

## AFFIRMING OUR CHURCH'S MINISTRY

Congregational Church of Austin, UCC, Statement of Faith

### We are a people united in Christ.

*God calls us to be a loving and inclusive community of faith, a people united and uniting. God calls us to welcome all people in the name of Jesus Christ, who welcomes us.*

### We are a people who sing God's praises.

*God calls us to invite all people to participate with us in life-renewing worship, to cry out in our brokenness, and to celebrate God's grace and blessing upon us.*

### We are a people who seek God's ways.

*God calls us to discover God's word in the Bible, in our rich heritage, in faithful witness to the living Word, and in the fresh winds of the Spirit.*

### We are a people who serve God's world.

*God calls us to promote the integrity, justice, mercy, and peace God intends for all creation, and to reach out in ministries and partnerships of prophetic criticism and care.*

### We are a people who share life's journey.

*God calls us to support one another and to share in the hopes and fears, joys and sorrows, of all God's people, both in the church and the world*

## PRAYING FOR OURSELVES, ONE ANOTHER, AND THE WORLD

### REFLECTING SILENTLY UPON OUR LIVES

In silence and stillness, reflect on who has arrived for worship this morning. What thoughts and feelings, joys and concerns, have you brought with you?

### SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

If the Spirit is moving you to share a thought or feeling, joy or concern, please do so now, so we may lift it together in prayer.

### LIFTING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS IN PRAYER

### PRAYING TOGETHER AS JESUS PRAYED

debts and debtors

### RECEIVING OUR CHOIR'S GIFT *O Carpenter, Why Leave the Bench?*

Billings

## READING AND REFLECTING

### READING FROM THE BIBLE

Luke 4: 14-30

### REFLECTING

We do find that the more integrated we become in the logics and rationalities that shape the contemporary world such as the market, the less able we become to truly recognize what another way of being in the world would look like.

Jeffrey Pugh

The most creative social strategy we have to offer is the church. Here we show the world a manner of life the world can never achieve through social coercion or governmental action. We serve the world by showing it something that it is not, namely, a place where God is forming a family out of strangers.

Stanley Hauerwas and William Willimon

The Church exists to set up in the world a new sign which is radically dissimilar to the world's own manner and which contradicts it in a way which is full of promise.

Karl Barth

## OFFERING OURSELVES THROUGH OUR GENEROSITY

### OFFERING OUR LIVES AND GIFTS IN SERVICE TO GOD

Trio "Thema con variazioni" from *Trio in Bb Major*

Beethoven

### \*PRAISING GOD

Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreun

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God for all that love has done. Creator, Christ, and Spirit One.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen

### \*DEDICATING OUR LIVES AND POSSESSIONS TO GOD

## DEPARTING TO PRACTICE CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

\*SINGING A HYMN *Let Us Build a House*

Red Hymnal 301

### \*OFFERING WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

### \*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

\*SENDING SONG *Many Are the Lightbeams*

Black Hymnal 163

\*PARTING WITH A SONG *In the Midst of New Dimensions*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our **adult Christian education class** is meeting at 10:00 am on Sunday mornings to watch "The Great Churches of Christianity" from The Great Courses. The class meets in the adult CE room on the second floor.

We will hold our Congregational Church of Austin, UCC, **Annual Meeting** after worship today.

On **Sunday, February 10, Texas Freedom Network** will give a presentation after worship on **LGBTQ issues** that will likely arise in the current **Texas Legislative Session**.

On **Sunday, February 17**, we will celebrate the anticipated birth of **Amelia and Jonathan's** second child with a baby shower after worship. If you would like to financially contribute to the purchase of a gift, please do so before the 17<sup>th</sup>.

On **Sunday, February 24, Bill Campbell and Victoria Li** will give a presentation after worship on their trip to **Israel and Palestine** in 2018.

From **March 10 to April 7**, Whit Bodman will lead our **Lenten Program**: "What I Believe, Don't, And Why." The study, reflection, and discussion series will focus on Marcus Borg's, *The Heart of Christianity: Rediscovering a Life of Faith*, and will be supplemented by other short readings.

After Easter, we will gather folks together to **read and discuss** the book, *Climate Church, Climate World, How People of Faith Must Work for Change*, by Jim Antal, **Forward by Bill McKibben**.

You can make your **financial contribution** to the Congregational Church of Austin **electronically** through **Tithe.ly**. You can install the app on a smart device or contribute to CCA on the Tithe.ly website. **For more information** about Tithe.ly and how to use the service, please pick up an information sheet in the sanctuary or Fellowship Hall, or ask our Office Administrator, Donna Cravens, to send you one electronically.

## UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

Deacons, Tue, Feb 5, 7:15 pm, Joy Penticuff's  
Trustees, Thu, Feb 7, 7<sup>15</sup> pm, Reuel Nash's

## PARTICIPATING TODAY

Ushers Debby Khort and Andrea Low  
Nursery Assistant Nancy Edison

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The **Adult Christian Education Group** meets Sundays at 10:00 am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

The **Youth Group** meets every Sunday (except the first Sunday of the month) after church with the youth from University Christian and University Baptist, to go out for lunch and enjoy a program. Middle and High Schoolers welcome. If you would like to be on the email list for more details, please see Reuel Nash.

**Middle School and High School Students** remain in the service the first Sunday of each month; other Sundays their Sunday School begins after the Choral Anthem.

**Elementary Sunday School** is held during the 11:00 am service, immediately following "Time with Children." The children will be escorted from the Sanctuary to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Christian Education room, and can be picked up from there after the service.

**Infant and Toddler Care** is available throughout the service in the Nursery. Child care begins at 9:15 am for the parents of children attending choir practice or the Adult Christian Education Group.

## THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF AUSTIN, UCC

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<http://congregationalchurchofaustin.org>

Rev. Tom VandeStadt	Pastor
Nodie Murphy	Music Director
Rev. Amelia Fulbright	Labyrinth Student Ministry
Jonathan Geer	Piano
Amy Harris	Violin
Tony Rogers	Cello
Amy Kent	Sunday School Teacher
Sam Clubb	Nursery Attendant
Donna Cravens	Office Manager
Victor Cardenas	Custodian

## THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF AUSTIN

An Open and Affirming Church  
Of The United Church of Christ

January 27, 2019

The Season of Epiphany

The Spirit of the Lord  
Is Upon Me



## GATHERING

### ACCEPTING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Trio "Larghetto" from *Kronungskonzert*

Mozart

### GATHERING WITH SONG *There Are Angels Hov'ring 'Round*

There are angels hov'ring 'round...

To carry the tidings home...

And Jesus bids us come...

### GATHERING WITH PRAYER

The way things have always been  
will never be that way again,  
for God creates a new heaven and a new earth,  
where no one remembers how things always were,  
and everyone sees things as they truly are.

*God's kingdom doesn't fit the shape our world has taken,  
and those who seek God's kingdom are holy misfits in this world,  
cross-bearing violators of the world's ways, outside-the-box,  
like Jesus Christ.*

God, give us strength to follow Christ,  
strength to contradict the world.

*Your will be done, O God.*

*Not ours, not the world's, but yours.*

\***SINGING A HYMN** *Arise, Your Light Is Come*

Red Hymnal 744