



***“The Voice”* Newsletter of  
The United Church of Mapleton**

201 Troendle Street SW; PO Box 413  
Mapleton, MN 56065

**April 2014**

*Address Service Requested*

“The United Church of Mapleton is a Christian fellowship of mission, worship, and faith formation dedicated to the Maple River community.”



The United Church of Mapleton  
PO Box 413  
Mapleton, MN 56065

# THE UNITED CHURCH OF MAPLETON

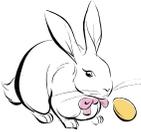
www.unitedchurchmapleton.org

secretary@unitedchurchmapleton.org

**Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.**  
**Coffee & Fellowship 10:00 a.m.**

**Choir Practice 10:05 a.m.**  
**Sunday School for All Ages -**  
**During Worship and After Worship**

## April 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast— Good Thunder 7:00 p.m. Pastoral Relations	2 1:00 p.m. Quilting 6:30 p.m. Lenten Service 7:00—8:00 p.m. Confirmation	3 3:00—4:00 p.m. Bible Study in Overflow Room	4	5
6 9:00 a.m. Worship with <b>Communion and Loaves &amp; Fishes Food Shelf Collection</b> Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour 10:05 a.m. Choir	7 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Cub Scouts	8 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast— Good Thunder	9 1:00 p.m. Quilting 6:30 p.m. Lenten Service 7:00—8:00 p.m. Confirmation <b>7:00 p.m. Deacons</b>	10 3:00—4:00 p.m. Bible Study in Overflow Room	11	12
13 <b>Palm Sunday</b> 9:00 a.m. Worship Sunday School 10:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m. <b>Palm Sunday Brunch</b> 10:05 a.m. Choir	14 7:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship	15 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast— Good Thunder	16 1:00 p.m. Quilting 7:00—8:00 p.m. Confirmation 7:00 p.m. <b>Board of Trustees</b>	17 <b>Maundy Thursday</b> 3:00—4:00 p.m. Bible Study in Overflow Room <b>7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service</b>	18 <b>Good Friday</b> <b>7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service</b>	19 <b>RECYCLE!</b>
20 <b>EASTER!</b> 9:00 a.m. Worship with <b>The Well Youth Center Collection</b> Children's Sunday School during worship 10:05 a.m. Choir	21 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Cub Scouts	22 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast— Good Thunder  <b>Voice Articles due</b>	23 1:00 p.m. Quilting 7:00—8:00 p.m. Confirmation	24 3:00—4:00 p.m. Bible Study in Overflow Room	25	26
27 9:00 a.m. Worship Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour 10:05 a.m. Choir	28	29 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast— Good Thunder 3:00—6:00 p.m. Loaves & Fishes workday	30 1:00 p.m. Quilting 7:00—8:00 p.m. Confirmation <b>7:00 p.m. Official Board</b>			
						

# The Voice

The Newsletter of The United Church of Mapleton



Phone: (507) 524-3141

April 2014

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Date:	April 6	April 13	April 20	April 27
<b>Greeters:</b>	Robert and Lisa Shubert	Ron and Judy Olson	Wally and Joyce Johnson	Dave and Kathy Byram
<b>Coffee Hour:</b>	Diaconate	Women's Fellowship	The Well Youth Center	Board of Christian Education
<b>Head Usher:</b>	Jack Madsen	Jack Madsen	Jack Madsen	Jack Madsen

## Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf

**Sunday, April 6th, 2014** we will collect donations for the Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf.

Please consider giving monetary gifts and/or non-perishable items to this meaningful mission.

The United Church supports Loaves & Fishes in this way on the first Sunday of each month.

## The Well Youth Center

**Sunday, April 20th, 2014** our Coffee Hour and Collection jar will go towards helping support our local youth at The Well Youth Center.

The United Church supports The Well Youth Center in this way each month.

## Ambience Work Group

### Easter Lilies

The Ambience Work Group is looking for donations of Lily plants to beautify our sanctuary for Easter Sunday morning. Please purchase your lily plant on your own and bring your plant to the church **between Palm Sunday, April 13th and no later than Good Friday, April 18th**. Please label your plant with your name and place it in the mail room. Thank you!



