



# UCC JOURNAL

UniversityChristian.org

Summer 2017

UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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# summer



A Disciples of Christ Congregation

## WORSHIP

9:00am & 11:00am

## Sunday School

10:00am—for all ages

*Living the Good News of Jesus Christ with Open Minds and Loving Hearts.*





# UCC Celebrations

## Baptized/Confirmed Disciples Class Youth



Top row (L-R) Gus Harvey, Trip Stroube, Miles Baker, Ben Lanter, Payne Wellman, Anika Junker  
Middle row (L-R) Jordan Garrett-Erwin, Julia Shaw, Tave Harvey, Harrison Housley  
Bottom row (L-R) Isabel Terry, Vivian Todora, Maeve Flanigan, Avery Mooney, Meredith Andrus



## Welcome New Members!



**Rick Smith**



**Brandon Cline & Tish Duncan**

Edy and Vivian



## Baby Dedications



**Garrett Haynes  
Murphy**

Son of Jim & Kate Murphy



**Amelia Speer  
Muckleroy**

Daughter of David & Madison Muckleroy



**Claire Dayoon Kim**

Daughter of Baek Hee Kim & Stella Lee



**Eloise Yeaeeun Miller**

Daughter of Jason & Esther Miller

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# A Message from Our Interim Senior Minister

The other day my wife, Linda, was on the phone with her sister who had just planted a plum tree. Her sister asked: “How do I know when the plums are ripe enough to pick?” Linda quipped: “You know they are ripe when the squirrels start carrying them off!” Yup, that’s my Linda.

One of the sure signs that summer is here is retailers begin to display “canning supplies.” I have many childhood memories of hot, humid kitchens with counters lined with jars waiting to be filled with preserves, jams, and vegetables. “Putting up” fruits, vegetables, and sometimes meat was all about preparing for the future. If one wants home-made jam or preserves for hot, buttery biscuits on a chilly winter morning...the kitchen will have to be busy during the peak heat of summer.

Just a few weeks ago we paused and celebrated the faithfulness of many here at University Christian Church who have planned and “put up” resources that will help ensure our “forever” future. Our Legacy Society represents both financial commitments and the faith of many who believe University Christian Church will continue to practice careful stewardship of all resources in order to empower missions and ministries in and to the world God loves.

We are a congregation that celebrates many legacies: excellence in worship, outreach, early childhood education, Boar’s Head and Yule Log Festival, and many University members who lead, teach, and serve our community. I am thankful, humbled, and inspired by the many ways and the many of our church family who plant, harvest, preserve, share, and enjoy the fruits of many labors. A great legacy that deserves a pure and simple: Well done and thank you!

Blessings, Chuck



*Rev. Dr. Charles Rolen · UCC Interim Sr. Minister*

## Take a Break along with UCC During Summer Sabbath

Once again, UCC has committed to Sabbath living as we give ourselves intentional time and space to observe **Summer Sabbath during the month of July**. As we observe Sabbath **during the 10:00am Sunday school hour**, we are making space for a genuine time of rest for teachers, shepherds and congregational leaders. Keeping Sabbath, making time holy, is an invitation to something other than the routine. Our hope is that this Sabbath will inspire you to find sacred spaces to connect with God.

### **What activities will take a break?**

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

Consider using this gift of time in fellowship with one another and join us for coffee fellowship in the Gallery at 10:00am on Sunday mornings.

While we take a break from a few activities, there are still many ways to serve and participate in different ministries during July. To name just a few:

- Room in the Inn will host guests each Wednesday night through Thursday morning
- Bible studies on Wednesday morning during the week for adults; bible studies on Monday evening for college students
- Mid-week Prayer Shawl Ministry on Wednesdays at 11:00am

These are just a few ways to engage the Sabbath during the month of July. And remember, keeping the Sabbath holy calls us to participate even more in worship.

***Be Still, And Know That I Am God*** – Psalm 46:10

*summer*

## World Refugee Day

June 20, 2017

*“When was it we saw you a stranger  
and welcomed you?”  
- Matthew 25:38*

World Refugee Day, June 20, is a day to lift US refugees displaced by war, civil unrest and persecution, all of which tear away at the fabric of human community. On December 4, 2000, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution that June 20th would be celebrated as World Refugee Sunday. This year, UCC will join with Refugee Services of Texas to host a community-wide Refugee Day Event on Saturday, June 17, in Walker Hall. On Sunday, June 18, our worship services will include prayers for the 60 million refugees around the world—families who left everything behind to save themselves from war, persecution or danger to seek refuge and safety.

## Interested in A Baby Dedication?

Would you like to schedule a dedication for your infant? Dedications take place during the 11:00am worship service. Upcoming dates are: June 18, August 6 and September 17. 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. 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 June 11 at 10:00am in the Bride's Room. **Please email Robin Doyle in the Children's Ministries office, [robin.doyle@uccftw.com](mailto:robin.doyle@uccftw.com) or call her at 817-926-6631 for further information.**

## Pentecost

Pentecost is the day we commemorate the arrival of the Holy Spirit to the early church, as well as celebrate the gifts of the Holy Spirit to the church and the world today!

The book of Acts tells us the story of that magnificent event. 50 days after Jesus' resurrection, the believers were gathered together when the house they were in was shaken with the sound of a mighty wind! Tongues of fire rested upon them, they were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages.

Pentecost at UCC is going to be a glorious day of celebration! Everyone should wear red so that the sanctuary will seem ablaze with the light of the Spirit. There will be dancers and special music by our handbell choirs. It's the Birthday of the Church—don't miss the party!

## Help Us Help the Congregation

*By Rev. Shannon Moore, Associate Minister*

One of the things I am honored to do here at University Christian is to help coordinate our Pastoral Care efforts. The clergy staff, with the help of amazing lay ministers, share the responsibility of responding to prayer concerns, contacting our homebound, and visiting the hospitalized.

Very often, however, we find out someone has been sick or hospitalized after they are already home. That's not a good feeling for anyone involved! In days gone by, local hospitals would contact the church to let us know if we had folks admitted to their care. Privacy laws now prohibit that sort of contact, and we rely on family members or friends to let us know if someone is in need of pastoral care.

If you know someone who has been hospitalized, is recently homebound, or otherwise needs care, please don't hesitate to contact a minister or call the front desk. Soon there will be a form on our website that will easily give you an opportunity to submit prayer concerns for yourself or others. This information will go directly to a staff minister.

