

Local Missions



Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf is open Tuesdays from 3:00-6:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m.-noon.



Volunteers are always welcome! Please bring donations to church on the first Sunday of each month.



The Well Youth Center hours are Tuesdays-Fridays from 3:00-5:00 p.m. The mission jar will be in the back of the Sanctuary on the third Sunday of each month.

The United Church of Mapleton

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

(507) 524-3141

www.unitedchurchmapleton.org

secretary@unitedchurchmapleton.org

Our Mission:

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

Order of Worship

Sunday, April 26th, 2015

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Based on Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

One: Christ is risen!

Many: Christ is risen, indeed!

One: Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good;

Many: God's steadfast love endures forever!

One: The Lord is our strength and might;

Many: today, the Lord has become our salvation!

One: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

Many: This is God's handiwork, and it is marvelous in our eyes!

One: This is the day that the Lord has made;

All: let us rejoice and be glad in it!



***Opening Hymn**

“O God in whom All Life Begins” #388

***Prayer of Invocation**

***Gloria Patri**

Sung a whole step lower than printed in hymnal

“Glory Be to the Father” #734

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen!

***Moment of Fellowship**

Message for God’s Children

*Children are invited to attend Sunday School after the
Message for God’s Children or return to their pews. Children’s
Worship Bags are available in the back of the Sanctuary.*

Mission Moment

Worship with Tithes and Offerings

Offertory “Revive Us Again” Adult Choir

***Doxology**

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” #34

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heavenly host:

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen!

***Prayer of Dedication**

Sharing Prayer Requests and Praises

*You are invited to take a Prayer Requests and Praises
sheet from the pew rack in front of you to write your prayer
requests and praises.*

*These will be collected by the ushers in a moment and
shared with the congregation anonymously before our
Preparation for Prayer.*

Preparation for Prayer (*Moment of Silence*)

Pastoral Prayer

Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy
kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us
this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins as we forgive those
who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us
from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory
forever. Amen.

***Hymn**

“Open My Eyes, That I May See” #480

Scripture

1 John 3: 16-24 (NRSV)

One: For the Word of God in Scripture,
For the Word of God among us,
For the Word of God within us,

All: Thanks be to God!

Message

“Knowing Love”

***Closing Hymn**

“Lord, We Hear Your Word” #671

***Benediction**

*Please be mindful of others who continue to worship
through the Postlude.*

Postlude

Please rise in body or spirit.

Serving Us Today: Sunday, April 26th, 2015

Pastor—Ashley Whitaker

Lay Leader—Louise Webb

Organist—Jola Walker

Greeters—Doug and Laura Fritz

Head Usher—Dave Byram

Coffee Hour Host—Board of Christian Education

Today's Worship & Fellowship

9:00 a.m. Morning Worship (*Sanctuary*)

9:00-10:40 a.m. Nursery Childcare (*Babies-Toddlers*),

Crib/Toddler Room, upstairs

10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour (*Fellowship Hall*)

10:00 a.m. Choir Practice

9:15 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School (*PreK-5th Grade*)

Classroom A, upstairs

10:10-10:40 a.m. Youth Sunday School (*6th-12th Grade*)

Youth Lounge, upstairs

Today's **Call to Worship** is by Rev. Amy Loving and is posted on The Worship Closet website at worshipcloset.com.

The **altar flower and candle arrangement** is in sincere sympathy to the Whitaker family from The United Church of Mapleton.

The **paraments are white** during the Easter season (which is from Easter Sunday until Pentecost Sunday) to invite the church to remember that, instead of finding a sealed tomb, the women who came at dawn on Easter Sunday were surprised by an angel who announced astonishing news: "Jesus has been raised from the dead!" (Mt 28:7) The heavenly messenger invited the mourners on that day as well as Christians of all time to see the empty tomb and then go and tell the world that the Crucified One is alive!

Information from ucc.org

Worship & Care Connections

Children's Worship Bags with creative supplies are available at the back of the Sanctuary for children during worship.

The **Nursery/Toddler Room** for infants and toddlers is available throughout the morning worship service and is located at the north end of the hallway opposite the Sanctuary.

The **Family Space**, located in the Overflow Room in the back of the Sanctuary, is for our families with infants and small children. This space is available for families in addition to the nursery so that families can both see and hear what's going on in worship.

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 you or a family member 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 so that we may serve you. The church phone number is (507) 524-3141. Pastor Ashley's phone number is (507) 381-8199 and her email is pastor@unitedchurchmapleton.org.