## Church Correspondence

For privacy and ease, please make a notation on the front of your envelope correspondence of: **c/o Financial Secretary**. Thank you!

## Reminder from our Diaconate

**The Diaconate requests your help in filling out and submitting your Membership Information sheets which were sent to you by mail. Filling these sheets out in a timely manner will help our Deacons proceed with the work they are doing in updating our church membership files.**

**Thank you again for your help.**

## Prayer Chain

The prayer chain for the United Church is soon to become re-activated. This was one of the desires of the Vision Committee. Several individuals have already expressed an interest in becoming a part of this chain. If you would like to become involved in this prayer ministry for our church, please contact Karen Stanton at (507) 327-8168 or karenmarie310@hotmail.com. We will have a short organizational meeting before the Lenten service on April 9th at 6:00 p.m.

**Pastor's Corner***Lachrimae Amantis* by Geoffrey Hill

What is there in my heart that you should sue  
so fiercely for its love? What kind of care  
brings you as though a stranger to my door  
through the long night and in the icy dew

seeking the heart that will not harbor you,  
that keeps itself religiously secure?  
At this dark solstice filled with frost and fire  
your passion's ancient wounds must bleed anew.

So many nights the angel of my house  
has fed such urgent comfort through a dream,  
whispered "your lord is coming, he is close"

that I have drowsed half-faithful for a time  
bathed in pure tones of promise and remorse:  
"tomorrow I shall wake to welcome him."

Throughout our Wednesday evening Lenten services, I've been using the devotional book "Bread and Wine: Readings for Lent and Easter" as the source for our messages. So far, we've heard from Søren Kierkegaard, Mother Theresa, and Romano Guardini. Between now and Easter Sunday, I plan for us to hear from many other saints of our spiritual tradition, like Henri Nouwen, Madeline L'Engle, and Barbara Brown Taylor.

This devotional book is divided into six sections that mark the journey through this season: Invitation, Temptation, Passion, Crucifixion, Resurrection, and New Life. The above poem by contemporary English poet Geoffrey Hill is the preface for the section titled Temptation.

At this point in Lent, we are about halfway through the season. We are still in the midst of our Lenten penitence and practices, the banners are still purple, and our foreheads still remember the touch of ash. However, our memories and our calendars know that Easter is quickly coming, and by the time I next sit down to write my Voice column, Easter will be behind us and we will be looking toward Pentecost, the next holiday of the church.

Though my little book of readings and devotions marks this poem as part of the Temptation and the earlier part of our Lenten season, I think it is also fitting for now, in the midst of the season and as we begin to look toward the future, toward new things and new seasons of life. Really, this poem is fitting for the whole Christian year and the whole life of all Christians.

What difference will Lent have made in our lives once it is over? What difference will we allow the care of Jesus Christ that "sued so fiercely" for our love that he was willing to walk through Lent toward the cross and crucifixion?

I hope and pray that this Lenten season has allowed our hearts to be less "religiously secure" and more open to "passion's ancient wounds." May today be the "tomorrow" when we "wake to welcome him" into our lives in all things. May this season of the life of The United Church be fully faithful, true to the promises of Jesus Christ, and true to the promises we have made to the Lord.

Blessings,  
Pastor Ashley

Continue

### In Our Prayers

Our church prayer list includes:

- Those with ongoing health concerns: Bill Brice, Stan Solie, Lorraine Stanton, Alberta Samuelson
- Family members and loved ones who are ill
- Traveling mercies for our members, family, and friends
- All those who are grieving and mourning
- Hutch Cramer, who recently fell and had surgery for a broken hip, is now recovering at the Mapleton Community Home
- Norma Baack, who had surgery for a broken hip on March 12th and who is now recovering at Oak Lawn Nursing Home in Mankato
- Benjamin Brockmann of Lake Crystal, age 4, a family friend of the Allevens, who is undergoing treatment for leukemia
- The people of Ukraine who are affected by the violence and turmoil currently affecting their country
- The family and friends of the people on Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, especially as they cope with the recent news that the flight “ended” in the Indian Ocean, while recovery work continues
- For the families and friends of those affected by the mudslide near Oso, Washington, which includes at least sixteen deaths and many still missing

