

UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH • MARCH 2019

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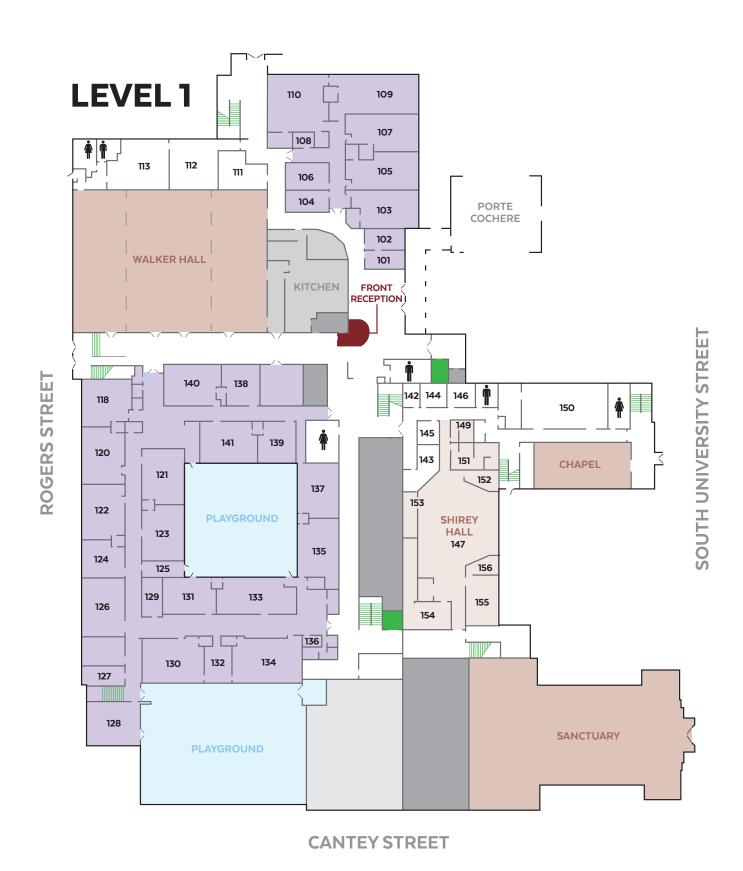
Photos from Disciples Class, UCC Softball, Sunday Worship and College Lunch Bunch.

#allarewelcome, #allmeansall

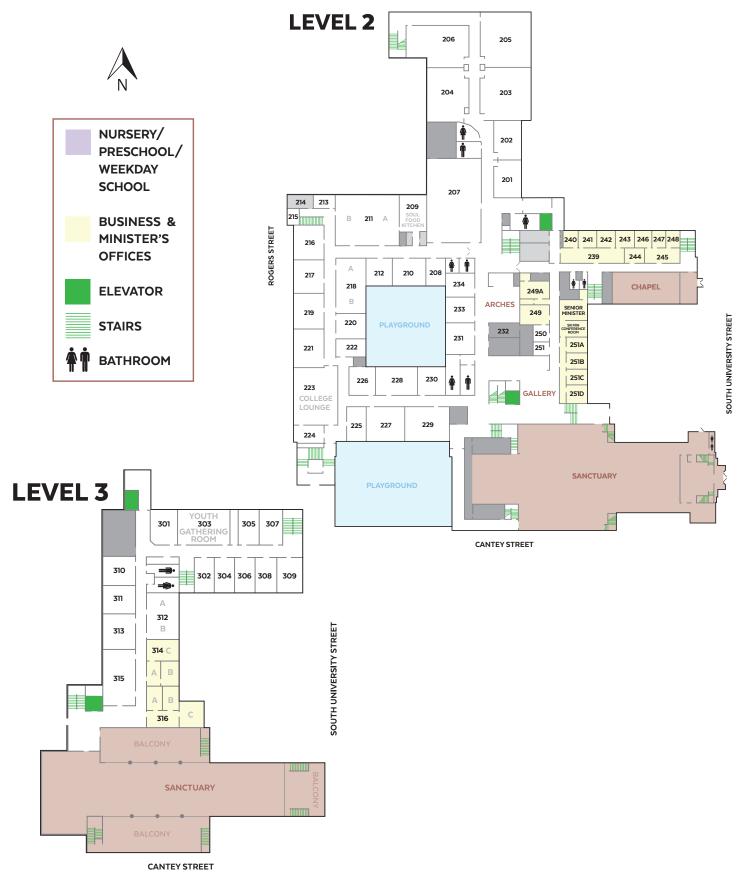


Open minds, loving hearts

Sunday Worship 9:00am | 11:00am



*Register at universitychristian.org > Resources Tab > Open Registrations.





