

Service Notes

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.*

The **Nursery/Toddler Room** for infants and toddlers is available throughout the morning worship service and is located at the end of the hallway opposite the Sanctuary. Sunday School is available for children PreK– 5th grade after the Message for God’s Children, and children can meet their teachers at the back of the Sanctuary at that time. Children’s Worship Bags with creative supplies are available in the back of the Sanctuary for children during worship.

How to Contact Pastor Ashley

My office hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to noon. In the afternoon, I may be in the office, or I may be out in the community for pastoral care or outreach. If you’d like to stop by to visit another time, just email or call. Monday and Saturday are my days off.

My email address is: pastor@unitedchurchmapleton.org. If I’m not in the office, my phone number is (507) 381-8199.

Pastoral Care Connections

If you or a family member is ill, in the hospital, is homebound, 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 to let us know so that we may serve you.

The church phone number is (507) 524-3141 and Pastor Ashley’s phone number is (507) 381-8199. Thank you!

The United Church of Mapleton

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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 19th, 2014

Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Based on Isaiah 49:1-7

One: Come and hear! Come and see!

Many: God has given us work to do.

One: God has called each of us before we were even born.

Many: It was God who named us.

One: The light of God’s love shines in us.

All: Let’s shine God’s love into all the world!

*Opening Hymn

“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise” #243

Serving Us Today: Sunday, January 19th, 2014

Pastor—Rev. Ashley Whitaker

Lay Leader—Hugo John

Organist—Jola Walker

Greeters—Robert and Virginia Clark

Head Usher—Robert Shubert

Coffee Hour Host—Women's Fellowship

About Today's Worship & Fellowship

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

9:00-10:30 a.m. Nursery Childcare (*Babies-Toddlers*),

Crib/Toddler Room, upstairs

9:15-10:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School

(*PreK-1st Grade*), Classroom A, upstairs

(*2nd-5th Grade*), Classroom E, downstairs

10:00 a.m. Annual Meeting and Potluck (*Fellowship Hall*)

Our **Scripture Response** honors the ways in which we know and receive the Word of God: through Scripture, in community, and through our personal faith in God. Thanks be to God!

Our **Call to Worship** today was written by Laura Jaquith Bartlett at ministrymatters.com.

In Our Prayers

- The ministries of The United Church, including our local missions: The Well Youth Center, Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf
- The leaders of our church: local, regional, and national
- The ministers and missionaries of the world
- Those anticipating surgery, recovering from surgery, or undergoing medical procedures, tests, or treatments
- Those living in assisted living or in a nursing home
- Those who are homebound and those who are caregivers
- Our church prayer list includes:
 - Those with ongoing health concerns: Bill Brice, Stan Solie, Alberta Samuelson, Lorraine Stanton
 - Family members and loved ones who are ill
 - Traveling mercies for our members, family, and friends
 - All those who are grieving and mourning
 - Pastor Deb Celley of First Congregational UCC of Mankato, who is undergoing radiation for two kinds of cancer (b-cell lymphoma and Burkett's lymphoma). We pray for Pastor Deb and her family (husband Richard and daughters Julia and Jennifer)
 - Bruce Stanton, who continues to recover from surgery on his ribs after a fall
 - For Norma Baack, who continues to recover from a fall and recent hospitalization
 - Kathie Treanor, who is recovering at Country Neighbors from a recent fall at work

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 19th, 2014

Sunday, January 19th, 10:00 a.m. Annual Meeting

Monday, January 20th, 6:30—8:00 p.m. Cub Scouts

Tuesday, January 21st, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Wednesday, January 22nd, 1:00 p.m. Quilting

Wednesday, January 22nd, 7:00—8:00 p.m. Confirmation

Thursday, January 23rd, 3:00—4:00 p.m. Bible Study

Saturday, January 25th, 9:00—11:30 a.m. Kilties

Planning Ahead

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

Wednesday, January 29th, 1:00 p.m. Quilting

Wednesday, January 29th, 7:00—8:00 p.m. Confirmation

Thursday, January 30th, 3:00—4:00 p.m. Bible Study

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, January 19th, 2014

Today's Annual Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held following our regular Sunday morning worship service on **January 19th, 2014**, to review the 2013 Financials, approve the 2014 Budget, and to approve the 2014 Committees and Boards.