The prayer requests and praises shared with the congregation during last months worship services include:

- Prayers...
  - ◊ For the See family (Tricia and sons Payton and Chandler) at Pat’s recent and tragic death
  - ◊ For asking forgiveness from friends and family for wrong words and actions in the past
  - ◊ For a quick recovery for Ruth Daly who fell early in the month
  - ◊ For a friend, Kali, on the loss of her grandmother
  - ◊ For healing for the daughter of a friend, Kellie
  - ◊ For Laura Fritz and for the guidance of the doctors and nurses to help her with pain issues earlier this month
  - ◊ For Jimmy Karels (nephew of Sharon Shuck) and his family in the loss of their mother
  - ◊ For a friend, Dianne, and her family as she struggles once again with cancer
  - ◊ For Olesander and Dinko and their families in the Ukraine (friends of Ron Olson)
  - ◊ For the family and friends of Steven Rorman, a student at Blue Earth Area High School, who died in a car accident this month
  - ◊ For healing for Sharon Shuck’s niece, Nikki Pucik, who is in Rochester recovering from a broken arm and infection
  - ◊ For Gary McCarthy, Jessica McCutchen’s father, as he recovers from recent prostate surgery
  - ◊ For the world’s leaders to join together to resolve the issue in the Ukraine to avoid another 1960’s-style missile standoff
  - ◊ For all those coping with mental health concerns and struggles
- Thanksgiving...
  - ◊ For Laurs Fritz’s gift of a beautiful voice and her willingness to share it with others in worship
  - ◊ For Annalivia Bair’s 10th birthday
  - ◊ To the reunion in California of the six remaining Shuck sisters (ages 75-93) and for family interactions
  - ◊ To God for opening a new chapter in our lives

Continued

### In Our Prayers

- ◇ For the lovely music of the St. John and United Churches Combined Choir shared twice in worship with us this month
- ◇ For safe travels and to be back home
- ◇ For Bob Clark's birthday on March 24th

The congratulations and best wishes of The United Church are extended to Bill Pfeffer and Linda Nordgren on the occasion of their wedding, which was celebrated on Saturday, March 22nd at The United Church in a private family ceremony.

The prayers and sympathies of The United Church go to the family and friends of Harvey Gilgert who passed away on Tuesday, March 4th in Mesa, Arizona. Harvey and Diane Gilgert were members of The United Church from about 1972 to 1985. His funeral arrangements are not yet determined.

The prayers and sympathies of The United Church go to the family and friends of Dr. All Roth, MD, brother of United Church members Alberta Samuelson and Rozella Ward, who passed away on Saturday, March 22nd in Laramie, Wyoming.

### How to Contact Pastor Ashley

My office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to noon. In the afternoon, I may be in the office, or I may be out in the community for pastoral care or outreach. If you'd like to stop by to visit another time, just email or call. Monday and Saturday are my days off.

My email address is:  
[pastor@unitedchurchmapleton.org](mailto:pastor@unitedchurchmapleton.org). If I'm not in the office, my phone number is (507) 381-8199.

### Pastoral Care Connections

If you or a family member is ill, in the hospital, is homebound, would like a pastoral care visit for any reason, or would like to be added to our weekly prayer list, **please let the church know!** Feel free to contact Pastor Ashley, a Deacon, or the church office to let us know so that we may serve you.

Pastor Ashley's phone number is:  
(507) 381-8199 and the church phone number is:  
(507) 524-3141. Thank you!

### Sunday Morning Wheelchair Assistance

If you are in need of wheelchair assistance on Sunday mornings, please let us know by calling the church office at (507) 524-3141 ahead of time to make arrangements **or** you may have an usher assist you on Sunday morning when you arrive at the church.