Being church means taking care of each other, and it is a privilege to do so in the name of the Christ we serve!



# University Christian Church



## Legacy Society Kick-Off—A Beautiful Celebration

University Christian Church thanks you for attending the Legacy Society dinner on May 4, 2017. Your presence and dedicated support of the mission and future of UCC are sincerely appreciated.

The Legacy Society and the newly installed Legacy Wall were created to recognize, honor, educate and inspire those who are committed to doing ministry with open minds and loving hearts. Those who attended, your participation contributed greatly to our community's celebration of UCC's past, present, and future.

For those who were unable to attend the event, there are videos of the celebration on our website ([www.UniversityChristian.org/Resources/Legacy-Society](http://www.UniversityChristian.org/Resources/Legacy-Society)). You will also find additional information on how you can support the Legacy Society, through prayers or contributions, and support our effort to live out our faith—ensuring UCC continues to make an impact today and tomorrow.

Again, thank you for attending, for your ongoing prayers and support.





# Honoring Emmet Smith—A Birthday Celebration

A UCC member for 67 years, Dr. Emmet G. Smith, is known to many as the retired TCU Professor of Organ and Church Music. Dr. Smith taught at TCU for 45 years and was also the Carr Chapel organist for over 2,600 weddings. Most importantly, his teaching career is highlighted by students winning many prestigious international scholarships (including 13 Fulbrights) and going into concert and church music careers all over the world.

To celebrate his 90th birthday, his wife, Judy Oelfke Smith, is bringing their friend, Olivier Latry, Titular Organist of the Cathedral of Notre-Dame in Paris, and professor at the Paris Conservatory to play a recital in Emmet's honor and invites all of us to this special event. The concert including a piece of music for two organists played with Latry's wife, Shin-Young Lee, will be performed at Broadway Baptist Church on the 191 rank Cliburn Organ. Birthday cake for everyone will be served downstairs afterwards.



The Cliburn Organ is a thrilling instrument built by the Casavant firm of Quebec, Canada. It is the largest French-style organ in the world with over 10,000 pipes. We are fortunate to have this opportunity to hear the Notre-Dame organist create music on such an incredible instrument right here in Fort Worth, honoring our own organ legend, Emmet Smith.

**Happy 90th birthday, Emmet!**

## SAVE THE DATE!

### 90th Birthday Celebration!

Honoring

### Emmet Smith

Herndon Professor of Music,  
Emeritus

Texas Christian University,  
Fort Worth, TX

7:00pm

Tuesday, August 29, 2017

Broadway Baptist Church

305 West Broadway Ave.,  
Fort Worth, TX

### Organ Concert

Olivier Latry and Shin-Young Lee

Reception and Birthday Cake

Church Fellowship Hall

Free and Open to the Public

## Lighting Update

In January the assembly approved a capital budget that included new LED lighting fixtures, new controls for the lighting, and new furniture for the control booth area. The Building and Grounds committee reviewed bids from different lighting companies and selected Barbizon lighting as the vendor for the installation. Starting May 15th we're embarking on a new project to upgrade the theatrical lighting in the sanctuary to new LED fixtures for the chancel and crossing areas.

There are several reasons for upgrading the chancel lighting. First and foremost is the technical advancement in LED lighting that will save the church in electrical consumption. The projected



Before

savings in electricity alone will pay for the fixtures in under 3 years. The current system is aging and has needed several repairs in the last few years. In addition, the lower operating temperatures of the lights will help in cooling costs. Also maintenance and the cost of bulb replacement are considerably lower. The new lighting will not only bring new options to the worship experience but will also give us more options for



After

special events in the sanctuary such as weddings, funerals and concerts.

Over the next few weeks there will be some changes in the lighting while we go through a small transition period. Please bear with us as we switch out the older system for the new. The project will hopefully be completed by mid to late June. **If you have any questions, please contact Jack Stewart [jack@uccftw.com](mailto:jack@uccftw.com)**



## The Cookie Connection

by Elena Huegel, Global Ministries Partner

A few years ago, Michelle Groom at University Christian Church in Fort Worth, Texas, wrote to me on behalf of the congregation. They wanted to send a special care package—Girl Scout cookies! Girl Scout cookie season became a favorite time of the year for the young women, all college students, with whom I lived at the Gathering Point of the Shalom Center in Chile. These young women, now grown up and working towards their personal and professional dreams, remembered cookie season this year. They gathered to celebrate friendship, conversation and sweet memories at a coffee shop.

Meanwhile, now in Mexico, I received the yearly email from University Christian Church: “tis the season for Girl Scout cookies!” I was skeptical that the cookies would make it through the Mexican postal system as Christmas cards sent the first week of December finally arrived in March. It was touch and go for about ten days between the last tracking post of the cookies in Mexico City and their arrival in San Cristobal de las Casas. I imagined a cookie snatcher whisking the treats away, but last week, with the notice from the postman in hand, I picked up the anxiously awaited parcel at the office. I had plans for these cookies!



One box of cookies went to two little girls, the daughters of a Mennonite family whose parents are promoting migrant/refugee rights and gender equality in Chiapas. The two pre-schoolers looked at the pictures of the girls on the boxes and talked about “what I want to be when I grow up.”

Another box of cookies I shared with my co-workers at the Institute of Intercultural Studies and Research. As they savored the cookies, they asked about the Girl Scouts and practiced their English reading the goals for girls on the box. We got into a deep conversation on gender equality in Mexican culture but also within our organization. If we can truly create a space of dignity for all within the organization, then it can be a beacon of possibility in the wider culture.

Another box of cookies went to Sunday School with me. We are working our way through Genesis and this class was on the Garden of Eden and temptations. At the beginning of class, I put a cookie in front of every child and told them that if they resisted eating it until end of class, I would give them another one, but, if they nibbled it before class was over, they would only get one. Pretty tough assignment!! Even in my role as the temptress, “come on, try just one little bite!!” They all resisted and received a second cookie. We had a conversation about temptations being normal and not bad..the decision or what we do with the temptation can lead us astray.

As I sat making posters with another group of children, they reminded me of the youngsters from inner city New York whom I listened to and attended to when I was a camp counselor there. Stories that shock me seem normal to these elementary age children. Their life experiences are so different from my own. Their words are haunting:

“Did they find your cousin who was kidnapped?”

