

In Our Prayers

- The ministries of The United Church, including our local missions: The Maple River 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
- Those affected by mental illness, including anxiety and depression



Our church prayer list includes:

- Those with ongoing health concerns: Norma Baack, Kathy Cramer, Dawn Dietz, Janie Firstbrook, Aubrielle Howley, David Keller, Lloyd Mitchell, Jack Madsen, Stan Solie
- Con Birr, who is recovering from hip surgery and blood clots in the lung
- Marian Mallory's father, Bob, who is recovering from shingles

The United Church of Mapleton

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www.unitedchurchmapleton.org

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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, August 16th, 2015

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements and Campaign Update

If you are a visitor today, please fill out the welcome card in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate later in the service so that we can get to know each other!

*Call to Worship

Based on Psalm 105:1-3

One: Here, in this place,

Many: God welcomes all the dreamers as well as the doubters.

One: Here, the worriers and wanderers can call on God by name.

Many: Here, in this time, we can remember all the ways God has graced us.

One: Here, in these moments, we are reminded that God is with us always!

Many: Alleluia! Give thanks to the Lord!

One: Sing praise and tell of all God's wonderful works.

All: Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice!

***Opening Hymn**

“Come Christians, Join to Sing” #87

***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**

Service of Baptism of Braxxton Fredrick and Gavin Johnson

Please turn to the bulletin insert marked “Service of Baptism.”

Message for God’s Children

During the summer, children are invited to return to their pews or use the Family Space in the Overflow Room in the back of the Sanctuary. Children’s Worship Bags are available in the back of the Sanctuary.

Mission Moment

Pat John

Worship with Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

***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**

“Spirit of the Living God” #492

Scripture

Romans 12:9-21 (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

“Living Peaceably With All”

This summer, Pastor Ashley will be preaching a sermon series

based on The Beatitudes as found in Matthew 5:3-12.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.” (Mt 5:9)

***Closing Hymn**

“Community of Christ” #615

***Benediction**

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

Postlude

****Please rise in body or spirit.****

Serving Us Today: Sunday, August 16th, 2015

Pastor—Ashley Whitaker
Lay Reader—Joyce Johnson
Organist—Kathy Byram
Greeters—Ron and Judy Olson
Head Ushers—David and Roberta Ward
Coffee Hour Host—Youth Center

Today's Worship & Fellowship

9:00 a.m. Morning Worship with youth center collections (*Sanctuary*)
9:00-10:40 a.m. Nursery Childcare (*Babies-Toddlers*),
Crib/Toddler Room, upstairs
10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour (*Fellowship Hall*)

Today's **Call to Worship** is based on liturgy by *Psalms Anew: In Inclusive Language (Praying With the Hebrew Scriptures)* by Nancy Schreck and Maureen Leach, © St. Mary's Press, 1986 and also by Thom Shuman at
Lectionary Liturgies (lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com).

The **Altar Flower** arrangement is in memory of Louis Fritz.

The **green paraments** symbolize Ordinary Time, the longest season of the church liturgical year, which is a continuation of the Season of Epiphany that began the Sunday after Epiphany and ended with Ash Wednesday. Ordinary Time begins on the Sunday after Pentecost and ends with Reign of Christ Sunday, the Sunday before Advent begins. Since it explores the mission of the church, the traditional color for this season is green, symbolizing growth. Ordinary Time also focuses on the important issue of how we can continually grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. *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, August 16th, 2015

Tuesday, August 18th, 6:30 a.m., Men's Breakfast in GT

Tuesday, August 18th, 7:00 p.m. Structure meeting

Wednesday, August 19th, 7:00 p.m. Trustees

Wednesday, August 19th, 7:00 p.m. Board of Christian Ed

Planning Ahead

Tuesday, August 25th, 6:30 a.m., Men's Breakfast in GT

Tuesday, September 1st, 6:30 a.m., Men's Breakfast in GT

Tuesday, September 8th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Wednesday, September 9th, 7:00 p.m. Called to Care

Wednesday, September 9th, 7:30 p.m. Deacons

Monday, September 14th, 7:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship

Tuesday, September 15th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Wednesday, September 16th, 7:00 p.m. Trustees

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. Pastors' Preaching Text Study Group. *Wednesday* 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. The Windmill Restaurant (Location for Community Office Hours will change occasionally and be announced here). *Thursday* 9:00 a.m.-noon church office. *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!