There is a ramp located on the east side of the church which can be utilized by parking in the east parking lot. If it is too difficult for you to push a wheelchair up the ramp, please feel free to contact an Usher or Deacon for assistance.

### Bible Study

Announcing The United Church of Mapleton Bible Study! The study group will meet on **Thursdays from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.** in the Overflow Room with Pastor Ashley. All are welcome!

### Adult Church Choir

The Adult Church Choir practices on Sunday mornings at 10:05 a.m. following the morning worship service. The Adult Choir usually sings twice per month during worship service with practice that morning at 8:30 a.m.

Please come and join us! New voices are always welcome!

**United Church Directory**

The Board of Deacons is getting ready to publish our new United Church print directory! We plan to have directories ready for pickup in time for Palm Sunday and Easter. Do you remember whether or not you returned your “Member Information” form back to the church? Don’t worry, it was a while ago, we know! The Deacons now have a list of who has returned their forms and who we still need updated information from. Check with Ruth Cumming for more information. More Member Information forms are available in the Fellowship Hall and a “draft directory” is also available to check out.

**Food Shelf Update**

In the month of March, the United Church donated a wonderful amount of food and monetary donations to Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf.

On March 8th we donated: 9.3lbs and \$60; March 18th: 31.6lbs and \$100; March 23rd: 113.8lbs and \$330. For the grand totals of 154.7lbs and \$490!

Thank you for your generous and much needed donations!

**Thank You! The Oddfellows**

We would like to say thank you to the members of The United Church for their generous support of our annual pancake feed that was held Sunday, March 9th. We express our appreciation for the use of the United Church facilities and we thank the Women’s Fellowship for the use of the kitchen area.

Because of your generosity, several area youth will have a great week this summer at **Camp FaHoCha**.

Thanks so much from the Mapleton IOOF!



**Ambience Volunteers Needed!**

The Ambience Work Group is committed to keeping the Sanctuary looking nice and making sure that there are seasonally appropriate decorations available (for church seasons and calendar seasons both). It’s a little bit of work that goes a long way for worship each week! A few more volunteers are needed to make the work easier and lighter. If you’re interested in helping out, please let Jodi Gerdts or Pastor Ashley know. Thank you!

**Heifer International**

Remember our great event “Cows for Christmas” where we were able to provide Heifer International with one cow and one goat (with the possibility of a matching grant of another goat)?

Heifer International would like you to know that just one goat can provide an ongoing, lasting impact and income for a family. In turn the family receiving a goat gives a gift of the first female offspring to another farming family, continuing the virtuous cycle.

Here are a few fun facts about goats: They can survive in nearly any climate, their milk is the only kind of milk known to half the world’s people, and they discovered coffee beans! But, one of the most important facts about goats is that every year, in addition to birthing two to three kids, just one goat produces approximately one ton of milk. That’s roughly 10 times the body weight of an average goat.

**LOCAL MISSIONS**

**The Well Youth Center**

The Well Youth Center is open for grades 4th through 12th from 3:00—5:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays when school is in session.

We always welcome adult volunteers to help supervise youth or help with fundraising events. Please call (507) 524-3839 or (507) 995-8194.

**Loaves & Fishes**

Open Tuesdays from 3:00—6:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m.—Noon. Volunteers are welcome!

**Community Closet**

Open Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m.—Noon.

If you have a non-profit group that would like to take advantage of profits from the Closet, please call Gay Rice at (507) 524-4040 for more information.

**German Dinner**

Redeemer Lutheran Church, 17436 State Highway 22, will host a “German Dinner” on Sunday, April 6th from 11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Food to be served will be, brats with sauerkraut and hot dogs, mashed potatoes with gravy, red cabbage, pickled beets and German: potato salad, green beans, carrots breads and 3 German desserts - Black Forest Cake, Overnight Cake with caramel and Fruit Streusel

Adults \$10; Children (4-12) \$4; Children under 3 are free.

**Springfest**

Jackson Lake Lutheran Church of Amboy will hold a Luncheon buffet featuring, hot beef and turkey sandwiches, a variety of salads and many Scandinavian goodies on Sunday, April 6th from 10:30 1:00 p.m.