Words from our Senior Minister

Words Matter

I've been struck recently by just how important words are.

For the last couple of months, a very talented group of folks have been working hard on creating a new Vision Statement, Mission Statement, and articulating our Core Values here at UCC. This has been really great, exciting work—at the same time, it has been really hard. It is difficult to find just the right words to clearly and concisely express who we are and who God is calling us to be. Words matter.

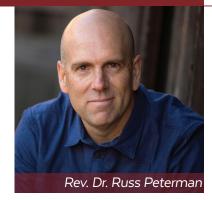
Not only that, but we recently partnered with Brite Divinity School and the Church Music Institute to put on a seminar entitled Expansive Language: Theological and Musical Implications on Church Music. There was a panel discussion led by the Rev. Dr. Mary Louise Bringle, Professor of Religious Studies at Brevard College. Once again, we talked about the power of words and the importance of language, especially when discussing theology!

Dr. Bringle was able to clearly articulate the difference between inclusive language and expansive language. Inclusive language is used to discuss people. For instance, using humankind instead of mankind. But when we discuss the Divine, it is important to use expansive language. God, certainly, is bigger than we can comprehend, let alone find words to discuss. Language is limited, while the wideness of God is not.

As a community of faith with 'open minds and loving hearts', it is important for us to find ways to talk about God in ways that go beyond the traditional Father, He, etc. This is not new for us. For some time now, this congregation has printed in the margins of our worship bulletin that any gender-specific language is meant to apply to all genders, and all references to God are intended to encompass the full character and nature of God. In the Gloria Patri, for instance, we encourage you to sing "Mother" or "Creator" instead of "Father", depending on how you think about God. And we've felt good about that. It has helped us to think about God in new ways and discover new ways to talk about God.

But I wonder if we can go further. As Dr. Bringle helped us see, people who wish to use expansive language continually have to translate what is before them. They are, quite literally, marginalized.

Following staff discussions and having presented it to both the Worship Life Committee and the Assembly, beginning in Lent we will be using more expansive language in our prayers and responses.



For instance, we'll print "Creator" instead of "Father" in the Doxology. Please know that you are still invited to say or sing and translate to fit your own theology. But what we put forth in print to the public will be expansive.

I'm well aware that there are many beloved hymns and anthems that use male language. We won't be throwing those out completely, but rather we will continue to strive to bring a balance with feminine or gender-neutral descriptions of God in other parts of our worship.

Please know that if you have prayed to "Father" your whole life, you aren't wrong. We are simply inviting you to consider new, expansive ways to think about and address God.

Words matter, and how we talk about God shapes how we envision and relate to God as well. I'm excited about widening our understanding of who God is and who God is calling us to be.

Grace and peace to you,

Rev. Dr. Russ Peterman, Senior Minister

How to connect and get involved at UCC

Most of us agree that church is a great place to gather for worship and to praise our God together. But as valuable as the worship experience is, it doesn't leave a lot of space for creating connections—having meaningful conversations and building relationships.

If you or someone you know is new to UCC, **Starting Point** is the opportunity to learn more about our UCC faith community and the Disciples of Christ. Led by Rev. Cyndy Twedell and Lee Nelson, **Starting Point** will meet this month on March 24 & 31 at 10:00am in Room 201.

One of the primary places relationships grow is in Sunday School classes. At 10:00am each Sunday, there are a variety of classes and discussions available for children, youth, and adults in all stages of life. It can be hard to step into a classroom full of people who know each other; so if you are already in a class—invite someone!