“Yes, she is still in the hospital, though. I heard my mom say she was hurt really bad.”

“Are you going to school tomorrow?”

“No, my uncle says there is no use for a girl to go to school past the sixth grade. It is better I work until I get married.”

“Have they found the two little kids who disappeared?”

“No, I heard that they may have been stolen to be sold in the United States. That is why we should stay away from the trash bins outside the market.”

These same children taught me the meaning of Lekil Kuxlejal in Tseltal, a Mayan language. It is the good life or the abundant life. It is what they live into as they work, play and laugh. It is what they dream because it is not fully here, as they see pain and sadness around them

*Cookies, continued on next page*



summer





## Rosemont 'Gift-a-Book' Results

You are a Super Hero! The students of Rosemont Elementary School thank you! Through University Christian Church's generous contributions we were able to provide each of the 642 children at Rosemont with a book to take home and enjoy. Each student had the opportunity to choose a book and enjoy the super hero themed party, some of them even dressed as their favorite super hero. And each student brought a heart full of gratitude and a hand made thank you note. Some are pictured below.



### Cookies continued

and sometimes inside them. But it is not a utopia because it is not the impossible dream. Lekil Kuxlejal exists in God's perfect dream, but it has been damaged, without disappearing, and we can always work for it to be again. It is abundant life for today, tomorrow and always, and for everyone and everything.

So what place does a care package of Girl Scout cookies have in the ministry of the church to a world so full of pain and despair? Can a cookie box hold the yeast of Shalom, the vision of peace,

truth, justice and mercy not only yet to come but lived out in the here and now in fleeting moments of savory joy? These cookies were purchased from a girl working towards her dreams in the United States by sisters and brothers of the church for a missionary who encourages girls and boys in another country to work towards their dreams. The sweetness of relationship, baked, boxed, shipped and shared, brings us together in ways that we can smell, taste and remember dignity, hope, peace and

possibilities God is cooking up for each of His children and all of creation!

**Elena Huegel is our Global Ministries mission partner serving with the Intercultural Research and Studies Institute (INESIN) in Chiapas, Mexico. She serves as a consultant for peace (conflict transformation) and environmental education. While she served in Chile, Elena hosted four UCC delegations to the Shalom Center there. And we always arrived with Girl Scout Cookies!**



# Serve

## UCC's Children's Closet Commitment to New FWISD Initiative



The Fort Worth Independent School District recently announced a new plan to improve five struggling schools, including one middle school and four elementary schools, by turning them into leadership academies. Within this plan, FWISD is staffing the academies with teachers, principals and school administrators from a pool of “highly qualified district employees.” This plan also includes lengthening the school day to 6:00pm and providing uniforms to all the students.

The Children's Closet, a ministry of University Christian Church, has answered a call by committing to provide part of the uniforms to every student for each of the four elementary leadership academies beyond what is normally distributed to every elementary school in FWISD. Each principal chose a different color polo style shirt as part of the required uniform. The Closet will provide two shirts for over 2,000 students plus additional shirts for new students at a total cost of \$25,000. The support of this new initiative is the core of The Closet's mission—to spread God's spirit of love, help and hope by providing new school clothing to children in need in the Fort Worth Independent School District.



Thanks to the many gifts from the UCC Outreach budget, individuals and community partners (including the Paul E. Andrews, Jr. Foundation, the Rainwater Charitable Foundation, the Jeff D. Conatser Foundation, the Fallan Family Fund, Frost Bank, Muckleroy & Falls and individuals, Mary Lou and Sharon Rundell and Gerry and Don Houk), The Children's Closet is able to provide these extra shirts to over 2,000 students on top of more than 7,000 uniforms distributed each year. In addition, the organization hopes to gain more awareness and support for the mission from the community by working directly with the school district and principals.

### Children's Closet Quick Facts

#### Who We Reach

- 82 FWISD elementary schools
- 26 FWISD middle schools
- SafeHaven Women's Shelter
- Women's Center

#### How Many Uniforms?

- Approximately 7,300 uniforms (at a cost of \$95,000) distributed in 2016

#### How We Fund It

- UCC Outreach budget of \$50,000
- Endowments benefiting the Children's Closet ministry, which generate more than \$2,000 annually
- Unsolicited donations from UCC members over and above pledges
- Solicited donations from community partners

#### How We Distribute

- Bag-It Night:  
On Wednesday, September 6, starting at 6:00pm, volunteers will be filling 3,000 uniform orders for 36 schools. With 200+ volunteers, we can fill all the orders in slightly more than one hour. This is an

intergenerational event with children and adults of all ages working to make sure children in need have a school uniform for 2017-2018. Don't miss it!

#### ■ School Year Distribution:

School counselors can order additional uniforms throughout the year through an online ordering system.

#### How Can You Help?

- Volunteer:  
Bag-It Night, Back To School month, volunteer to fill orders throughout the year
- Donate:  
Gift the cost of one uniform (\$15), two uniforms (\$30), or an entire classroom (\$300)

There are many children in need of uniforms—an estimated 85% of students in FWISD. Despite distribution of more than 7,000 uniforms last year, this still reaches less than 10% of students. The Closet's goals are to raise awareness and raise funds to support this growing need in our community.

Hopefully these funds will allow The Closet to continue the current level of distribution and reach even more children. Join The Children's Closet in making this September special for our precious school children.

### Christmas in July?!



UCC's annual Christmas Angels Wrap Night is Sunday, December 10 at 5:00pm in Walker Hall.

It is hot outside and Kate Williams and her team of Angels are already hard at work making sure children in our community experience the joy of Christmas. Your financial contributions help us provide Angel bags filled with the essentials children need like new coats, jeans, toys and books.

If you would like to be part of this amazing ministry, please **contact Kate Williams at [katecwilliams@yahoo.com](mailto:katecwilliams@yahoo.com)**

# summer

# Successful Season for Prom Dreams Boutique!



What a successful Prom Dreams season we had! Between March 30 and May 11, we helped 124 girls find their perfect dress for prom—more than double the number from last year! Girls came from all over Fort Worth and 13 surrounding school districts to shop with us. UCC volunteers provided a great shopping experience for customers in the boutique, and those who visited Prom

Dreams enjoyed a newly renovated space. Prior to opening day, many volunteers worked tirelessly to repaint the walls, assemble new furniture, organize inventory, and unveil the original hardwood floors hidden beneath the carpet. We also had incredible support from many people who generously donated formal dresses, jewelry, shoes, and purses to increase our selection. It was certainly a team effort to make Prom Dreams as successful as it was during this 2017 season. Thank you to everyone who donated dresses or accessories, or lent a hand during work days and open boutique hours!