Cost per Adult \$8; children ages 6-11 \$4; children age 5 and under are free. Take-out meals are available.

**Ecumenical Community Event**

Beth Crosby will be in song and worship on Sunday, April 6th from 6:00—7:00 p.m. at Peace Church in Minnesota Lake.

Free will donations will be accepted and divided among the three area food shelves which are— Loaves & Fishes in Mapleton, Wells Area Food Shelf, and Peace Church Food Shelf in Minnesota Lake.

A time of refreshments and fellowship will follow the program.



**Maple River AAA Foundation**

The 2014 Maple River AAA Foundation Tasting on the Terrace is on Saturday, April 5th from 5:00—7:00 p.m. at Heritage Place, 303 Troendle Street, Mapleton. The event features fine food and beverage tasting. Special music will be provided by the Maple River Jazz Band. Tickets to the event are \$25 and may be purchased at the door.

The Maple River AAA Foundation has been established as a designated fund of the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation. The goal of the Maple River AAA Foundation is to provide an educational experience not provided in the curriculum, provide every student with the opportunity to develop their full potential, develop lifelong attitudes in the area of academics, arts, and athletics and provide leadership and emotional skills that help develop well-rounded student citizens.

**Report of Deacons Meeting**

March 12th, 2014

The Deacons meeting was held on March 12th and began at 7:00 p.m. Those present were: Ruth Cumming, Dan Prenzlou, Dawn Dietz and Jodie Gerdts. Dan started the meeting off with devotions.

**Old Business:** The Diaconate has continued to work on the information for the new church directory. Ruth has made great bounds in getting members to return their forms. It is the hope to have a sample directory printed by Easter time. We discussed having a prayer chain group started up again. This is still in the planning stages.

**New Business:** There will be Lent services every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. through April 9th. The Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services will be held at 7:00 p.m.

Our next meeting is scheduled for April 9th, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jodie Gerdts, Secretary

**Mission Committee**

During the month of March we collected money for the One Great Hour of Sharing Mission. The OGHS helps people all over the world. The money we collect is split equally between the UCC and the American Baptist denominations.

We also had a special “Pack the Pews” mission for Loaves & Fishes during March 21st—23rd. We are encouraged to bring a grocery bag of non-perishables to church to be donated to Loaves & Fishes. If you wish to donate money, for every dollar we donate they can buy \$10 worth of food through Second Harvest, Dietz Foods and other organizations. So, please consider giving to these worthy missions and also consider giving a donation of your time or money to our other local mission of The Well Youth Center. The Well keeps our young people off the streets and involved in worthwhile projects and activities.

Once again, thank you for all you do by supporting all these worthy missions. We can make a difference in our world.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Roberta Ward, Mission Chairman

**The United Church Women’s Fellowship**

On March 10th, 2014, the United Church Women’s Fellowship met in the church basement. With nine members present, President Louise Webb called the meeting to order. Joyce Johnson read devotions based on Hebrews. The secretary’s report was given and accepted as read.

Thank you’s received from Louisabelle Shuck and Hazel and Bob Kreuer were read. Mabelle had sent out four birthday cards, one get well and one encouragement. There was a report on Hutch Cramers recovery after breaking his hip. Ruth Cumming reported that she had visited with Norma B. Baack and Bob and Hazel Kreuer.

We discussed having another Crafts, Quilts, and Bake Sale in the Fall. A date has not yet been set. More will be coming on this event. We have one wedding in September.

We will not be serving coffee in April as the Palm Sunday Brunch will be held on that particular Sunday.

Our next meeting will be held April 14th with a sack lunch. Meeting adjourned and a delicious lunch was served by Ruth Cummings.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Darlene Fezler, Secretary

**Board of Trustees Budget Update**

As I’m sure we’ve all noticed at home, the cost of natural gas and LP went up dramatically this winter. These cost increases have also affected the bills for The United Church. Along with higher snow removal costs than expected (even though we increased the budgeted amount for this year), our bills for the first three months of 2014 have been much more than budgeted for. We are currently running at a deficit of about \$4,000 for the year. If you are able to give a bit extra to help offset these unexpected costs and balance the budget, it would be greatly appreciated! Thank you.