We also have some Bible and book study groups, and during the season of Lent our Good News, Good Brews group will meet at a local pub.

Another exciting ministry that has emerged in the past few months is *Connect* meals. On the first Sunday and the third Thursday of each month, we gather around tables in Walker Hall and simply share a delicious meal with each other.

If you need some help with how to find ways to connect with a class or ministry, shoot me an email at shannon.moore@uccftw.com. I'd love to help you get started!

Shannon Moore, Minister of Faith Formation

REGISTRATION & OTHER MISC INFO

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

SUMMER FUN REGISTRATION IS OPEN

Session 1:

Monday-Thursday, June 17-27

Session 2:

Monday-Thursday, July 8-18

Summer Fun is a parents-day out style program organized by Children's Ministry to provide developmentally appropriate activities from 9:00am to 12:00pm for children ages 2 months to entering kindergarten. Cost is \$185 per session for UCC members. Cost is \$200 per session for non-members. Registration continues until all classes are full.

✓ robin.doyle@uccftw.com

VBS PARTICIPANT AND VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION

Registration for UCC Members Begins March 1

VBS is June 11-14

Vacation Bible School is for children 2 years through grade 3. Mission VBS is for grades 4 and 5. Cost is \$25 per child for VBS and \$40 per child for Mission VBS. Scholarships are available by request.

Welcome to all things UCC!

We have so many ministries and events for everyone to participate in and enjoy throughout the month. Below is a color code to help you quickly navigate whether the programs on the following pages are for: all (all ages and genders), men, women, college, youth, children and so on.

We look forward to seeing you all connecting, growing and serving!

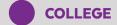


















^{*}Register at universitychristian.org > Resources Tab > Open Registrations.



MARCH'S FEATURED EVENTS & PROGRAMS

The following events and programs are highlights; specific to this month.



LENT SERMON SERIES

Sunday, March 10-April 14

One of the central, grounding narratives in scripture is the Exodus story. During Lent we will use the image of braving the wilderness—leaving behind a painful past for a new land-as a way for us to consider the directions God wants us to move in our lives.

™ russ.peterman@uccftw.com.

ANNUAL FINE ARTS SHOW

Sunday, March 3 10:00am-2:00pm | RM 207

The Church and the Arts Committee invites the congregation and friends to attend the Annual Fine Arts Show. This is an intergenerational exhibit made up of works of art created by our many talented members.

williamsonjudy@rocketmail.com

FAT TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

Tuesday, March 5 6:00pm | Walker Hall

Gather for Mardi Gras jazz and pancakes prepared by UCC's Men's Ministry as we celebrate together before Lent begins.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Wednesday, March 6
6:30pm | Walker Hall
Labyrinth available 6:00pm

As another Lent begins, we will gather in Walker Hall for worship around the labyrinth. During the service we will reflect on our humanity and receive ashes as a symbol of humility.

■ shannon.moore@uccftw.com

BELLTOWER SERIES: AN EVENING WITH MACK WILBERG

Thursday, March 21 7:00pm | Sanctuary

UCC Belltower Series is pleased to welcome Mack Wilberg, Director of Music of the Tabernacle Choir at Temple Square (formerly named the Mormon Tabernacle Choir), to conduct this concert featuring the UCC Chancel Choir, Arlington Master Chorale, and orchestra. Admission is free, however tickets are required. Pick up your tickets at the reception desk today!

™ todd.prickett@uccftw.com.

WEEKDAY SCHOOL SPRING PARTY

Thursday, March 22

Weekday School Spring Party is an opportunity for the Weekday School community and UCC community to gather to celebrate WDS, fellowship and raise money for scholarships and a new STEM system.

™ robin.doyle@uccftw.com.

STARTING POINT

Sundays, March 24 & 31 10:00am | Rm 201

Starting Point is the place to be for anyone who wants to learn more about UCC, the Disciples of Christ, and what it means to be a part of the UCC family of faith. No need to register, simply join us on March 24!

✓ cyndy@uccftw.com.

TBA DISCIPLES WOMEN RETREAT

March 29-31 | Disciples Crossing Register by March 22

Disciples women will gather in Athens, Texas for a retreat. The theme this year is 'Made to Praise'. Keynote speaker Rev. Shannon Grubbs from Moore, Oklahoma. Register at tbadwm.com.

