

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

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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, January 18th, 2015

The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Based on Psalm 139 from the New Century Hymnal

One: O God, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.

Many: Search me, O God, and know my heart.

One: Where can I go from your Spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

Many: Search me, O God, and know my heart.

One: I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

Many: Search me, O God, and know my heart.

One: Praise God's name!

All: Let us all worship God!

***Opening Hymn**

“Breathe on Me, Breath of God” #461

***Prayer of Invocation**

“Prayer of an Unknown Indonesian Author 1983”

All: Listen to the call of God!

***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

Jeanette Brandt

Worship with Tithes and Offerings

Offertory “Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus 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**

“The Summons” #350

Scripture

John 1:43-51; Mark 1:14-20 (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

“Will You Follow Me?”

***Closing Hymn**

“Take My Life and Let It Be” #466

***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 18th, 2015

Preacher—Ava Adams-Morris

Lay Leader—Marian Mallory

Organist—Jola Walker

Greeters—Doug and Laura Fritz

Head Usher—Bob Shubert

Coffee Hour Host—Women's Fellowship

Today's Worship & Fellowship

9:00 a.m. Morning Worship with The Well Mission Jar Collection

(Sanctuary)

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

Crib/Toddler Room, upstairs

10:00 a.m. Annual Meeting with meal served by the Women's

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 "Prayer of an Unknown Indonesian Author 1983" is from *Imaging the Word Vol. 3*.

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 30th with some complications in Rochester; now mother and baby are both doing very well.
- All those affected by the disappearance 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:

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 18th, 2015

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

Planning Ahead

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

Tuesday, February 3rd, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Wednesday, February 4th, 7:00 p.m. Board of Christian Ed

Monday, February 9th, 7:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship

Tuesday, February 10th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Wednesday February 11th, 7:00 p.m. Deacons

Tuesday, February 17th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Tuesday, February 17th, 5:30 p.m. Ambience-Lent decor work day

Wednesday, February 18th, 7:00 p.m. Trustees

Tuesday, February 24th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

The Well Youth Center

Today, January 18th the Mission Jar Collection will go to support The Well Youth Center.

The United Church supports this mission in this way each month.

The Voice Newsletter

Please submit your reports/articles for the February newsletter to the church office **by Tuesday, January 27th, 2015**. Thank you!

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, January 18th, 2015

Annual Congregational Meeting—Today!

The Annual Meeting of the United Church of Mapleton will be held in the Fellowship Hall **today, 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.

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

Family Leave Announcement

As of today, I am beginning my family leave. I plan to return to preaching, worship leadership, and ministry at The United Church on Sunday, April 12th. Until then, Ava Adams-Morris will be serving as your Family Leave Interim Minister.

Ava's home phone number is (507) 243-3891, her cell is (507) 380-7233, and her email address is kreolelady@aol.com. In her role as interim minister, Ava will provide both preaching and worship leadership as well as a few hours of pastoral care each week. If you or a family member have a pastoral care need, are having a surgery or medical treatment, or would appreciate a visit for any reason, please let Ava know!

Jeff and I will not be attending worship at The United Church during my family leave. We know that you would be more than happy to see us, care for us, and celebrate with us during this exciting time. We plan to take these first three months together as a family to nurture our new relationships together, but know that we truly look forward to introducing our son to you when we return to United Church life in April. Until then, please know that your prayers and well wishes are the most wonderful support you can offer us.

Blessings, Pastor Ashley Whitaker

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, January 18th, 2015

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!

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!

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Scripture for the Week: Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. Isaiah 60:1

Sunday:

Through Jesus Christ we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. Romans 5:2 (NIV)

Heavenly God, we put our hope and trust in you and we are thankful for all that you do. Although we are undeserving, you give us grace; help us to share that grace with those we meet today and forever. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Monday:

Turn my heart to your decrees, and not to selfish gain. Psalm 119:36

One's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions. Luke 12:15

Lord, we are thankful for your patience with us. Renew us today for your service and remind us that our possessions are not as important as you are. We lift up our belongings, time, and talents to you, Lord. Amen.

Tuesday:

Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Matthew 6:12 (NKJV)

O Lord our God, you who are unseen are able to see all. Forgive us for forgetting that you know what we need before we can even ask. Keep our hearts open to sharing your forgiveness with the world. Thank you, Lord. Amen.

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Wednesday:

I give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have exalted your name and your word above everything. Psalm 138:2

Precious Lord, encourage us to love and serve you as we ought, not to serve ourselves but those around us. Continue to show us your faithfulness so we, your church, can do your will. Thank you, Lord. Amen.

Thursday:

You are God's own people in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. 1 Peter 2:9

Light of the world, thank you for responding to us in our time of need. We declare ourselves to your holy way. Help us respond to others and proclaim your amazing grace. Amen.

Friday:

O Lord, open my lips, that my mouth may declare your praise. Psalm 51:15 (NASB)

Lord, may the words on our lips declare your praise and may the thoughts of our minds be pleasing to you. Give us the strength we need to be your disciples. God, we give you the glory. Amen.

Saturday:

Stand up and tell them everything that I command you. Jeremiah 1:17

Gracious God, give us the strength, energy, and words we need to stand up throughout this world today. You are our motivation and we are prepared to answer your call. You are our only Lord and Savior. Amen.

Source: Moravian Daily Texts

Continue