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, August 16th, 2015

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.

Church World Service Kits

There continues to be a need of kits for distribution at disaster sites here in our country and around the world.

Kit shopping lists of items needed are available in the narthex . You can help with this need by picking up a list, going shopping, and dropping the items back to the church **by September 13th**. You may also help by contributing cash donations so we may purchase items to fill out kits and to cover the \$2 handling cost per kit. Thank you for caring and for your efforts!

Garden of Eatin' - Weekly Update

So far this year, the United Churches Garden of Eatin' has produced **95 lbs** of fresh raw vegetables for the Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf. Thank you to all who are helping make this much needed local mission such a success!

If you are able to help with this mission, you may harvest vegetables Mondays or Tuesdays and deliver to Loaves & Fishes by 3:00 p.m. that Tuesday. You may also harvest on Fridays or early Saturday morning to deliver to Loaves & Fishes by 9:00 a.m. that Saturday. Thank you!

Newer Nursery Toys and Books Needed

The Board of Christian Education and our nursery volunteers are working to update and refresh the nursery. We are looking for donations of new or gently used toys and books for the nursery. If you have any you would like to donate, please call the church at 524-3141, email secretary@unitedchurchmapleton.org, or speak to Pastor Ashley or Sheila Samuelson. Thank you!

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, August 16th, 2015

Service of Ordination

The Minnesota Conference of the United Church of Christ and First Congregational United Church of Christ of Mankato invite you to a Service of Ordination for **Ava Marie Adams-Morris** on Sunday, August 30th, 2015, 4:00 p.m. at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 150 Stadium Court Mankato, MN.
RSVP to 507-387-6592.

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 Maple River Youth Center: The mission jar will be in the back of the Sanctuary on the third Sunday of each month.

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Scripture for the Week: The Lord is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds. Psalm 145:13

Sunday:

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. 1 John 5:14 (NIV)

Dearest Lord, we seek your answers to our prayers always. We know that you answer us, sometimes in ways we do not expect. Lord, help us to be patient, to listen, and to understand that your will is above ours. Amen.

Monday:

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. 1 John 3:16 (NIV)

God, you gave your son for us so that our sins might be forgiven! May we honor you and work daily to increase your kingdom so others may experience your love and grace! Amen.

Tuesday:

Joyfully give thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. Colossians 1:12

Father, we give you thanks for all the joys and blessings in our lives. The presence of your beautiful creation surrounds us and we are grateful! Amen.

Wednesday:

Jesus said to the disciples, "But who do you say that I am?" Matthew 16:15

Christ our Father, you are the Great I Am! We are blessed by your presence in our lives and the greatness of your love for us. Help us to share that love with others through our actions. Amen.

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Thursday:

I am with you, says the Lord, to save you. Jeremiah 30:11

Paul wrote: I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. Philippians 1:6

Lord, you are with us always, even when we do not acknowledge you. Sometimes we think we can make our way in this world without you. Even so, you reach out and gather us in your arms, never rejecting us. Your love is awesome! Amen.

Friday:

Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with thanksgiving. Colossians 4:2

Blessed Jesus, we so often go about our days without speaking with you in prayer and praise. We ask your forgiveness for this. Help us to turn to you constantly in prayer and thanksgiving! Amen.

Saturday:

Yes, O Lord God, the Almighty, your judgments are true and just! Revelation 16:7

Oh Lord, you are God almighty. You alone are judge of our hearts and souls. May we be set free from our habit of fulfilling our own wills. May we thirst, instead, for your counsel. Amen.

Source: Moravian Daily Texts

Continue