∠ cyndy@uccftw.com.

RICE & BEANS COOK-OFF

Sunday, March 31 12:15pm | Walker Hall

Join us as we support our partners in Nicaragua and enjoy classic Nicaraguan cuisine-Arroz y Frijoles-rice and beans! \$10 per adult and \$3 for children.

Sign up by March 27 to enter the Rice and Beans competion by emailing Michelle Groom.

► • • CONNECT







Photos from Latte With the Ladies, JYF (grades 3-5) Midwinter and Chi-Rho (grades 6-8) Midwinter.

Meaningful fellowship, learning and spiritual development opportunities are available for all seasons of life at UCC. We offer an array of ways for you to grow and connect: Bible studies, book clubs, retreats, workshops and small groups.

CHURCH FRIENDS SUNDAY

Sundau, March 24 Following each service in the Gallery

Church Friends care for UCC folks unable to attend church. Come celebrate this ministry and find out how you can be a part of it!

≥ mgroom@uccftw.com

FAITHFULLY FIT FOREVER

Mondays • 4:00pm | RM 205 Wednesdays & Fridays 11:00am | RM 205

Join us for a light aerobic exercise program and a faithful reminder of God's loving presence in our lives. All ages welcome.

YOGA WITH JULIE VITEK

Mondays • 12:30pm | RM 205 Thursdays • 10:30am | RM 205

Julie Vitek teaches yoga every Monday and Thursday! All are welcome. \$5 per class. Bring a mat if possible.

COLLEGE FIRST SUNDAY LUNCH

Sunday, March 3 · 12:15pm

A free lunch for college students the first Sunday of each month. Gather in the Gallery after 11:00am Worship.

✓ allison.bright@uccftw.com

ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

Thursday, March 14 3:30pm | RM 201

A support group for caregivers of those suffering from Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. This group meets the second Thursday of the month.

≥ pam@uccftw.com

LATTE WITH THE LADIES

Saturday, March 9 9:00am-11:00am | Brewed

Join women of all ages for fellowship over morning coffee. We meet at local coffee bistros each month on the second Saturday.

✓ cyndy@uccftw.com

MEN'S THIRD THURSDAY LUNCH

Thursday, March 17 Noon | Café Bella

Join men of all ages for lunch and fellowship on the third Thursday of every month at Café Bella.

™ robin.doyle@uccftw.com

CONNECT LUNCH

Sunday, March 3 12:00pm | Walker Hall

Connect and enjoy New Orleans Muffaletta Sandwiches and Sausage and Chicken Gumbo with us! Adults, \$10. Grades 1-12, \$5. College students and children 5 and under, free. Your paid reservation makes all the difference--in person in the Gallery the Sunday before or online through the church website.

≥ pam@uccftw.com

CINNAMON ROLL SUNDAY

Sunday, March 17 10:00am-11:00am | Galleru

Join us for delicious and warm cinnamon rolls the third Sunday of every month.

CONNECT DINNER

Thursday, March 21 6:00pm-7:30pm | Walker Hall

Gather with us around the table monthly on the Third Thursday of the month to fill your soul and tummies with good conversation, connected community and delicious food. Chef Louise is preparing Breast of Chicken with a mild Spanish Pepper Sauce., Spanish anitpasto and Caramelized Almond Squares round out the menu. College students and children 5 and under eat free, grades 1-12 \$6 and adults \$12. Your paid reservation makes all the difference--in person in the Gallery the Sunday before or online through the church website.

≥ pam@uccftw.com

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UCC offers Bible studies, classes, special speakers, small groups and more as opportunities for you to continue your spiritual journey. Learn more about discipleship and grow your relationship with God.

SPRING SOFTBALL SIGN-UPS

Men and women ages 16 & up are invited to play on the UCC spring softball team. Games are on Friday nights beginning March 8 through May 10. Cost is \$25 per person. **Register online.**

★ tcuwags@aol.com

GOOD NEWS, GOOD BREWS

Wednesdays, Starting March 13 7:30pm-9:00pm Fort Brewery & Pizza

This 21+ group gathers at a local pub to discuss faith, beliefs, and lots more in a casual atmosphere. Follow us on Facebook for details, or contact Shannon Moore.