– Mary Ashley Ray and Taylor Morton, Co-Chairs



# Volunteers Are Welcome at Room In The Inn

By Carol Stewart

Room in the Inn is a well-loved ministry of University Christian Church. Every Wednesday night, five months a year, we host ten homeless men in our RITI suite for a delicious dinner, a safe night's sleep, and a hot breakfast the next morning. Our guests are a different group every week, but many return as often as they can.

Up to 30 volunteers per week, who also come as often as they can, take a shift: 7:00pm–7:00am for Innkeepers, an hour or two for all other tasks. Fifteen others drop off all the foods needed for dinner, breakfast and sack lunches. It is rewarding to be able to provide for our guests, who are always grateful for the friendship and affirmation they receive. We often hear “God bless you!”

God does bless us with this ministry. It is rewarding to visit with our guests, and know we are providing valuable care. The people who are most likely to succeed in long-term housing are those who have participated in RITI, a ministry that takes them away from their life on the streets and helps them experience God's radical hospitality. RITI is a perfect way to express our presence as people of the table, the bread and the cup. Communion is experienced in many ways.

There is a place in the RITI ministry for you. You may choose from a variety of jobs, and you will enjoy working with other volunteers who are committed to caring for those who are much like us, except that some crisis has left them without housing.



Whether you would like to learn more, or can share your RITI experience, join us for orientation and training on **Sunday, July 9 at 10:00am in the RITI Suite.**

**For more information, or to let us know you'll be there: [carolmstewart@sbcglobal.net](mailto:carolmstewart@sbcglobal.net).**





# Children

## UCC KIDS this Summer...

## Opportunities for children and adults to serve!

Children's Ministries is gearing up for a fun-filled summer and is already preparing for kickoff to the 2017-2018 school year! Check out all of the opportunities for children to grow in faith and adults to serve.

### Journey Land this Summer

Journey Land, UCC's multi-experiential Christian education opportunity for children at 10:00am on Sundays will be filled this June and August with multi-age opportunities to experience different workshops throughout the summer.

**Adults, please sign up through Children's Ministries ([robin.doyle@uccftw.com](mailto:robin.doyle@uccftw.com)) for one Sunday this June or July that you are available to serve.**

Cooking, iPads, Movies, Drama, Games, Science, Music, Art and more are available for our children to learn and grow in faith.

### Summer Sabbath in July

Reminder that UCC will take an intentional summer Sabbath in July to allow those that serve in all areas a chance to rest and rejuvenate. Journey Land will not meet in July; however, Preschool programming will continue from 8:45am to 12:15pm as usual.

### Summer Fun

Summer Fun begins June 5 and provides preschoolers (infants through entering Kindergarten) an opportunity to learn, play and have fun while building friendships on Mondays and Wednesdays in June and July. We have a full program this year, come and enjoy the energy and excitement of children this summer. For questions about Summer Fun, please contact Children's Ministries.



### HERO Central Vacation Bible School

June 20-June 23, 2017

UCC VBS Hero Central (ages two to third graders) and Mission VBS (fourth and fifth graders) is almost here! Our children will be learning to discover their strength through God and will be having lots of super hero fun along the way. Our Mission VBS kids will be super heroes serving in our community.

VBS is possible only because we have wonderful adults and youth willing to serve by sharing their time and having fun. We still need adults to serve at VBS—go to [ucckids.org](http://ucckids.org) to register as a volunteer. Limited spaces are still available for children—go to [ucckids.org](http://ucckids.org) to register your child.

### Calling all youth volunteers to serve at VBS!

This is your chance to be a real super hero by developing mentoring relationships with the children you will get to know and the adults that serve with you. Go to [ucckids.org](http://ucckids.org) to register as a youth volunteer—VBS is a fun way to get required service hours for school!



# summer

## Camps for Children, Youth and Families at Disciples Crossing 2017

**Family Camp at Disciples Crossing I: June 2-4**

**JYF Camp I: July 3-7**

(completed third, fourth or fifth grade)

**JYF Camp II: July 31-August 4**

(completed third, fourth or fifth grade)

\*\*UCC's Rev. Jessica Vacketta will be co-directing

**Family Camp at Disciples Crossing II: August 11-13**

(families with at least one child under 18 and an adult over 21)

Camp registrations are based on space availability.

**Contact Children's Ministries for questions.**

### And Then Summer was OVER! That was Fast!!

Kickoff and Promotion Sunday is August 20. Your child will receive a mailer in August letting your family know about all of the fun things planned for the 2017-2018 program year. Please save the date for these activities and ways to be involved.

**Fly Up to Journey Land Tour | August 13 • 10:00am**

**For rising first graders**—join us (parents are invited too) for a look at Journey Land and learn about how this special rotation model of Christian Education works and how you can be a part.

**First Grade Welcome to Worship | August 20 • 11:00am**

Welcome to Worship provides an opportunity for our first graders to learn about worship—why we do what we do, what different prayers and songs mean, what is a litany of praise, why we stand and sit and stand and sit. All of the answers to these questions help provide a strong foundation for a child's worship life that will influence how each child understands and experiences worship for a lifetime.

**JYF | Sunday Nights • 5:00pm**

JYF is for first through fifth graders and meets Sunday nights, 5 to 6:15pm for fun, fellowship, service and spiritual growth. We then join youth and college students for an optional snack supper and more fun and games. We will kick off our JYF year on August 27.



### Serve in Children's Ministries—we will give you the tools you need to be successful!

**Contact Kera Watts (kera@uccftw.com) if you would like to explore serving in one of the following opportunities:**

- **Preschool Teacher** (need Threes, Fours and Kindergarten Leaders)—Preschool Teacher Training Lunch is August 13 at 12:15pm
- **Journey Land Shepherd** (need leaders to serve with children ages first grade through fifth grade)—Journey Land Shepherd Training is August 20 at 9:00am







# Youth

## Mission Trips

Each year, the Chi Rho and CYF youth each go on a mission trip to a different city where they partner with different organizations to complete service-learning and get to know the city through different excursions. This year, the Chi Rho (grades 6-8) will be traveling to Austin, Texas, from June 4-7, and the CYF (grades 9-12) will travel to Memphis, Tennessee, from July 2-9. Both trips will allow youth to bond with their UCC community while getting to know new people and new places as they see and partner with what God is up to in other cities.