### **Important Board of Trustees Giving Clarification**

The Trustees, Treasurer, and Financial Secretary would like to clarify how donations are handled. Checks written to “The United Church of Mapleton” will be cashed and handled by The United Church for our budget and ministries.

Checks written to area ministries (such as “Loaves & Fishes or “The Well”) and put in the offering plate will not be cashed by The United Church, but instead passed along to those organizations so that you, the giver, are duly credited for your gift by that organization.

For our quarterly Special Mission Offerings (such as One Great Hour of Sharing, Christmas Fund, America for Christ, etc.), checks should be written to “The United Church of Mapleton” with “Special Mission Offering” written in the memo line and/or placed in a specially marked envelope. Cash for Special Mission Offerings should always be placed in a specially marked envelope.

Beginning with our next Special Mission Offering in June, we will no longer use denominationally provided offering envelopes. Instead, there will be a single style of envelope provided in the pew racks. This is to eliminate confusion and emphasize the fact that for each quarterly Special Mission Offering, all money is collected into a single “pot” which is then divided evenly in half and sent to each denomination’s Special Mission Offering group.

Recently, several checks have been received made out to “The United Church of Mapleton” with “Mission” written in the memo line. Given the many ways that we do and support mission at The United Church, this can be unclear, and we always want to honor your intent with your donation dollars. To this end, please be as specific as possible with your memo notes.

For example, if you want to help The United Church support a specific local mission (such as our budgeted commitment to The Well or a special offering for Loaves & Fishes), please write that mission’s name in the memo. If it is for that month’s Special Mission Offering, please write “Special Mission Offering” in the memo, or use a marked “Special Mission Offering” envelope. If you want to support our Church General Fund budgeted commitment to support our two denominational affiliations giving at a denomination-wide level, please write “Mission Budget” in the memo.

If you have any questions, please ask Keith McCutchen (Treasurer), Ginny Kinzie (Financial Secretary), or Dick Dietz (Chair, Board of Trustees). Thank you!

### **Board of Trustees Meeting**

March 19, 2014

Present: Dick Dietz, Ron Conrad, Chad Kunkel, Gary Fritz, Bob Howison, Keith McCutchen, Pastor Ashley Whitaker, Lisa Shubert

**Meeting called to order by Dick Dietz at 7:06 pm. Secretary’s minutes** from February meeting read by Lisa Shubert.

*Motion to accept minutes as read by Chad Kunkel and seconded by Ron Conrad. Motion passed.*

**Treasurer’s report** reviewed. Discussion on the following:

- 1) We are averaging 20% over budget for each of the first 3 months of this year. Big expenses are the natural gas and the snow plowing. Both are weather-related.
- 2) Northwest Gas bills for the month of February (paid in March)  
Church – actual = \$1,988  
Parsonage – actual = \$485  
March is expected to be about the same.  
Requested Jeff Whitaker to not turn the heat up at the church on Saturday night but wait until Sunday morning. This is a test to see if the church will be warm enough by service time.  
Dick Dietz will submit an article to the Voice letting the congregation know about the cost of gas and how it is impacting our budget.

- 3) There is some confusion on who played organ in February during Jola's absence. Pastor Ashley will contact Jola for clarification before payments are issued. *Motion to approve the Treasurer's report was made by Chad Kunkel, seconded by Gary Fritz. Motion passed.*