Shannon.moore@uccftw.com

SIMPLE WORSHIP

Sundays • 9:30am-9:50am Chapel of the Good Shepherd

Simple Worship is just that—we worship simply. This twenty minute, "come-as you-are" service is an opportunity to worship in a casual atmosphere. All ages are welcome!

≤ shannon.moore@uccftw.com.

FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP: LUNCH & LEARN

Friday, March 8 • 11:00am | RM 207

Friday Fellowship now meets twice a month! On the 2nd Friday, join us in RM 211 at 11:00am for our Lunch & Learn series, featuring a variety of speakers followed by a delicious potluck lunch. This month, UCC's own Larry Alland will present My Experience in the Congo: Then and Now.

≤ shannon.moore@uccftw.com

FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP: GAME DAY Friday, March 22 · 10:00am | RM 211

On the 4th Friday, we will gather for Game Day to play dominos, cards, and board games. Bring your favorite game and snack to share. Room 211 from 10:00am to 12:00pm.

≤ shannon.moore@uccftw.com

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays • 10:00am | RM 203

A weekly Bible study and discussion led by Rev. Shannon Moore. The conversations are lively, there's no homework, and all are welcome to join at any time. We are currently studying the book of James.

■ shannon.moore@uccftw.com

WILD WOMEN BOOK CLUB

Monday, March 18 6:00pm | Cat City Grill Tuesday, March 19 11:30am | RM 150

The WiLD Women Book Club is both Growing Young and growing in our awareness of people and situations different from our own. This year we are reading Young Reader Books and inviting youth to join us as we open our eyes to new understanding and listen to a younger voice. Our March book is: Jefferson's Sons: A Founding Father's Secret Children by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley.

The WiLD Women Book Club meets the third week of each month September through May (excluding December) to discuss a book, enjoy time together around the table and support the work of Heifer's WiLD program, Women in Livestock Development.

✓ cyndy@uccftw.com

KIDS HOPE USA

Month of March

Due to larger school class sizes and smaller budgets, giving individual attention to students is growing harder each year. UCC partners with Rosemont Elementary to support educators and mentor students.

Mentors meet weekly with students for an hour (-ish) at the school, during school hours. By partnering mentors with at-risk elementary students, Kids Hope USA builds life-changing relationships one at a time: One Child. One Hour. One School. One Church. If you are interested in serving as a mentor, contact Mike Wager.

★ tcuwags@aol.com



→ SERVE







Photos from Welcome to Worship, Agape Feast and Clergy's Women Breakfast.

Part of discipleship is responding to the needs of others. From around the world to our local community, we are being called to serve. We offer many outreach opportunities to live out this call.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Month of March

The Box Tops for Education program is an easy way to support our Weekday School children. Last year, we collected enough box tops to purchase new picnic tables for the children to enjoy. Donate your box tops next to any preschool classroom or use the donation boxes next to the Weekday School offices.

■ robin.doyle@uccftw.com

PROM DREAMS BOUTIQUE

Thursdays, 5:00pm-7:00pm Saturdays, 10:00am-12:00pm Or by appointment

Help high school students "shop" for a prom dress and accessories. Sign up online or drop-off gently used formal wear, jewelry and/or shoes at the front reception desk.

maray413@gmail.com

NOTE WRITERS

Thursday, March 14 10:00am | Arches

The Note Writers gather on the second Thursday of each month in the Arches to send notes of encouragement. congratulations or condolences.

mgroom@uccftw.com.

MISSION PILGRIMAGE **TO PUERTO RICO**

March 10-16

A group of 15 will represent UCC in Puerto Rico as they build relationships and work together to repair hurricane damaged homes. Your prayers are appreciated.

∠ cyndy@uccftw.com.

NEEDLERS

Thursdays in March 9:00am | RM 312

The Needlers gather to crochet, knit and do needlework.

