

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
- Former President Jimmy Carter, a lifelong Baptist, who recently announced that he has cancer
- All those affected by the explosions on August 12th in Tianjin, China
- All those affected by the bombing on August 17th at Erawan Shrine in Bangkok, Thailand
- All those affected by the shooting on August 16th in Moneta, Virginia of two journalists, who died, and an interviewee, who was injured, on live television

The prayer requests and praises shared with the congregation during last week's worship service include:

Prayers:

- Of thanksgiving for the Women's Fellowship and their service at Jeni and Jeremy's wedding on August 22nd (daughter and son-in-law of Sean and Marian Mallory), and also prayers for Jeni and Jeremy as they begin their life together
- Of blessings for Berneda Ward on her birthday on August 23rd (sister of Irene Cumming)
- Of blessing for Lukas Shuck (grandson of Sharon Shuck, great-grandson of Louisa Belle Shuck) at his 5th birthday on August 21st
- For our grandson, whose mother passed away early this morning (August 23rd)

The United Church of Mapleton
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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 30th, 2015

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

A Service of Scripture, Story, and Song

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

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!

*For our Call to Worship and Litany readings, please note that regular text is read by the worship leader, **bold font** is read by the congregation, and **bold italic font** is read by all.*

*Call to Worship

Based on Psalm 96:1-4

Sing a new song to the Lord!

Let the whole earth sing to the Lord!

Sing to the Lord, and bless the name of the Lord.

Proclaim God's glorious deeds among all people.

Tell everyone about the amazing things God does.

For great is the Lord, and worthy of our praise!

Scripture

Psalm 113:1-4

Story

*Song "When Morning Gilds the Skies" #111

*Moment of Fellowship

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.

Litany

Isaiah 9:6

Jesus, we celebrate your incarnation!

“For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;

authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named

***Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*”**

Scripture

Psalm 27

Story

*Song “Fairest Lord Jesus” #123

Mission Moment

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

Litany

Galatians 6:14

Jesus, we celebrate your passion!

“May I never boast of anything

except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,

***by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.*”**

Scripture

Matthew 16:24-26

Story

*Song “In the Cross of Christ I Glory” #264

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.

Litany

1 Peter 3:22

Jesus, we celebrate your resurrection!

“Jesus Christ, who has gone into Heaven

and is at the right hand of God,

***with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.*”**

Scripture

Revelation 4:8-11

Story

*Song “All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!” #106

Litany

Mark 11:9, Luke 19:37-38

Jesus, we celebrate your glory!

“The whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God, saying,

‘Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!’”

Scripture

Psalm 145:1-12

Story

*Song “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” #96

Verses 1, 2, 3, 5

*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 30th, 2015

Lay Reader—Sean and Marian Mallory

Organist—Jola Walker

Greeters—Mabelle Larson

Head Usher—Clint Lindemann

Coffee Hour Host—Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf

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*)

Today's **Call to Worship** is based on a litany by Rev. Christine Longhurst at re-worship.blogspot.com.

All Scripture selections for readings and litanies are from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) of *The Holy Bible*.

All information for the stories related to each hymn is from www.hymnary.org and *Then Sings My Soul: 150 of the World's Greatest Hymn Stories*, written by Robert J. Morgan, published by Thomas Nelson, Inc., 2003.

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.

Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf

Sunday, September 6th, 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 on the **first Sunday** of each month.

Items For Taking

FREE! 1-DVD player, 3-computer monitors, 2-computer towers, 1-printer, 2-sets computer speakers, 2-keyboards, 1-27" TV, 1- 14" TV, 1-college refrigerator, 3-desk chairs. If you are interested in any of these items, please take a look in the basement NW room. Any questions, please talk with Sheila in the office.

Youth Center

The Maple River Youth Center is hosting an all-you-can-eat salad bar on **Tuesday, September 1st from 11:00—1:30 p.m.** Cost is \$5 and includes beverage and dessert. We would love to see you there!

American Red Cross Bloodmobile

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be coming to St. Teresa's Catholic Church **Tuesday, September 8th from 1:00-7:00 p.m.** Appointments may be made by calling Peg at 420-1286 or online at www.redcrossblood.org, enter sponsor code: MAPLETONMN.

