.
at Brewed (801 W.
Magnolia, 76104)

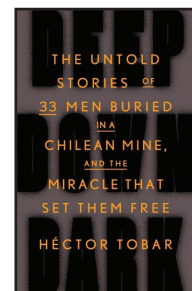
Women's Retreat

January 15-16

Richland Hills Christian Church is hosting a Women's Retreat Friday, January 15, 7-9 p.m. and Saturday, January 16, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Join others for an enjoyable weekend of fun, food and Bible study. Cost is \$10. See Michelle Groom for registration forms. Deadline to sign up is January 9.

WILD Women Book Club

The evening WILD group will meet at UCC at 3 p.m. Sunday, January 17, to watch the *Pride and Prejudice* movie. Monday, January 18, at 6 p.m. at Cat City Grill they will discuss the book, *Pride and Prejudice*, by Jane Austen.



On Tuesday, January 19, at 11:30 a.m. in the UCC Library the book *Deep Down Dark* by Hector Tobar will be discussed.

Men's Ministry



Men's Third Thursday Lunch

All men are welcome on January 21, noon at Cafe Bella on South Hills Ave.

Annual Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper

February 9, Walker Hall, 6-7:30 p.m.

This all church pancake supper is hosted by Men's Ministry and is always a fun-filled event! The award winning Paschal Jazz Ensemble will entertain

and delight you as we begin our Lenten season. Join us for pancakes, sausage, fruit and all the fixins'. Great fellowship and activities for kids! \$5 per person, \$3 for children under 12.



Friday Fellowship

Join us for Friday Fellowship, January 8, 11 a.m., Room 211. As the holidays wind

down, this month we will not have a speaker, but will just meet for lunch and fellowship with friends. An entrée will be provided, but we ask that you bring

a side or dessert. Email danlsmith@mindspring.com or call Barb Retorick, Ministry Assistant, at 817.926.6631 for reservations.

College Happenings

January 3 - First Sunday Lunch, Los Vaqueros (off Berry St.)

January 5 - College Game Night, 7-10 p.m., Walker Hall

January 8-10 - Young Adult Retreat, Disciples Crossing

January 13, 20 and 27 - Lunch Bunch, Noon, College Lounge

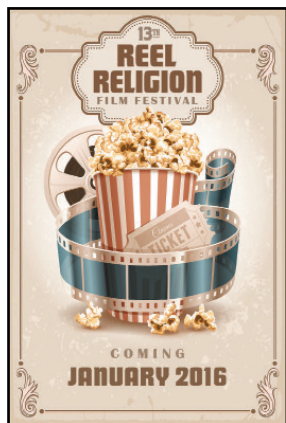
January 18 - MLK Day of Service

January 24 - Pickleball Ball, 4-7 p.m., Walker Hall

January 31 - Sunday Evening Small Group, College Lounge, TBD

Sunday School meets weekly in the College Lounge at 10 a.m.

Please check Facebook for the most up to date information!



Reel Religion Film Festival, January 29-30

Thirteenth Annual Reel Religion: Festival of Films

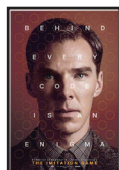
Reservations: Online at www.lifelong.tcu.edu, by phone at 817.257.7132, or email lifelong@tcu.edu.

Snacks: Throughout film showings, popcorn, coffee and bottled water is provided in The Arches.

Lunch: Catered by Zoe's Kitchen, will be available on Saturday, January 30, starting at noon. Cost is \$8 per person and includes kabobs, rice, fruit, salad, dessert and drink. Paid reservations must be made by Wednesday, January 27. Please indicate if you would like a vegetarian selection.

*Sponsored by University Christian Church, Broadway Baptist Church and TCU Extended Education.
All film screenings will be held at UCC.*

Films and Discussions for Friday, 6:45 p.m.



The Imitation Game (2014) PG-13. Biography, Drama, Thriller. Based on the real-life story of legendary cryptanalyst Alan Turing, the film portrays the nail-biting race against time by Turing and his team of code-breakers at Britain's top-secret facility during the darkest days of World War II. What happens to Turing after his sexual orientation becomes public is explored with sensitivity and compassion. Academy Award winner. Discussion—Tyler Heston, University Christian Church.

Little Boy (2015) PG-13. Comedy, Drama, War. Can the faith of a child move a mountain? End a war? An eight-year-old boy is willing to do whatever it takes to end World War II so he can bring his father home alive. The story will capture your heart and lift your spirits as it explores the depth of love between a father and a son. Discussion—Jennifer Davis, Broadway Baptist Church.