∠ cyndy@uccftw.com.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Sundays • 5:00pm

Prayer shawl ministry welcomes all to gather to knit and crochet shawls—given in gratitude, to those undertaking a new journey in life, and to those facing surgery or loss.

✓ cyndy@uccftw.com

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Sundays • 12:00pm | RM 211

Regular rehearsals including lunch for the Children's Choir.

maryelizabethfarmer@yahoo.com

YOUTH HANDBELL CHOIRS

Sundays • 5:00pm | RM 205, RM 229 & Sanctuary

Regular rehearsals of the Youth Handbell Choirs.

AD DEUM HANDBELL CHOIR

Thursdays • 6:00pm | RM 229

Adult handbell choir rehearsal.

eric.m.mullins@gmail.com

UCC CHANCEL CHOIR

Thursdays • 7:00pm | RM 147

Regular rehearsals of the Chancel Choir in Shirey Hall. Childcare available.

▼ todd.prickett@uccftw.com

PRAYER BEADS

Saturday, March 2 10:00am | RM 204

Prayer bead ministry meets the first Saturday of the month. No experience needed, beginning beader skill taught and all equipment provided. Prayer beads are made for UCC and THR Harris Hospital for people in crisis situations.

≥ pam@uccftw.com

Open minds, loving hearts 9



GOVERNANCE, COMMITTEE & LEADERSHIP

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Sunday, March 3 12:15pm | RM 226

The committee addresses maintenance and improvement of UCC buildings and surrounding grounds.

DEACONS MEETING

Sunday, March 17 10:00am | RM 221

≥ betsy.ferguson@uccftw.com

BOARD OF STEWARDS

Tuesday, March 19 6:30pm | RM 150

The Board of Stewards has the general responsibility to govern and manage the business and affairs of the Congregation.

■ betsy.ferguson@uccftw.com

WORSHIP LIFE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 20 5:30pm | RM 150

Monthly meeting to focus on ways to grow, support, and enhance how we worship as a congregation and community.

■ shannon.moore@uccftw.com

ELDERS MEETING

Tuesday, March 26 7:00pm | RM 207

A monthly meeting to discuss the spiritual needs of the church.

≥ renee.hoke@uccftw.com

UCC Children and Youth Programs

Sunday Children Programs

Preschool Childcare and Sunday School 8:45am-12:15pm

Infants-Kindergarten • Check-ir

Journey Land • 10:00am Grades 1–5

Worship and Wonder • 11:00am

Grades 1–3 • Gallery
During the Scripture in Context portion of our service (see bulletin for weekly information), children are invited to join a Worship and Wonder leader in the Gallery—we listen to the scripture used in worship, wonder about what it means for our lives, and return to worship during the Hymn of Response following the sermon.

JYF (Junior Youth Fellowship) 5:00-6:15pm

Grades 1-5 • RM 211

Youth Snack Supper • 6:15-7:15pm Grades 1-15 • RM 312

Sunday Youth Programs

Morning Sunday School Classes 10:00am-10:50am

Girls, Grades 6-8 • RM 304

Boys, Grades 6-8 • RM 308

Grades 9-12 • RM 312

Disciples Class • RM 303

Youth Handbell Choirs 5:00pm-6:00pm

Grades 6-12 • RM 229

Youth Snack Supper • 6:00–6:30pm Grades 6–12 • RM 312

Chi Rho and CYF • 6:30pm Grades 6-12 | Gathering Room

Chi Rho Youth Groups 6:30pm-7:30pm Grades 6-8 | 3rd Floor

CYF Youth Groups • 6:30pm-7:30pm Grades 9-12 | 3rd Floor

Youth Groups

Chi Rho • Grades 6-8
CYF (Christian Youth Fellowship)
Grades 9-12

Both youth groups Mission for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is to respond to the needs of youth for relationships, events, and opportunities where they can be themselves, discern their gifts, and be empowered to be effective leaders and servants as called by God to be the body of Christ in the world.

UCC MINISTRIES

ADULT MINISTRY

We offer many ways for you to grow in your faith and connect with God and others through fellowship, spiritual development, Bible studies, book groups, retreats, workshops and small groups.