If you have a prayer request for the **Prayer Chain**, please call **Karen Stanton at 327-8168 or Joyce Johnson at 524-3727**. Please let them know your prayer request, including the name of the person to pray for, and whether you would like your request included in the church's public prayer list or if you'd prefer the request be kept privately within the prayer chain. There is also a prayer request submission form available on the United Church website under the "Ministries" tab.

Welcome to The United Church of Mapleton!

This announcement insert includes information about upcoming church, community, and area events. Please also take advantage of the many opportunities listed here to serve our community!

This Week at The United Church of Mapleton

Sunday, April 26th, 2015

Tuesday, April 28th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Tuesday, April 28th, 1:00 p.m. Quilting

Wednesday, April 29th, 7:00 p.m. Official Board

Thursday, April 30th, 2:00-3:00 p.m. Bible Study

Planning Ahead

Tuesday, May 5th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Thursday, May 7th, 2:00-3:00 p.m. Bible Study

Monday, May 11th, 7:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship

Tuesday, May 12th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Wednesday, May 13th, 7:00 p.m. Deacons

Tuesday, May 19th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Wednesday, May 20th, 7:00 p.m. Trustees

Thursday, May 21st, 2:00-3:00 p.m. Bible Study

Tuesday, May 26th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Tuesday, May 26th, 8:00 a.m. Newsletter Articles/Reports are due

Thursday, May 28th, 2:00-3:00 p.m. Bible Study

The United Church News and Announcements

Sunday, April 26th, 2015

Easter Plants

Please pick up your Easter plants from the mail room by Sunday, May 3rd. We will dispose of them after this date. Thank you!

Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf

Next Sunday, May 3rd, 2015 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.

Sign-Up for Lay Readers and Ushers

Please sign-up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board outside the main office. Thank you in advance for your service.

If you would like more information, please contact Marian Mallory or any member of the Diaconate. There is a **Lay Readers Pronunciation Guide** available in the church office for your needs.

How to Contact Pastor Ashley

Pastor Ashley's cell phone number is (507) 381-8199 and her email is pastor@unitedchurchmapleton.org. Her usual weekly schedule includes these times and places. *Monday* Sabbath. *Tuesday* 9:00 -11:00 a.m. church office, noon-1:00 p.m. Preaching Text Study Group, 3:00-5:00 p.m. The Well Youth Center. *Wednesday* 9:00-10:30 a.m. The Windmill Restaurant (Location for Community Office Hours will change occasionally and be announced here). *Thursday* 9:00 a.m.-noon church office, 2:00-3:00 p.m. Church Bible Study. *Friday* Sermon writing. At other times, she may be making pastoral visits or be serving elsewhere in the community. Please feel free to contact her for a visit or meeting!

In Our Prayers

- The ministries of The United Church, including our local missions: The Well Youth Center, Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf
- The local, regional, and national leaders of the church, including all ministers and missionaries
- Those anticipating surgery, recovering from surgery, or undergoing medical procedures, tests, or treatments
- Those living in assisted living, a nursing home, or who are homebound, and all those who are caregivers
- Those who are grieving and mourning



Our church prayer list includes:

- Those with ongoing health concerns: Norma Baack, Hutch Cramer, Kathy Cramer, David Keller, Stan Solie, Marge Walters, Lloyd Mitchell, Jack Madsen
- Family members and loved ones who are ill
- Traveling mercies for our members, family, and friends
- All who are grieving and mourning
- The 2015 American Baptist Churches, USA Biennial Mission Summit, to be held June 26-28 in Overland Park, KS
- The 2015 United Church of Christ General Synod 30, to be held June 26-30 in Cleveland, OH

The prayers and sympathies of The United Church are extended to the family and friends of Peter Whitaker, brother of United Church member Jeff Whitaker, who passed away on April 2nd in Las Vegas, Nevada. Peter's funeral was held on Saturday, April 18th, at Calvary Baptist Church of Denver, Colorado.

The prayers and sympathies of The United Church are extended to the family and friends of John Kern, who passed away early last week. John Kern was owner-operator of Kern's Variety Store on Main Street Mapleton for many years. A funeral will be held Saturday, May 2nd, 2015 in Edgar, Wisconsin.

The prayers and sympathies of The United Church of Mapleton are extended to the family and friends of Tom Hicks, who passed away Tuesday, April 21st.