Everyone is invited to participate. There will be a Potluck Dinner served by the Women's Fellowship. **Please bring a dish to pass!**

The Well Youth Center

The Collection jar, at the back of the sanctuary, will go towards helping support our local youth at The Well Youth Center.

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

Mapleton Community Home/Heritage Place

Due to the increasing number of residents at our Heritage Place facility, we are no longer able to continue holding Sunday Breakfasts on the first Sunday of each month. Thank you for your past support.

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, January 19th, 2014

Community Closet

The Community Closet thrift store, located above the Plaid Piper in Mapleton, will continue to be open on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. We will be continuing to offer the \$3 bag sale on clothing and shoes. In doing so, we are able to have a faster turnover in merchandise so the customers will have new things to look at regularly. We accept donations of gently used clothing of all sizes and shoes in good condition, as well as household goods, linens, toys, games, puzzles and books. If you are able, please take your donations to the top of the stairs by the door. Sorry, we can not accept any electronics or furniture (unless it is very small). Come in and take a look at items that are the lowest prices anywhere.

If you would like to volunteer as a worker at the Closet, we are there every Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. and can always use your help.

If you have a non-profit group that would like to take advantage of profits from the Closet, please call Gay Rice at (507) 524-4040 for more information..

Sunday Morning Wheelchair Assistance

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 it is too difficult for you to push a wheelchair up the ramp, please feel free to contact an Usher or Deacon for assistance.

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Scripture for the Week: A bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. Isaiah 42:3

Sunday:

Remember me, O Lord, with the favor you have toward your people. O, visit me with your salvation. Psalm 106:4

Savior of us all, we as children of God often fail to follow you and are guilty of our sins. We nonetheless bow our heads and pray for your salvation. We ask forgiveness for our sins known and unknown, spoken and unspoken, done and undone. Amen.

Monday:

Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. Ephesians 6:14-15

Protect us Holy God, as we stand in this world equipped with your holy word. Order our steps as we go forth into our communities to proclaim your divine majesty. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Tuesday:

Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy: "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them." Luke 1:67-68

God, we have done nothing to deserve the favor that you shower upon us. Even in our disobedience your forgiveness is always at hand. We are only redeemed through your love and grace. Amen.

Wednesday:

Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Romans 12:10

God of grace and love, although we are burdened with our own trials and troubles, we pray for others so all of us may receive with joy and thanksgiving your love, mercy, and grace. Let all the people say: Amen.

Continue

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Thursday:

Real love isn't our love for God, but his love for us. God sent his Son to be the sacrifice by which our sins are forgiven. 1 John 4:10

What a wonderful and awesome God we serve! You sacrificed your pure and sinless son for the sake of the world. We cannot thank you enough. Accept our praise, love, devotion, and worship for we can never, ever repay this debt. Glory and honor to you, Lord. Amen.

Friday:

Why, O Lord, do you stand far off? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble? Psalm 10:1

When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." John 11:32

Savior, you are our comforter and sustainer. Help us never to forget that you are always present as we walk through life. Let us keep our hearts fixed on you, God, our partner in life, always there in our times of greatest need. Amen.

Saturday:

"I will not hide my face from them anymore; for I shall have poured out my Spirit on the house of Israel," says the Lord God. Ezekiel 39:29

Ever-present Savior, you are the mirror in which we see our own reflections. Thank you for the opportunity to see your goodness in all of earth's people. Let our faces reflect the kindness and mercy that you bestow upon us daily. We pray that all may see your image within us. Amen.

Source: Moravian Daily Texts