Minister: Rev. Shannon Moore

✓ shannon.moore@uccftw.com

Leader: Sue Gover

CARPENTERS MINISTRY

A ministry that's equal parts carpentry and fellowship and everyone is welcome! Check us out on Fridays—we meet at 11:00am, at 2700 Rogers, followed by lunch at 11:30am.

Minister: Rev. Renee Hoke

✓ renee.hoke@uccftw.com

Leader: Charles Kendall

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

We provide a safe, welcoming and engaging place for our children to discover and experience God.

Minister: Rev. Kera Watts

✓ kera@uccftw.com

Leader: Ali Briseno

CHURCH AND THE ARTS MINISTRY

Church and the Arts enhances the understanding, shaping, and expression of our faith through the arts. We sponsor various cultural activities throughout the year.

Staff: Janet Pummill

y janet.pummill@uccftw.com

Leader: Lisa Wan

COLLEGE MINISTRY

Our hope is to cultivate life-giving community for students through worship, fellowship and service.

Minister: Rev. Jessica Vacketta

✓ jessica@uccftw.com

Leader: Mark Tentinger

CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY

We're a large church with a BIG heart. Care is provided in personal and compassionate ways through visits to hospitals and to the homebound, prayer groups and countless interactions that help us sense God's loving presence and provision. Contact: 817-926-6631, pastoralcare@uccftw.com or use the Pastoral Care Request link on our website.

Minister: Rev. Cyndy Twedell

✓ cyndy@uccftw.com

Leader: Sandra Soria

MEN'S MINISTRY

Open to all, UCC's Men's Ministry offers events and programs in response to the unique interests and needs of men. Join the men of UCC as they serve the needs of others and share in opportunities for fellowship and fun together. All are welcome!

Minister: Rev. Cyndy Twedell

✓ cyndy@uccftw.com

Leader: John Andrus

MUSIC MINISTRY

Music enriches our worship experience and helps us understand our relationships with God and each other. All of our music ensembles are open to anyone who would like to participate.

Minister: Rev. Dr. Todd Prickett ✓ todd.prickett@uccftw.com

Leader: Bill Shelton

OUTREACH MINISTRY

Called to demonstrate the love of God, we work within and beyond our community to build caring partnerships and foster mutual ministries as we open our hearts in service to others.

Minister: Rev. Jessica Vacketta

✓ jessica@uccftw.com

Leader: Kim McAdams Baker

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Open to all, UCC's Women's Ministry offers events and programs in response to the unique interests and needs of women. Join us as we share together in fun, fellowship, spiritual growth and opportunities to advocate for women in our community and around the world. All are welcome!

Minister: Rev. Cyndy Twedell

✓ cyndy@uccftw.com

Leader: Debbie Powell

WORSHIP LIFE MINISTRY

We focus on ways to grow, support, and enhance how we worship as a congregation and community.

Minister: Rev. Shannon Moore

✓ shannon.moore@uccftw.com

Leader: Art Busbey

YOUTH MINISTRY

For our youth, we focus on fun, fellowship, games, worship, opportunities to serve, spiritual arowth and so much more.

Minister: Rev. Jamie Plunkett

✓ jamie.plunkett@uccftw.com

Leader: Julie O'Neil



2720 South University Drive Fort Worth, Texas 76109-1150 817-926-6631

SAVE THE DATE!

PALM SUNDAY • April 14
Worship • 9:00am and 11:00am
Simple Worship • 9:30am
Easter Egg Hunt • 10:00am
Agape Feast • 6:00pm

MAUNDY THURSDAY • April 18

Worship • 7:00pm

EASTER SUNDAY • April 21 Sunrise Worship • 6:45am Worship • 9:00am and 11:00am Simple Worship • 9:30am

MISSION PILGRIMAGE OPPORTUNITIES

NAVAJO PILGRIMAGE

with Broadway Baptist Church July 12-July 20

TEXAS CITY HURRICANE RELIEF

July 28-August 3

✓ mgroom@uccftw.com

UNIVERSITYCHRISTIAN.ORG

Patty Poling, Editor & Designer • Michelle Groom, Circulation

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