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, April 26th, 2015

Bible Study: *Blessed Are You*

This spring, our Thursday afternoon Bible Study group will be learning more about the Beatitudes through the Kergyma study, *Blessed Are You: The Beatitudes of Jesus in Scripture and in Life*.

This study has six sessions which will be held from 2:00—3:00 p.m. (please note the earlier time!) on these Thursdays: April 30, May 7, May 21, May 28, June 4, and June 11. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Ashley or the church office. As always, all are welcome!

Open House Bridal Shower

An Open House Bridal Shower for Jessica Allevan, bride to be of Joe Carey will be held Saturday, May 16 at 9:30 a.m. in the Gathering Space of St. Teresa's Church, Mapleton. The couple is registered at Target and Amazon.

Treats for Troops—Spring 2015

The community-wide project of sending packages to our servicemen and women from the Maple River Area is underway. **Please have your donations to the church by Friday, May 15th.** We will need volunteers to help pack boxes on **Saturday, May 16th**, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Mapleton, **9:00 a.m.**

A list of suggested items can be found in the narthex along with boxes to place your donated items. Nothing with chocolate or peanut butter can be shipped. Money for shipping is a welcome gift. **Including notes and letters** would be a wonderful addition!

A thank-you note and picture received from the Air Department on board the USS Michael Murphy may be viewed on the bulletin board of the church.

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, April 26th, 2015

German Dinner

Redeemer Lutheran Church will be hosting their 11th Annual German Dinner on Sunday, April 26th from 11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Adults \$12; Children 5-12 \$5; Children under 4 are Free. A flier with the full menu is posted on the bulletin board.

Garage & Bake Sale

The Beauford United Methodist church will hold a Garage & Bake Sale on Friday, May 1st from 2:00—7:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 2nd from 8:00—11:00 a.m. with a Saturday Sack Sale for \$5.00. See the posted flier for more information.

Free Community Workshop

Learn from a panel of experts while attending this program about, Legal Tools—which documents should we have in place?; Medical Assistance—how can I protect my money from the nursing home?; Funeral and Cremation Planning—explore your options and get the facts.

This workshop will be held at 2060 Commerce Drive in North Mankato, MN on Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Pre-registration is required to assist in preparation, please call (507) 388-2288 to RSVP. A poster of this workshop is posted on the bulletin board.

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Scripture for the Week: He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful. Psalm 111:4

Sunday:

Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, “You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.” Matthew 27:39–40

God of the cross, you are with us in every moment of our lives. As we journey through seasons of grief, we believe that you are weeping with us. We cling to the promise of new life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday:

Jesus said, “The Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God. I came from the Father and have come into the world; again, I am leaving the world and am going to the Father.” John 16:27–28

Most holy Lord and God, you have chosen us to be a people who are known by our love for one another. As we seek to follow the example of Jesus, teach us the way of reconciliation and peace. Amen.

Tuesday:

Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.” Luke 10:21

God of our resurrection hope, we give thanks for the living presence of Jesus and for the power of the Holy Spirit that makes us one. Reveal yourself to us this day, as we together seek to discern your will and discover you in unexpected places. Amen.

Continue

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Wednesday:

Christ says, “I am the first and the last, and the living one. I was dead, and see, I am alive forever and ever; and I have the keys of Death and of Hades.” Revelation 1:17–18

Risen Christ, we believe that you are near to us by the power of the Holy Spirit. Make us to trust in your promises to us—that no matter where we find ourselves, no matter where we’ve been, you will lead us into the future. Amen.

Thursday:

Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 15:57

Your grace is sufficient, O Christ. It is enough to satisfy our restless hearts and anxious fears. It is enough to push through all the remnants of shame and self-hate. It is enough to break down the walls of unforgiveness and prejudice. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Friday:

When you return to the Lord your God, then the Lord your God will restore you from captivity, and have compassion on you. Deuteronomy 30:2,3 (NASB)

O Lamb of God, your compassion is everlasting. Your affection is forever, and for this we give you thanks. May we journey this day in faith, believing that we are truly free indeed. Amen.

Saturday:

When the ways of people please the Lord, he causes even their enemies to be at peace with them. Proverbs 16:7

Your peace, O God, is an abundant stream. It fills us to overflowing. Teach us to share your peace with everyone. May we never be so afraid that we keep your abundance to ourselves. Amen.

Source: Moravian Daily Texts