CYF Mission Trip

## Summer Activity Days

Throughout the summer, UCC Youth will host a variety of summer activity days. Mark your calendar for these tentative dates and stay tuned via the weekly UCC Youth E-news for more information.

- Sunday, June 11: Third Floor Clean-up Day at the church
- Thursday, June 15: UCC Youth to Main Event
- Thursday or Friday, June 29/30: Service Project (TBD)
- Friday, July 14: UCC Youth to Burger's Lake
- Thursday or Friday, July 20/21: Service Project (TBD)
- Thursday, July 27: UCC Youth to Whirlyball



## Back to School Retreat

The annual Back-to-School Retreat brings together our incoming 6th-12th grade youth for a weekend of worship, fun, prayer, and community building. This year's retreat will take place August 4-6 at Briarwood Retreat Center near Flower Mound (meeting at 7:00pm and returning in time for Sunday school). Registration will be open July 1, and the cost is \$50, and full or half scholarships are available upon request.

## August Kickoff Dates

### Youth Family Roundup | August 13 • 10:00am

During the Sunday School hour, all youth and parents are invited to gather in Walker Hall for the annual Youth Family Roundup, where we share everything about the upcoming year and how to get involved.

#### Roundup offers opportunities to:

- Meet our staff, teachers, and youth group sponsors
- Grab an events calendar to plan ahead through 2018
- Hear about this year's camps, retreats, and mission trips
- Sign up for volunteer opportunities big and small
- Preview our weekly youth programming
- Hear about (and sign up for) our youth handbell choirs
- Pre-register for Disciples Class, our baptism/confirmation prep course
- Proof your family's information for the youth directory
- Take what you're learning and use it to win fun prizes





Back to School



#### Promotion Sunday | August 20 • 10:00am

Promotion Sunday is the first Sunday in which youth move up to their new Sunday school classes. Sunday school classes meet for an introductory session after food, fun, and new portraits for the youth directory in the Gathering Room (303).

#### Youth Family Roundup | August 16 • 10:00am

All youth entering grades six through twelve and their parents are invited to a Youth Family Roundup in Walker Fellowship Hall. This fun orientation provides a chance to:

- Meet youth ministry staff and volunteers
- Learn about weekly youth programs
- Get info on mission trips, ski trip, camps, & retreats
- Sample youth Sunday school snacks
- Enter to win door prizes
- Register for handbell choirs and Disciples Class
- Sign up for volunteer opportunities (big and small)
- Get info about our TCU football parking fundraiser
- Proof your family info for the UCC Youth directory



Chi Rho Mission Trip



# Young Adults

## The Page Scholarship Committee Names Winners for 2017

*By Bill Landreth, Chair, Page Scholarship Committee*

The Page Scholarship Committee announces the winners of \$2,000 college scholarships, renewable for four years of college or a total of \$8,000 per winner. The scholarship recipients will be our guests in worship at 11:00 am Sunday, June 4.

**Haley Kimbrough** will graduate in June from Haltom High School to major in Special Education. She is ranked 52nd out of 571 in her class and is a member of the National Honor Society. Haley is the President of the Theatre program and is student teaching a special needs Theatre class. She attended leadership camp for two summers and has been an aspiring student to her class as well as teachers. She will attend the University of North Texas in the fall.

**Madelynn Gomez** will graduate in June from James Martin High School. She is ranked 29th in a senior class of 787 students and is a member of the National Honor Society. Madelynn plans to attend Texas A&M University and major in Biomedical Engineering. She is a member of the Physics Club, Key Club International, Fielder Worship Band, Cheerleading and received awards for rotary student of the month,



Haley Kimbrough



Madelynn Gomez



Carmen Johnson



Christina Vongpradith



Simone Smith

Math NHS, Science NHS, HOSA State Finalist and NCA competition finalist.

Three other finalists: **Carmen Johnson** from Trinity Valley School will receive a \$2,000 scholarship. **Christina Vongpradith** from Haltom High School and **Simone Smith** from WE Boswell High School will both receive a \$500 Page Scholarship.

This year we had over 75 applications vying for the five finalist spots. Each young adult had amazing stories and as you can well imagine, the Page Committee reviewed carefully each applicant. We ranked the candidates giving special attention to need, scholastic achievement, extracurricular activities and school leadership. Applicants were also asked to write a personal essay of the obstacles they have had to overcome either in

school or at home. These essays were heart wrenching. We reduced the number of candidates to five and a week later our committee of Cyndy Twedell, Alice Phillips, Kay Wilson, Ken Hubbell, Alan Winter, Pam Miller and I spent twenty to thirty minutes interviewing each of the finalists. It was very difficult to select only two.

Thanks to the generosity of **Mary Louise Page**, University Christian Church is able to help these young adults defray some cost of a college education that they may not have been able to afford. We ask each of you if you see a place in your budget to help increase the Page Scholarship in the future. Your contributions will be gratefully received. Please contact Cyndy Twedell or myself to discuss this great need for our young people in Tarrant County.

## Students Away Ministry

Are you or someone you know headed off to college? Have you transferred schools or moved out of the dorm and into an apartment or house since May? Then we need your information. UCC is committed to staying connected and supporting our students away as they navigate the challenges of college life.

Cards and care packages sent to students throughout the year are a fulfilling part of our Students Away Ministry. **Please send your mailing address and a current e-mail address to Rev. Jessica Vacketta, [Jessica@uccftw.com](mailto:Jessica@uccftw.com), to ensure we have accurate information.**



summer



# TCU Students Take a Break at Spring Finals Feast

Once again, UCC welcomed TCU students to relax and take a break at our Spring Finals Feast on Monday, May 8. This year's theme was "Backyard BBQ." Students played pickleball, yard games and feasted on homemade food provided by UCC members—THANK YOU!! Thank you to all who made this Finals Feast possible, particularly our college ministry committee, Stacy McCoy, Carol Stewart, David Nolan, Bob Stewart, Mark Tentinger, Jared Cline, Rachel Long, Josh Jackson and Samantha Copeland.