The Overnighters (2014) PG-13. Documentary, Drama. Broken, desperate men chase their dreams and run from their demons as they arrive in the North Dakota oil fields with no money, no job and no place to stay. A local pastor risks everything to help them and discovers when people must choose between love and fear, the right choice is rarely clear. Discussion—Dan Freemyer, Broadway Baptist Church.

Invictus (2009) PG-13. Biography, Drama, History, Sport. Nelson Mandela, in his first term as the South African president, initiates a unique venture to unite the apartheid-torn land. Believing he can bring his nation together through the universal language of sport, Mandela rallies South Africa's rugby team as they make their historic run to the 1995 Rugby World Cup Championship match. Discussion—David Owen, Global Ministries.



Tender Mercies (1983) PG. Drama, Music. A washed-up country western singer who is a recovering alcoholic finds love and hope through his relationship with a young widow, her son and his long-lost daughter. Themes explored include the importance of love and family, the possibility of spiritual resurrection amid death, and redemption through conversion to the Christian faith. Winner of two Academy Awards. Discussion—Kerry Neuhardt, Broadway Baptist Church.

Woman in Gold (2015) PG-13. Drama. Maria Altmann, an octogenarian Jewish refugee, takes on the Austrian government to regain the world-famous painting of her aunt plundered by the Nazis during World War II. Her young attorney makes great sacrifices to bring the suit to a fair conclusion, even when Maria has lost all hope. Based on a true story. Discussion—Patti Gearhart Turner, Texas Wesleyan, and Gail Ryan, University Christian Church.



Films and Discussions for Saturday, 10 a.m.



Alive Inside (2014) NR. Documentary, News. Winner of the Sundance Film Festival Audience Award, the film follows social worker Dan Cohen, founder of the nonprofit Music and Memory, as he fights against a broken health care system to demonstrate music's ability to restore a deep sense of self to those suffering from memory loss. The film reveals the uniquely human connection with music's healing power. Discussion—Tricia Baldwin, Trinity Terrace.

The King of Masks (1996) NR. Drama. Mandarin with English subtitles. This rich and beautiful film examines traditional Chinese culture with the story of an aging street illusionist who can only pass along his ancient professional secrets to a son. The old master's quest for a boy to carry on his craft is emotional and complex. Set prior to WWII, the film features timeless themes relevant to today's modern societies. Discussion—Anne and Charles Sanders, University Christian Church.





Films and Discussions for Saturday, 10 a.m.

Calvary (2014) R. Drama. After his life is threatened during a confession, a good and compassionate Irish priest must battle the dark forces closing in around him. As he goes about his ministry the following week, one sees a reflection of Christ's journey to the cross. Discussion—Larry Thomas, University Christian Church.

Love Is Strange (2014) R. Drama. After nearly four decades together, Ben and George get married. Shortly afterwards George is fired from his teaching post, forcing the couple to live separately with their families while they look for more affordable housing—a situation that weighs heavily on all involved. A poignant look at the dynamic of families under stress. Discussion—Drew Herring, Broadway Baptist Church.



Mrs. Palfrey at the Claremont (2005) NR. Comedy, Drama. An aging widow moves to London to start life anew at a retirement hotel. All but abandoned by her daughter and grandson, she strikes up an unexpected friendship with a young writer. But what of her real family? Where are they? What makes a family, anyway? Being related by blood or caring for one another? Discussion—Jorene Taylor Swift, Broadway Baptist Church.

The Water Diviner (2014) R. Drama, War. In a story inspired by true events, a grieving Australian farmer travels to Turkey to discover the fate of his three sons on the battlefield of Gallipoli in World War I. A tale of deep love mingled with adventure, the film evokes a range of emotions from grief to hope in a way that crosses all barriers of language, culture, politics and history. Discussion—Brent Beasley, Broadway Baptist Church.

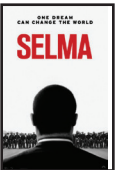


Films and Discussions for Saturday, 1 p.m.



After the Wedding (2006) R. Drama. Danish w/English subtitles. Jacob Pederson, the manager of a struggling orphanage in Bombay, is invited to Copenhagen to comply with an offer of funding from a wealthy Danish businessman. Once there, Jacob discovers a life-altering family secret that makes him realize the invitation was a ploy to prevent him from returning to India. Is this a good thing or not? Discussion—Cyndy Twedell, University Christian Church.

Selma (2014) PG-13. Biography, Drama, History. The unforgettable true story chronicles the tumultuous three-month period in 1965 when Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., led a dangerous campaign to secure equal voting rights in the face of violent opposition. The epic march from Selma to Montgomery culminated in President Johnson signing the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Academy Award winner. Discussion—Max Krochmal, Texas Christian University.