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.

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 30th, 2015

Tuesday, September 1st, 6:30 a.m., Men's Breakfast in GT
Tuesday, September 1st, 1:00 p.m., Quilters

Planning Ahead

Tuesday, September 8th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT
Tuesday, September 8th, 1:00 p.m., Quilters

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

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

Sunday, September 13th, 9:00 a.m. Worship & Fall Fling at Daly

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

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

Tuesday, September 15th, 1:00 p.m., Quilters

Wednesday, September 16th, 6:00-7:00 p.m. G.I.F.T.

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

Thursday, September 17, 2:00-3:00 p.m. Bible Study

Sunday, September 20th, 10:00 a.m. Choir practice begins

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 23rd, 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. 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!

Volunteers for the Kits drive raised \$486.15 at the Dietz Brat Wagon! Thank you volunteers!

Called to Care and Deacons Meetings

A Called to Care meeting held Wednesday, September 9th at 7:00 p.m. The Deacons meeting will immediately follow the Called to Care meeting.

Garden of Eatin' - Weekly Update

So far this year, the United Churches Garden of Eatin' has produced **141 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!

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, August 23rd, 2015

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!

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, today, 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.

Bible Study

Thursday Bible Study group will begin meeting **September 17th from 2:00-3:00 p.m.** Our study will be on the book of Psalms. Anyone is welcome to attend. We hope to see you on September 17th!

United Church Worship & Fall Fling at Daly Park!

All are welcome to attend the United Church Worship & Fall Fling at Daly Park on **Sunday, September 13th, 9:00 a.m.** Worship will include open communion. After worship the Fall Fling will begin with taco-in-a-bag and lawn games. Please bring your favorite lawn chair and dress casually for the day!

Come and learn about our new G.I.F.T. (*Generations in Faith Together*) Christian Education for all ages to be held the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month from 6:00-7:00 p.m. (including dinner) and begins Wednesday, September 16th!

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Scripture for the Week: Jesus says, “Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life.” John 6:47

Sunday:

The Lord searches every mind, and understands every plan and thought. 1 Chronicles 28:9

Lord, we are embarrassed by the clutter in our prayer closet, but you are not. We get stuck in shame even as you offer eternal grace. Your reward is freedom from fear. Your salvation heals our duplicity. May we trust you wholly. Amen.

Monday:

Strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Matthew 6:33

You alone are worthy, Lord. Your ways bring life to the oppressed, humility to the proud, and justice to the nations. We see through a glass darkly; you see through an eternal lens. Open our eyes to your sovereign presence. Amen.

Tuesday:

The Lord said to Moses, “Assemble the people for me, and I will let them hear my words, so that they may learn to fear me as long as they live on the earth, and may teach their children to do so.”

Deuteronomy 4:10

Gracious God, we thank you for the saints that have proclaimed your salvation throughout history. Open our ears to the voice of your servant leaders today. Calm our fears. Awaken our hopes and dreams. You are God of all. Amen

Wednesday:

Therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served, and serve the Lord. Joshua 24:14

Forgive us, Lord, for in our zeal we put our trust in yesterday’s faith. We cling to tradition and stability rather than your living, transforming presence. Save us from the false god of predictability. Instill in us the courage to seek you anew this day. Amen.

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Thursday:

We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him. Romans 8:28 (NIV)

Holy Spirit, fall fresh on your church. Empower us to overcome timid hearts and divisive tongues. In all things may your love reign. Amen.

Friday:

Jesus prays, “I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one.” John 17:15

Gracious God, under your wings we find comfort and protection. Though storms may come we know that we are in your loving care. Evil is real, but is no match for your resurrection power. We pray to put our trust in you always. Amen.

Saturday:

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Hebrews 13:7

God of history and eternity, we praise you for the inspired lives of those upon whose shoulders we stand. Empower us to also live lives of courage and practical faith. May you be glorified. In Christ’s name. Amen.

Source: Moravian Daily Texts

Continue