*We welcome anyone who is interested in helping with our college ministry, or if you know a student who will be in town over the summer, please contact Rev. Jessica Vacketta.*



## To my loving church family,

*By Houston McCullough*

My first friends that I met at TCU were other students in UCC's college ministry. Some friends come and go, but my UCC friends have consistently been a source of community, guidance, and love. These friends are uniquely close because we share similar values, but at the same time challenge each other to consider new perspectives and ask intriguing questions. I am never afraid to discuss controversial issues with them because I am confident our discussions will be civil, intellectual, and driven by faith-based values.

The UCC college ministry also enjoys sharing community with one another—experiences that would not be possible without our UCC family. I see my college ministry peers more often than anyone else because of Sunday School and worship services, weekly lunch bunches, first Sunday lunches, Good News Good

Brews, summer bible studies, finals feasts, service projects, young adult retreats, pickleball, and softball games (just to name a few!). The most memorable are the random, spontaneous moments that we share and constantly laugh about, like the time when I held Josh Jackson's hand while he got a flu shot, or when we alternated napping on the couches in the college lounge during finals week. Even beyond college peers, other UCC members have contributed to these memories as well. Those who provide meals for lunch bunch or invite us into their homes will never know what their contributions mean to the college ministry. The UCC congregation has truly embraced the college ministry and provided us with a second family.

A body can survive without an arm, but its functionality is hindered. Similarly,

many churches operate without college ministries, but the relationship UCC has with its young people makes it especially unique. It is easy to thank people for lunches, sponsorships, or loaning us their pickleball equipment, but it is exponentially more difficult to convey thanks for giving me life-long friends and a safe and comfortable environment for my faith to grow. I would not be who I am without my experiences through the college ministry, and the college ministry would not exist without love from our UCC family. The UCC college ministry is indescribably thankful for UCC's support in every aspect of our lives, and I pray that I can impact one soul in the manner you have impacted ours.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you.

With gratitude,  
Houston McCullough





# Adults

## Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month

Experience the Virtual Dementia Tour on **Sunday, June 11 from 10:00am thru 1:00pm** in the Room in the Inn space. The tour helps to increase awareness by shedding light on what it is like to literally walk in the shoes of someone affected by Alzheimer's or other dementias. Reserve your time slot in the Gallery beginning May 28.

Worldwide, 47 million individuals are living with Alzheimer's, and this number is set to rise dramatically unless we do something about it. This fatal disease affects the ability to remember, think and plan. While we cannot prevent Alzheimer's disease, people can help reduce their risk of cognitive decline.

**In recognition of Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month, here are 10 ways to love your brain:**

1. Engage in regular cardiovascular exercise that elevates your heart rate and increases blood flow to the brain and body.
2. Study and learn something new by taking a class at a local college, community center or online.
3. If you are a smoker, quit smoking!
4. Take care of your heart and reduce risk factors for cardiovascular disease and stroke such as reducing obesity, high blood pressure and diabetes.
5. Protect your brain from injury by wearing your seat belt, using a helmet when playing contact sports or riding a bike and take steps to prevent falls.
6. Eat a healthy and balanced diet that is lower in fat and higher in vegetables and fruit.
7. Get plenty of sleep.
8. Take care of your mental health and treat symptoms of depression, anxiety or other mental health concerns.
9. Stay socially engaged to support brain health.
10. Challenge and activate your mind by doing puzzles, doing something artistic, playing games that make you think strategically or build a piece of furniture.

## UCC Women's Ministries

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, [cyndy@uccftw.com](mailto:cyndy@uccftw.com), for more information.**

### Upcoming Activities

#### Women's Bowling Night

Meet us at City View Lanes on Wednesday June 7 at 6:00pm, Women and girls of all ages are welcome to enjoy a fun evening of bowling and shared conversation (probably lots of laughter, too!).

#### CCSW Disciples Women's Assembly

June 25-27 at El Tropicana Hotel in San Antonio. Registration deadline is June 6. **For online registration or more information visit [www.ccsww.org/disciples-women/](http://www.ccsww.org/disciples-women/)**

#### WiLD Women Book Club Summer Edition

Join us for a special edition of WiLD Women Book Club on Monday, July 17 at 6:00pm at Cat City Grill or Tuesday, July 18, in Room 150 at 12:00pm (11:30 if you like to come early to share lunch and conversation). We will discuss the novel Mrs. Lincoln's Dress Maker by New York Times bestselling author Jennifer Chiaverini.

### Mark your calendars for these Fall Women's Ministries opportunities:

**Women Who Make a Difference Lunch** is Sunday, September 17 with special guest speaker Judy Oelfke Smith.

**Relax. Refresh. Reconnect. A Women's Retreat** will be October 27-28 at Still Water Lodge in Glenrose. \$50 registration includes Friday night lodging, breakfast and lunch. Come for a relaxing, rejuvenating retreat by the river and time to enjoy being together.

**Latte with the Ladies** meets at 9:00am the second Saturday of every month. Women (and girls) of all ages are invited to enjoy a morning beverage and friendly fellowship with us. Please check Upcoming Events on page 20 for locations.

**Prayer Shawl** meets every Sunday at 5:00pm and Wednesday at 11 a.m. in Room 206. During the month of June the Sunday group will meet at local nursing homes and assisted living centers (except June 18, no meeting due to Father's Day) to knit and visit with residents. See weekly bulletins for meeting locations!

**Contact Michelle Groom at 817-926-6631 or [mgroom@uccftw.com](mailto:mgroom@uccftw.com) for more information on the above activities.**

# General Assembly is July 8-12, 2017

Indianapolis, IN Indiana Convention Center

The 2017 General Assembly is just over a month away and there are a multitude of ways to get ready to be ONE with a few thousand other Disciples.

**Study the ONE text: John 17:20-21a** using the studies provided by seminary scholars.

Pick out the **ONE** learning community that most interests you—and while you're at it, pick **ONE** Sunday afternoon workshop, too.

## Worship as ONE

Powerful preaching, uplifting music, and sharing the Lord's Supper—all in one room as thousands of Disciples worship God together!

Look for the notice of the **ONE** docket being posted online and read about all the ways we fulfill our call to be **ONE**.

While worship planners are starting to vision how we will worship together in Indianapolis, they have put together the themes for each worship, based on our theme scripture of John 17:20-21a: "I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one."