McFarland, USA (2015) PG. Drama, Sport. The true story of a struggling coach and teacher who comes to one of the poorest cities in America: McFarland, California. There he discovers buried potential in several high school boys and slowly turns them into a championship cross-country team. Once successful, will he be tempted to take another position with a wealthy school district? Discussion—Rachel Long, University Christian Church.

The Railway Man (2013) R. Biography, Drama, Romance. A British Army officer, who was tortured in a Japanese prisoner-of-war camp during World War II, continues to suffer flashbacks years later. His wife learns the Japanese officer who haunted him is still alive. Should he be given a chance to confront his tormentor? Would she stand by him, whatever he did? Discussion—David Grebel, Texas Christian University.



The Sound of Music (1965) G. Biography, Drama, Family, Musical, Romance. Maria leaves an Austrian convent to become a governess to the children of a Naval officer and widower. World events and the rise of Nazi Germany soon threaten their happiness. This classic film goes beyond beautiful scenery and memorable songs. It presents a deeper message of searching for purpose, meaning and direction in life. Winner of five Academy Awards. Discussion—Nathan Russell, Broadway Baptist Church.

Oscar Nominated Short Films: Discussion—Larry Ivy, UCC.

West Bank Story (2005) Comedy, Musical. In this musical comedy twist on West Side Story, David, an Israeli soldier, falls in love with Fatima, a beautiful Palestinian cashier, despite the animosity between their families' dueling restaurants in the West Bank. It's a little singing, a little dancing, and a lot of hummus. Winner of Academy Award for Best Short Live Action Film.



The Voorman Problem (2011) Comedy, Drama. Dr. Williams is the latest psychiatrist to deal with a smug patient called Voorman who claims to be God. The doctor must determine if Voorman is a faker or the real thing. Academy Award Nominee.

Toyland (2007) TV-PG. Drama, War. 1942: What happens when a German child believes that his Jewish neighbors are going to Toyland? Eight-year-old Heinrich is desperate to go with his best friend, David, who has been whisked away with his family and herded onto a death train. Winner of Academy Award for Best Short Live Action Film.

New Members



Welcome Jody Smith. Jody grew up in San Antonio, graduated from TCU and recently retired from a thirty-year career as an interior designer. Her husband, Don, a long-time member, introduced Jody to UCC and they were married in the Chapel five years ago. After attending services here for several years, Jody participated in Rev. Cyndy Twedell's Newcomers Class, and she is so very happy to become a part of this warm and welcoming church family.



John Wayne White's first Sunday at UCC was All Saints Sunday and the music that day confirmed his search. He has sung with the Turtle Creek Chorale and is pleased to now sing with UCC's Chancel Choir. John Wayne is a billing clerk/database manager at J-Meds Medical Services.



Sam and Kathy Lucas have been married forty-eight years. Sam graduated from TCU and has an electronics business with his brother. Kathy is a retired first grade teacher. They have two daughters and five granddaughters. They love the Frogs and enjoy going to the games. Sam plays golf in his spare time. Kathy enjoys needlework and entertaining the grands.

Newcomers Class



All are welcome to be a part of the Newcomers Class! Join us Sundays, February 7, 14 and 21, 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). Questions are always welcome.

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



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.

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.

UCC's Prayer Shawl Ministry celebrates

its eleventh anniversary in worship on Sunday, January 10. Over 1,880 prayer shawls have been knit or crocheted since this ministry began in January 2005.

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.

Subscribe to the Email Update

Sign up for the Update

Keep up-to-date with the latest happenings at UCC. If you are not already receiving your weekly Email Update, visit universitychristian.org and click the button at the bottom of the home page to subscribe!

Baby Dedications



Samuel Lyle Silva, son of Al & Erin Silva. Grandparents are Bill & Lisa Dishman, Al & Sharon Silva, and Joanne Lyle. Great-grandparents are Martha Dishman and Sam & Marcy Ford. Siblings are Adam and Stella.



Hudson Francis Kostohryz, son of Kelly & Morgan Kostohryz. Grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Christian R. Blunk, Dr. & Mrs. George Kostohryz Jr., Mr. & Mrs. Paul E. Mertz. Great-grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Franklin H. Gaines, Mrs. Barbara Blunk, Mrs. Jo Hickman, Mrs. Joyce Kostohryz.

Would You Like to Schedule a Baby Dedication?



Dedications take place during 11 a.m. worship. Upcoming dates are: January 31, February 28 and March 13.

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 University Christian Church that we as a community of faith will surround the child with the spirit of Christ as they grow in our midst.

