

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.

Loaves & Fishes “Love Item”

Each month, The United Church features a “love item” of special focus for members to donate to Loaves & Fishes. This helps stock the shelves at Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf and helps increase our giving to this worthy and much needed mission in our own town. **Our Love Item for January is soup!**

The American Heart Association recommends adults consume eight or more servings of fruits and vegetables every day, and soups can contribute to that total. Soups made with beans and lean meats such as chicken provide lean protein and fiber. Vegetables in soup contain many vitamins, such as B, K, A, and C. Cream soups supply calcium and vitamin D.

(Source: livestrong.com)

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, January 11th, 2015

The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

One: In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth, breathing life into the chaos.

Many: Our God is great! Our God is good!

One: God said “Let there be light.” And there was light.

Many: Praise Jesus our Christ who is the light of the world.

One: Your Beloved Son, with whom you are well pleased was baptized in the waters of the Jordan.

Many: O God, we strive to please you each day of our lives.

One: Help us to remember the Baptismal covenant sealed with water and with the Holy Spirit.

All: Let us all worship God!

***Opening Hymn**

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” #154

***Prayer of Invocation**

“When the Song of the Angels is Stilled”

All: Let us do the work of Christ!

***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

Kathy Kunkel

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**

“On Jordan’s Banks the Baptist’s Cry” #156

Scripture

Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11 (NRSV)

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

All: Thanks be to God!

Message

“John the Baptist”

***Closing Hymn**

“Lord of the Dance” #118

***Benediction**

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

Postlude

Please rise in body or spirit.

Serving Us Today: Sunday, January 11th, 2015

Pastor—Ava Adams-Morris

Lay Leader—Laura Fritz

Organist—Jola Walker

Greeters—Stan and Linda Whitney

Head Usher—Bob Shubert

Coffee Hour Host—The Well Youth Center

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 Fellowship (*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

The reading "When the Song of the Angels is Stilled" is by
Howard Thurman

The **paraments are green** following Epiphany to signify the theme established on Epiphany Sunday: the spread of the Good News of Jesus Christ to all nations on earth. The theme of this season continues in the season after Pentecost, so both seasons together can be called the "Ordinary Time of the Church." The traditional liturgical color for this season, green, is the color of growth. *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.

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, Shirley Bowen, Benjamin Brockmann, Hutch Cramer, Kathy Cox, Dawn Dietz, Jodie Gerds, David Keller, Stan Solie, Alberta Samuelson, Marge Walters, Jonathan Ziert, Isaac Kolstad
- 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
- Dawn Dietz, who continues in chemotherapy treatments. Dawn was hospitalized earlier this week with tachycardia (high heart rate), but treatment for it went well and she is now recovering at home.
- Warren and Cindy Allevan's daughter, Christina, who gave birth to her daughter, Olivia, on Tuesday, December 30 with some complications in Rochester; now mother and baby are both doing very well.
- All those affected by the presumed crash of AirAsia Flight QZ8501 on December 27 while en route between Indonesia and Singapore with 162 people on board.

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

Prayers:

- For the family and friends of Keith Etherington, who passed away on December 28, 2014

Thanksgiving:

- To God at the birth of a granddaughter, born December 30, 2014

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, January 11th, 2015

Monday, January 12th, 7:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship meeting at the home of Pat John

Tuesday, January 13th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Wednesday, January 14th, 7:00 p.m. Deacons

Saturday, January 17th, 9:00 a.m. Kilties

Planning Ahead

Sunday, January 18th, 10:00 a.m. Annual Meeting

Tuesday January 20th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Wednesday, January 21st, 7:00 p.m. Trustees

Saturday, January 24th, 9:00 a.m. Kilties

Tuesday, January 27th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

The Well Youth Center

Sunday, January 11th, 2015 the **Coffee Hour** will go towards helping support our local youth at The Well Youth Center and on **January 18th** the **Collection jar** will go to support The Well Youth Center. Date change is due to our Annual meeting.

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

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, January 11th, 2015

Women's Fellowship

The Women's Fellowship meeting for **Monday, January 12th, 7:00 p.m.** will be held at the home of Pat John. All are welcome to attend!