### Old Business

- 1) Electronic transactions are setup and working. There are two people using it so far. Need further notification to members. Hopefully more will use it. There is a cost to the church for each transaction that is processed. Pastor Ashley will check with other churches to see what they use and if we can find a product with less fees associated. *Motion was made to table the discussion until next month.*
- 2) John's Glass fixed the East door locking issue. The North door just needed a larger wrench which was located on the East door chain.
- 3) Sink in women's bathroom was re-anchored to the wall and the drain trap was replaced. Will need to replace Keith's masonry drill bit.
- 4) Now that it is warming up, we need to get the flashing by the bell tower fixed. Jason Klein said he would do it when it warmed up. Chad will contact him so we can get on his schedule.
- 5) Sump pump has been ordered for the parsonage.
- 6) Church basement will be buffed on Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup>.
- 7) Youth lounge needs a new sofa and they would like to purchase a new flat screen TV. The current TV is old enough that it does not have hookups for external devices (computer). Pastor Ashley will put out feelers for a used sofa.
- 8) Capital campaign – we are in the initial stage of discussing a capital campaign for large church projects (new roof, exterior paint, technology). After much discussion, the item was tabled for next month.

### New Business

- 1) Pastor Ashley's time off requests  
**5/21-22** – (Wednesday-Thursday) ABC Adaptive Challenge Team, Chicago (Continuing Education, 2 days) – no additional cost to church

**5/23-26** (Friday-Monday) Memorial Day weekend (Personal Time Off, 2 days, includes a Sunday)

**6/11-14** – (Wednesday-Saturday) ABC Board of General Ministries (Continuing Education, 3 days) – no additional cost to church

**6/27-28** (Friday-Saturday) American Baptist Women Conference (Continuing Education, 1 day) – no additional cost to church

**7/7-10** (Monday-Thursday) Young Clergy Women Conference (Continuing Education, 4 days) – hotel and meals estimated at \$500

**7/11-19** (Friday-Saturday) Baptist Fellowship Camp (Continuing Education, 5 days including 1 Sunday) – applying for a scholarship to cover the costs

**7/27-8/1** (Sunday after worship-Friday) Youth Bible Camp – this is not time off as she would be going as a counselor for our youth

Discussion regarding all the continuing education going to ABC rather than UCC.

Pastor Ashley had planned to attend the annual conference for the UCC this year but it is at the same time as one of the committee she is on.

*Motion by Bob Howieson to approve the time off, seconded by Chad Kunkel. Motion passed.*

- 2) Facility Use Deposits

Kilties check should be cashed as there was an email saying it was to be donated to the church. Sheila should contact the other organizations to see if they would like us to shred the checks or return them.

a) We might want to look at putting together a facility rental manual

b) Pastor Ashley has sent a strongly worded email to the Cub Scouts regarding their rental agreement and what rooms their members are allowed to use.

- 3) Painting the Secretary's office

Sheila would like to paint the office on her own time. She would also pay for the paint.

*Motion by Lisa Shubert to approve the request, seconded by Bob Howieson. Motion passed.*

- 4) MVAC worksite  
A background check is being done on the candidate. Pastor Ashley and Sheila Samuelson would be supervisors. Work will consist of office work and janitorial work.
- 5) Keys  
David Ward and Bruce Stanton have turned in their keys to the church.  
Chad Kunkel was issued a key.
- 6) Designated Memorial Funds  
A sub-committee was formed (Ron Conrad, Chad Kunkel, Keith McCutchen, Dick Dietz) to research the designated funds and define the parameters of those funds as well as the Bank CD. They will report back next month.
- 7) Request for funds for Serteen  
*Motion by Chad Kunkel to approve the request at \$100 donation to the Serteens, seconded by Ron Conrad. Motion passed.*
- 8) Dick Dietz reviewed with the group an email from Hugo John on “Try a Tithe Week”. The Board has decided to hang on to the email for the next Stewardship Drive.
- 9) Lisa Shubert will be the Trustee representative for the month of April in counting the weekly offering with Ginny Kinzie.
- 10) The Petty Cash fund has been dissolved. If small purchases need to be made, a request for funds can be made ahead of time or the individual can make the purchase and submit a receipt for reimbursement.
- 11) Keith explained to the Board how we need to let individuals know that if they are making a cash donation to a local charity, they should make the check out to that charity (i.e. The Well or Loaves and Fishes). If they do this, they (the individual) can get the recognition for the donation otherwise, if the check is written to the church, the church ends up getting the recognition.

**Meeting Adjourned** – motion made by Bob Howieson at 9:31.

Next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Shubert, Secretary