Learning to Use My Bible

A Special Class for Third Graders



Families of third graders will receive a letter outlining details about the special class, *Learning to Use My Bible*,

that begins January 10 at 10 a.m. The six week class will conclude on Sunday, February 14, with a special moment in the 11 a.m. worship service when

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 University Christian Church can help foster their family and child in the process of understanding Christ's love.

The next class offered will be on February 7 at 10 a.m. in the Bride's Room. Please email Susan Henry in the Children's Ministries Office at susan@uccftw.com for further information.

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.

Life of the Church

Weddings

Danyelle Keenan & David Ackall
November 20

Lindsay Legendre & Brandon Lutz
November 22

Deborah Boone & John McKenzie
December 12

Births

Henry Asher Shub, November 11
Parents, Gretchen and Jon Shub

Milo and Max Fierke, November 17
Parents, Amy and Shelby Fierke
Grandparents, Linda and Jay Fierke

Emma Ruth McGarry, November 24
Parents, Elicia and Sean McGarry
Grandmother, Patti Hebson

Cohen Wayne Sperry, November 30
Great grandparents, Jean and Dave Frick

Deaths

Jeanette Oreschnigg, November 7
mother of Patty Oreschnigg

Sue Savage, November 11
aunt of Julie Henry

Jerry Bingham, November 16
father of Kera Watts, grandfather of Emory, Davis and Whitney Watts

Lucretia Mills, November 18
mother of Greg Mills

Kara Lynne Monroe Heiss, November 25
sister of Glenn Monroe and Bill Monroe

Olivia Holcomb, December 2

Harry Knudsen, December 2

Karolyn Thomas, December 3
mother of Larry Thomas, mother-in-law of Vickie Thomas, grandmother of Lucas and Clayton Thomas

J. J. Thomas, December 5

Room in the Inn Winter Session



Each Wednesday during the months of December, January and February, UCC hosts ten homeless guests who are screened by the Day Resource Center (DRC). Our guests are welcomed, fed a family style dinner, spend time together visiting and sharing in a caring community, read or play games before settling down for a safe and warm overnight. Breakfast is served the following morning prior to their return to the DRC with a sack lunch to enjoy.

In the words of Fr. Charles Strobel, founder of the Room in the Inn ministry, "Through the power of spirituality and the practice of love, we provide hospitality with a respect that offers hope in a community of non-violence." Our care for our guests emphasizes to them that they are worthy of unconditional love.

In the words of Maisey, age four and one of our most faithful early morning kitchen volunteers, "I love baking biscuits and eating them."

December began UCC's eighth year as a Room in the Inn (RITI) host site. Over 230 UCC folks have been trained for this ministry! They visit with, share a meal with and serve our guests. There are many other important jobs related to RITI which do not require training. Whether you value meeting people for meaningful conversation in a holy place, or just like the biscuits, we need your help.

If you would like to participate and be a part of Room in the Inn, email Carol Stewart at carolmstewart@sbcglobal.net.

Mission Pilgrimages 2016



Spring Break Mission to El Paso

March 13-19

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 contact Rev. Cyndy Twedell soon. The cost is \$300 per person, \$175 for youth twelve and under. \$50 deposit is due February 1.

Nicaragua Mission Pilgrimage

July 3-10

UCC will travel again to Nicaragua to

work with La Mision Cristiana and Project Chacocente. Mark you calendars if you want to be part of this life-changing mission. Contact Rev. Cyndy Twedell for more information.



Last Chance to Sign Up for the Couples Retreat!



You and your significant other are invited to attend a couples retreat with the theme,

Understand Yourself, Understand Your Partner: A Look at the Enneagram and Relationships. Retreat is Friday, February 5-Saturday, February 6, at The Cliffs Resort at Possum Kingdom Lake.

Cost is \$225 per couple, and includes continental breakfast and lunch.

Can you think of a better gift to give your partner than a weekend get-away? You and your loved one are encouraged to spend time together to reflect, relax and reconnect at UCC's Annual Couples' Retreat. This year's retreat will revisit the ancient, yet growing in

popularity, personality system, *The Enneagram*. We'll explore each of the nine personality types and the pairings of the types of couples in attendance. Register at universitychristian.org.

A non-refundable \$100 deposit is due by Monday, January 4. Please email barbara.rektorik@uccftw.com for more information.

Save the Date



Sunday, February 21, The UCC Chancel Choir will join Schola Cantorum of Texas, the TCU University Singers and the Faith Family Academy Choir in a celebratory concert honoring Martin Luther King, Jr. and Black History Month, focusing on the African American Spirituals, at 3:30 p.m. in the UCC Sanctuary. Free admission!