## Education

General Assembly always presents wonderful and engaging opportunities

for education, sharing ideas with others, and participating in meaningful and resource-building discussion.

## Learning Tracks

The 2017 General Assembly will present four learning track opportunities—Justice, Stewardship & Resources, Worship, and Transformative Leadership & Innovation. CORE lectures will lay the groundwork for each track on Monday morning. Tuesday and Wednesday will offer participants various panels and workshops in their track. *(If you choose to stay with a single learning track, you can choose in your online registration to earn three CEUs through Christian Theological Seminary.)*

## Business at the General Assembly

One of the many reasons Disciples attend the General Assembly is to perform the worshipful work of the Church through business sessions. The General Assembly is the general representative body of the Christian



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**JOHN 17: 20-21a**

Church (Disciples of Christ) and receives and acts upon proposed policy and program, reports and resolutions, and other items of business presented during business sessions.

**Be sure to let UCC know if you are attending General Assembly so that we can authorize you to vote!**

## Mission Opportunities

There are always plenty of opportunities to participate in local mission work at the General Assembly!

**Be inspired. Be transformed. Be renewed. Register today at [ga.disciples.org](http://ga.disciples.org)!**



## Bring Your Questions and A Friend

Throughout the month of June, every Wednesday evening at 8:00pm we will meet at The Ginger Man, located at 3716 Camp Bowie Blvd for fellowship and intentional conversation about Rob Bell's new book, *What is the Bible?* Bring your questions, your curiosity and a friend.



# The Arts

## Discover the Arts at UCC 2017

The Church and the Arts Committee is pleased to offer a summer arts education series on Sundays, July 9, 16, 23, and 30. During this summer Sabbath from regular Christian education classes, take this opportunity to learn about the history and symbolism of the meaningful art in our midst at UCC. The presentations will be geared toward adults, but all ages are welcome.

### The Sanctuary Pipe Organ

**Kyla K. Rosenberger**  
**July 9 | 10:00am**  
**in the Choir loft**

The pipe organ is a fascinating instrument capable of sounds both gentle and majestic. Joining organist Kyla Rosenberger will be the builder of the organ, Dan Garland, and the organ consultant, Dr. Emmet Smith, who helped Mr. Garland design an organ unique to our sanctuary and music traditions. Through music excerpts, explanation, and demonstrations of the mechanics of pipes and windchests you will learn why and how the many voices of the organ bring such joy and inspiration to our sacred space.



### The Chancel Cross

**Judy Oelfke Smith**  
**July 23 | 10:00am**  
**in the Choir loft**

The arts in worship are important to the experience we receive each Sunday, and symbolism imbedded in liturgical art work, such as the cross, can enhance its meaning and remind us of stories and our beliefs at a glance. Come, learn about the symbolism in our cross, what it means to our particular denomination, and how other elements in the sanctuary are reflected in the design of the cross. If time allows, learn a little bit about how the cross was created.



### UCC Architecture

**Mike Shannon**  
**July 16 | 10:00am**  
**in the Sanctuary**

Architect Mike Shannon will begin by discussing the history of worship spaces, how University Christian Church fits into that history, and how current trends are influenced by societal norms. We will continue by exploring how the structure of our church defines spaces that are conducive to the function for which they were designed as well as the functions they have evolved to meet.



### The Gallery Collection

**Steve Mosher**  
**July 30 | 10:00am**  
**in the Gallery**

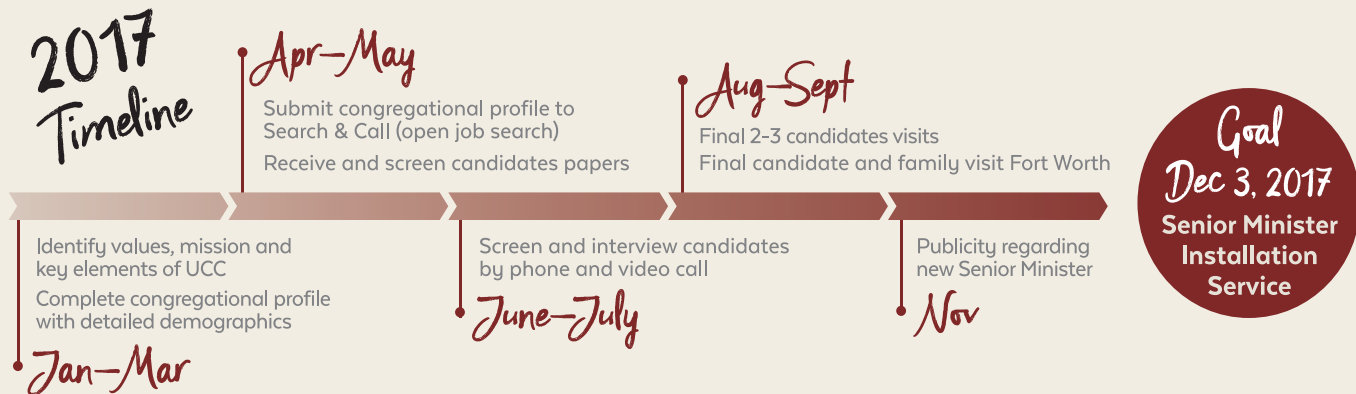
The Gallery Collection tour will be led by our Curator to become familiar with the theme of the exhibit and works that represent the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. We will also briefly examine several original works that distinguish the UCC Collection. Among the original works are the tapestry "Madonna and Child," the small mosaic "Madonna and the Child Jesus," the painting "Jesus and the Gergesene Demoniac," and the sculpture in the UCC memorial garden "The Water of Life."





# A Message from the Search Committee

UniversityChristian.org



The Senior Minister Search Committee has been busy. While you have not heard much from us in over the last couple of months, we have been busy building the framework for our movement forward. The hardest part was creating the church profile to submit along with the job opening. We had to describe our city, our church, and our desired characteristics in our next minister. It was a complete brain drain! Here is where the committee is today: the job opening has been posted with the Disciple Home Missions and we are collecting papers from interested candidates.

In order to keep our process as transparent as possible, we have published several pieces of interest on the UCC website. Namely, the summarized results from the congregational survey, a summary of the UCC profile and desired characteristics submitted for the job posting, and a marketing piece for interested candidates to learn about UCC and our members. These are all

posted at [www.universitychristian.org/resources/senior-minister-search-committee](http://www.universitychristian.org/resources/senior-minister-search-committee) for your review.