Annual Congregational Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the United Church of Mapleton will be held in the Fellowship Hall **Sunday, January 18th, 2015** immediately following our regular Sunday Morning Worship Service. At this meeting we will review the 2014 Financials, approve the 2015 Budget and approve the 2015 Committees and Boards.

Other business can be considered at this time, please inform the Moderator if you wish to place an item on the agenda.

Everyone is invited to participate. There will be a meal served by the Women's Fellowship.

Please submit your annual reports to the church office **no later than Wednesday, January 7th, 2015**. Thank you for your consideration.

Youth Sunday School Teacher Needed

Beginning in January, the Youth Group will need a Sunday School teacher for the duration of Pastor Ashley's family leave (about twelve weeks). A user-friendly curriculum, *Nooma*, will be provided. *Nooma* is a series of short videos on DVD about faith and life with discussion questions included. If you're able and willing to help out with this important ministry, please let Pastor Ashley, the church office, or Liz Bair (Chair, Board of Christian Education) know. This opportunity can easily be divided between several volunteers so that one person is not responsible for all twelve weeks. Thank you for your prayerful consideration!

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, January 11th, 2015

Youth Summer Camp Adult Leaders Needed

Our Youth had a great time at Youth Summer Camp last year! We hope to be able to send a group of Youth to camp again this summer. However, Pastor Ashley and Jeff will not be able to go with our Youth as Adult Leaders this year. Is God calling you to help our Youth ministry thrive in this important way?

We will likely go to camp at Pilgrim Point Camp in Alexandria, MN again this year, since we had such a good experience last year. Summer Youth Camp is one week long (Sunday afternoon—Friday lunch) and will either be July 19-24, July 26-31, or August 8-14. Adult Leaders help not only as chaperones, but also as small group leaders for spiritual formation, education, fun, and fellowship. The United Church will pay the registration free for any Adult Leaders that are willing to volunteer their time and talents this summer. Thank you for your prayerful consideration!

Greetings from Maple River Loaves & Fishes!

2014 was an amazing year, with challenges and enormous growth. Maple River Loaves & Fishes served 232 different families at least once this year.

Here are our final numbers for the year: 1159 actual visits, 137,599 pounds of food, 141 Thanksgiving Boxes, and 145 Christmas Boxes.

Finally, we finished the year nearly even in spending and donations. An awesome feat when you consider the amount of food that was handed out. We thank the Lord for this community and churches! Without so many of you, MRLF could not help feed those needy families in our area. If you have not been to the food shelf recently, please see your board member and volunteer. You will be so glad that you did!

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Scripture for the Week: But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. Galatians 4:4-5

Sunday:

The one who was seated on the throne said, "To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life." Revelation 21:5,6

Source of living water, refresh and renew us we pray. Transform the dry, parched places of our lives so that we may bloom with your abundant life. Amen.

Monday:

Now begin the work, and the Lord be with you. 1 Chronicles 22:16

Lord, you who have begun a good work in us, may we be faithful to complete it. Guide us through trials and danger to complete the work to which you have called us. Amen.

Tuesday:

Rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. James 1:21

Holy One, guide us in your way, lead us back when we stray from the path you set before us and renew us with your presence, we pray. Amen.

Wednesday:

If riches increase, do not set your heart on them. Psalm 62:10

Christ Jesus, our Savior, we have received the greatest gift of all in you, yet we are often distracted by the pursuit of earthly riches. Help us to instead live lives of faithfulness and gratitude to you who has given us treasure beyond compare. Amen.

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Thursday:

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy. Titus 3:4-5

O most merciful God, thank you for your gifts of grace and forgiveness freely given not because of what we have done, but because of who you are. Help us to live more fully in the light of your love. Amen.

Friday:

I will set up over them one shepherd and he shall feed them. Ezekiel 34:23

Gentle Shepherd, we hunger for what only you can provide. Feed us and fill us we pray. Amen.

Saturday:

The Lord your God has been with you; you have lacked nothing. Deuteronomy 2:7

Be thankful. Colossians 3:15

Lord, we give you thanks for a new year's beginning. You continue to bless us with exactly what we need, reminding us to stay grateful. Thank you, gracious Lord. Amen.

Source: Moravian Daily Texts

Continue