Lawrence and Rosemary Alland Endowment Fund

by Kristie Gibson, Endowment Committee



Last February a very special gift was given to UCC. This donation established the Lawrence and Rosemary Alland Endowment Fund to benefit pastoral care at UCC. Rosemary, a longtime member of UCC, passed away in November 2014. Her well-lived life was one of service to the church and the community, including roles as a missionary in the Congo, educator at all levels, and minister of older adults at UCC. Our congregation has been richly blessed by Rosemary, as well as Larry, her husband of 60 years.

Jim Alland, one of their four children, wanted to honor his mother's legacy with a charitable gift. He and his wife, Cathy, and their children, Jeremy (married to Katie), Kevin and Tori, looked for a way to extend Rosemary's core values and dreams into the future. They knew University Christian Church had been an important institution and community for Rosemary and Larry ever since they were undergraduates at TCU. Jim realized creating an endowment for UCC would be a "straightforward way to support the mission they stood for their whole lives." Pastoral care was especially important to Rosemary, and the endowment could support that ministry in perpetuity. Jim's

brother, Mark Alland, and his family (active members of UCC) agreed the endowment would be a fitting living tribute. Additional gifts will be added to the endowment over time, further extending the reach of the wonderful legacy of the Alland Family.

Has UCC been important to you and your family? Perhaps you will consider leaving a legacy by including the church in your estate plans. Your generosity can benefit future generations through a gift to the UCC Endowment Fund.

Please contact Michelle Ingram in the Business Office if you would like to learn more.

Sunday Morning Bible Study



Have you wanted to engage in a bible study, yet can't seem to find time during the week? Well, you're in luck! Beginning Sunday, January 10, the *Common Ground* Sunday morning Bible study will start the year with a four-week study on the book of James.

Open to adults of all ages, the class will meet weekly in Room 313 (across from the Third Floor Kitchen) at 10 a.m.

Email jessica@uccftw.com for more information.

UCC Quick Financial Summary - Unified Budget November 2015

Description	2014 YTD Actuals	2015 YTD Actuals	Budget YTD 2015	Budget Annual	YTD Variance
Income					
Pledges	\$1,867,317	\$1,870,469	\$1,796,034	\$2,062,615	\$74,435
Non Pledge Contributions	\$214,642	\$245,912	\$200,216	\$274,468	\$45,696
Offering	\$28,553	\$27,001	\$29,406	\$37,202	(\$2,406)
Misc. Unrestricted Income	\$112,660	\$352,088	\$367,685	\$421,656	(\$15,597)
WDS Income (Net)	\$67,852	\$79,634	\$102,213	\$102,778	(\$22,579)
Endowment Income	\$218,149	\$228,837	\$227,911	\$305,518	\$925
Participant/Restricted Income & Reserve Use	\$339,078	\$520,380	\$585,119	\$662,847	(\$64,740)
Total Income	\$2,848,251	\$3,324,320	\$3,308,585	\$3,867,083	\$15,735
Total Personnel Expense	\$1,597,236	\$1,534,218	\$1,595,144	\$1,793,708	\$60,926
Total Program/Admin. Expense	\$869,744	\$1,111,039	\$1,328,137	\$1,508,088	\$217,098
Total Mission/Outreach Expense	\$406,385	\$378,758	\$396,716	\$539,668	\$17,958
Total Expenses	\$2,873,365	\$3,024,015	\$3,319,998	\$3,841,465	\$295,982
Net Operating Income (Loss)	(\$25,114)	\$300,304	(\$11,412)	\$25,618	\$311,717

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. If you have questions regarding this report please contact Michelle Ingram, Director of Accounting, at 817.926.6631 or michelle@uccftw.com.



UCC JOURNAL

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

Periodicals Postage Paid

Congregational Meetings

Building & Grounds

Sunday, January 10, 12:15 p.m.
Room 226

Personnel Committee

Tuesday, January 12, 5:30 p.m.
Room 203

Finance Committee

Tuesday, January 12, 6:30 p.m.
Room 202

Board of Stewards

Tuesday, January 19, 6:30 p.m.
Room 207

Assembly Meeting

Tuesday, January 26, 12:15 p.m.
Walker Hall

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

MLK Day of Service *Make it a Day On—Not a Day Off!*



The sixth annual Tarrant Churches Together MLK Day of Service is Monday, January 18, 8 a.m. to 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.

Register the morning of at A.M.E. at 7:30 a.m. or sign up online ahead of time at <http://www.tarranttogether.org>.

Contact Rev. Cyndy Twedell if you plan to participate in MLK Day of Service.