The committee is collecting papers from interested candidates and will begin contacting possible candidates to gauge their interest. This is where the help of the congregation is needed. Although we have received several names already, we ask that if there is a qualified candidate you believe would be a good fit for UCC, please contact them directly and point them to the website shown above. If a qualified candidate hears from someone they know, they are more likely to be receptive of the invitation to consider the opportunity. If you want to recommend someone you do not know, please submit their information to the committee via the comment form on the website (link shown above). Above all—please remember your candidate's sensitivity to confidentiality. Whether a minister is interested in our opportunity or not, we need

to remember there may be a congregation who would be alarmed to hear their minister is considering leaving. Please keep conversations private to keep unnecessary issues from arising for these ministers.

Lastly, as a committee, we ask that you continue to pray for the committee, the church, and our new minister. The committee asks for prayers of wisdom and discernment. As our church moves through this transition, we ask for prayers of unity, cooperation, and understanding. Our new minister might be struggling with leaving his/her current congregation and moving a family to a new city. Please keep all of us in your prayers! And thank you to our Elders for praying for us every Sunday in service. We appreciate the reminder that our committee is hard at work behind the scenes.

God bless,  
Lee and Danyelle



# Upcoming Events

Event	When	Where	Who	Page No.	Contact/Sign-up
<b>Good News, Good Brews</b>	Wednesdays in June	Ginger Man	All	17	Jessica Vackett Jessica@uccftw.com
<b>Parents Night Out</b>	June 2 6:00-9:00pm	UCC	Kids	-	Jessica Vacketta jessica@uccftw.com
<b>Pentecost Worship</b>	June 4 9:00am & 11:00am	Sanctuary	All	3	Shannon Moore shannon.moore@uccftw.com
<b>Journey Land</b>	June 4, 11, 18	Room 211	Kids	11	Kera Watts Kera@uccftw.com
<b>Chi Rho Mission Trip</b>	June 4-7 2:00pm -10:00pm	Austin, TX	Youth	12-13	Tyler Heston tyler.heston@uccftw.com
<b>Summer Fun 2017</b>	June 5 9:00pm-12:00pm	Various Rooms	Kids	10	Kera Watts kera@uccftw.com
<b>Women's Bowling</b>	June 7 6:00-9:00pm	Cityview Lanes	Women	16	Michelle Groom michelle@uccftw.com
<b>Latte with the Ladies</b>	June 10 July 8 August 12	Avoca Black Rooster Brewed	Women	-	Michelle Groom mgroom@uccftw.com
<b>VBS Youth Volunteer Training</b>	June 11 12:15pm-1:00pm	Room 211	Youth	10	Robin Doyle robin.doyle@uccftw.com
<b>Alzheimer's &amp; Brain Awareness Month</b>	June 11 10:00am-1:00pm	RIT Space	All	16	Pam Resser pam@uccftw.com
<b>World Refugee Day</b>	June 17 8:00am-8:00pm	Walker Hall	All	3	Jessica Vacketta jessica@uccftw.com
<b>Baby Dedications</b>	June 18, August 6, September 17	Sanctuary	All	3	Robin Doyle robin.doyle@uccftw.com
<b>VBS</b>	June 20-23 9:00-12:00pm	Various Rooms	Kids	10	Robin Doyle robin.doyle@uccftw.com
<b>Disciples Women's Regional Assembly</b>	June 23-25	San Antonio	Women	16	Michelle Groom michelle@uccftw.com
<b>Youth Summer Camps</b>	May 19-August 13	Disciples Crossing	Youth	12-13	Robin Doyle robin.doyle@uccftw.com
<b>Navajo Mission Pilgrimage</b>	June 23-July 2	Red Valley, AZ	All	-	Rev. Cyndy Twedell cyndy@uccftw.com

summer



# Other Upcoming Events & Important Sign-Ups

UniversityChristian.org

Event	When	Where	Who	Page No.	Contact/Sign-up
<b>Summer Sabbath</b>	Month of July Sundays, 10:00am	Gallery	All	2	Rev. Cyndy Twedell cyndy@uccftw.com
<b>CYF Mission Trip</b>	July 2-9	Memphis, TN	Youth	10	Tyler Heston tyler.heston@uccftw.com
<b>General Regional Assembly</b>	July 8-12	Indianapolis, IN	All	17	Thelia Chaffin thelia@uccftw.com
<b>Room In The Inn Training</b>	July 9 10:00-11:00am	Rooms 112 & 113	All	9	Michelle Groom michelle@uccftw.com
<b>Nicaragua Mission Pilgrimage</b>	July 16-23	Managua	High School and up	-	Rev. Cyndy Twedell cyndy@uccftw.com
<b>Discover the Arts at UCC</b>	July 9, 16, 23, 30	Sanctuary	All	18	Todd Prickett todd.prickett@uccftw.com
<b>WiLD Women Book Club</b>	July 17-18	Cat City Grill and Room 150	Women	16	Rev. Cyndy Twedell cyndy@uccftw.com
<b>Back to School Retreat</b>	August 4-6	Disciples Crossing	Youth	12	Tyler Heston tyler.heston@uccftw.com
<b>Preschool Teacher Training Lunch</b>	August 13 12:15pm	Room 118	All	11	Robin Doyle robin.doyle@uccftw.com
<b>Youth/Family Roundup</b>	August 13	Walker Hall	All	7	Tyler Heston tyler.heston@uccftw.com
<b>Journey Land Tour</b>	August 16 10:00am	Room 209	Kids	11	Kera Watts kera@uccftw.com
<b>First Grade Welcome to Worship</b>	August 20 11:00am	Sanctuary	Kids	11	Kera Watts kera@uccftw.com
<b>Journey Land Shepherd Training</b>	August 20 9:00am	Room 211	All	11	Robin Doyle robin.doyle@uccftw.com
<b>Promotion Sunday</b>	August 20 10:00am	Room 303	Youth	13	Tyler Heston tyler.heston@uccftw.com
<b>Music Ensemble Sign-ups</b>	Sundays, August 20 & 27	Gallery	All	-	Todd Prickett todd.prickett@uccftw.com
<b>Emmet Smith Birthday Celebration</b>	August 29 7:00pm	Broadway Baptist Church	All	5	Free to the Public



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A Disciples of Christ Congregation 

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