

In Our Prayers

- The ministries of The United Church, including our local missions: 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



Our church prayer list includes:

- Those with ongoing health concerns: Norma Baack, Dawn Dietz, Janie Firstbrook, Aubrielle Howley, David Keller, Stan Solie, Lloyd Mitchell, Jack Madsen
- Family members and loved ones who are ill
- Traveling mercies for our members, family, and friends
- All who are grieving and mourning
- Con Birr, who recently had hip surgery, experienced blood clots in the lung, and is now recovering in the ICU in Rochester

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

Prayers:

- For our church family to grow in membership; that God may give us the tools and faith to invite all to join our fellowship in faith

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, July 19th, 2015
Eighth 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 78:1-4

One: Come, people of God!

Let's celebrate the story of our God:

**Many: stories of compassion and mercy,
stories of redemption and love!**

Stories we've heard many times before
and passed down from generation to generation

**so that God's people never forget
the wonderful things the Lord has done!**

People of God, open wide your hearts!

All: Let's praise God together!

***Opening Hymn**

“If My People’s Hearts Are Humbled” #383

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**

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

Jeanette Brandt

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**

“Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord” #455

Scripture

Philippians 2:1-11 (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

“The Mind of Christ”

This summer, Pastor Ashley will be preaching a sermon series based on The Beatitudes as found in Matthew 5:3-12.

“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.” (Mt 5:5)

***Closing Hymn**

“May the Mind of Christ, My Savior” #464

***Benediction**

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

Postlude

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

Serving Us Today: Sunday, July 19th, 2015

Pastor—Ashley Whitaker

Lay Reader—Pam Foster

Organist—Jola Walker

Greeter—Mabelle Larson

Head Ushers—Delbert and Ella Conrad

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 by Christine Longhurst at re-worship.blogspot.com.

The **flowers on the altar** are in honor of Sean and Marian Mallory.

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.

Local Missions

Challenge Yourself to End Hunger / Loaves & Fishes

We see an increase in child visits during the summer. When school is out for summer vacation, many children miss out on free school meals and their families turn to us for support.

Last July Maple River Loaves and Fishes had 115 families visit. You can make a difference this year, by donating throughout the month of July.

The more you donate, the larger our food shelf's grant from Open Your Heart to the Hungry and Homeless will be. The challenge funds will proportionally match your donation. Your donation will go farther due to our buying power. For every \$1 you donate, we can purchase \$10 worth of food from our food bank. Thank you Open Your Heart to the Hungry and Homeless and Hunger Solutions Minnesota.

You can help in a number of ways:

1. Mail a donation to: Maple River Loaves and Fishes, PO Box 227, Mapleton, MN 56065.
2. Stop by our food shelf, which is located in the back of St. John's Lutheran Church in Mapleton. Our hours are Tuesdays from 3:00-6:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:00-noon.
3. Volunteer your time. Ask for the board member at your local church. Thank you!

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.

July hours: Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 1:00—4:00 p.m. Activity: "Models" will be held every third Thursday 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, July 19th, 2015

Sunday, July 19th, 1:30 p.m. Bridal Shower for Amber Wilde
Tuesday, July 21st, 6:30 a.m., Men's Breakfast in GT
Tuesday, July 21st, 8:00 a.m. Newsletter articles/reports due
Wednesday, July 22nd, 7:00 p.m. Board of Christian Education
Saturday, July 25th, 6:05 p.m Moon Dogs Game

Planning Ahead

Sunday, July 26th—Thursday, July 30th, 6:15—8:15 p.m. VBS at St. Teresa and St. John churches
Tuesday, July 28th, 6:30 a.m., Men's Breakfast in GT

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, July 19th, 2015

Youth Center

Today, Sunday, July 19th, our Mission Jar and Coffee Hour collections will go to support the local youth center.

Bridal Shower Invitation

You are cordially invited to attend a Bridal Shower honoring Amber Wilde, bride to be of Kyle Fritz on **Sunday, July 19th at 1:30 p.m.** at the United Church Fellowship Hall. Amber is registered at Target and Kohl's. The couple would also enjoy receiving Menards gift cards. Amber would like to have you bring a favorite recipe.

UCM at the Mankato MoonDogs!

Come cheer on the Mankato Moon Dogs and enjoy some summer fun and fellowship with your church family on **Saturday, July 25th at 6:05 p.m.!** Discounted reserved seating tickets are available by signing up on the sheet in the Fellowship Hall or by contacting the church office (524-3141). **Sign ups will close after worship on Sunday, July 19th.**



Tickets are \$5 each, or a ticket and meal deal combo (hot dog, chips, soda) is \$10 each. All are welcome!

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, July 19th, 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.

Vacation Bible School

Ecumenical Vacation Bible School will be held **Sunday, July 26th through Thursday, July 30th from 6:15—8:15 p.m.** at St. Teresa and St. John's church. Youth who have completed grades Kin—5th in 2014-2015 are invited to attend. Please pick up a registration form posted on the church office bulletin board or pick up a registration form at one of the local businesses throughout the community.

Mapleton VFW Auxiliary Annual Pillow Cleaning

The Mapleton VFW Auxiliary will sponsor the Annual Pillow Cleaning on **Friday, August 7th from 7:00 a.m.—3:00 a.m.** at the VFW building on Main Street, Mapleton. You may also drop off your pillows on Thursday, August 6th from 5:00—7:00 p.m. Feather and polyester pillows can be cleaned with new ticking.

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Scripture for the Week: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end. Lamentations 3:22

Sunday:

Rise up, O God, plead your cause. Psalm 74:22

O Ancient of Days, there are times we grow frustrated with your answers. Please forgive us our impatience and ingratitude. Fill us with peace so that our hearts can let go of negativity. Although we may not always agree or understand, help us to know that you answer in love. Amen.

Monday:

The Lord your God turned the curse into a blessing for you, because the Lord your God loved you. Deuteronomy 23:5

Savior, you demonstrated your immense love for us when you sent your only son to save us. Thank you for forgiving us and believing that we could be redeemed. Help us to love and forgive others as you have done for us. Amen.

Tuesday:

The Lord is faithful; he will strengthen you and guard you from the evil one. 2 Thessalonians 3:3

Almighty God, you are our refuge and strength. There is nothing to fear when you are near. Forgive us when we forget such faith during troubled times. We pray to remain steadfast in our love and faithfulness to you. Amen.

Wednesday:

Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces? Jeremiah 23:29

Jesus said, "I came to bring fire to the earth." Luke 12:49

Lord, let us focus on your word as you guide us through life to do what you would have us do. Give us strength and knowledge that your word is our unchanging guide. Amen.

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Thursday:

O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you.

Psalm 63:1

Christ says, "To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life." Revelation 21:6

Heavenly Father, you provide the living water we need to sustain us through each day and each situation we face. Your life-giving stream restores us. Amen.

Friday:

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:7

Great Protector, shelter us from the storms of life, give us refuge in times of trial, and fill us with the peace that surpasses all understanding. Amen.

Saturday:

O Lord my God, in you I take refuge; save me from all my pursuers, and deliver me. Psalm 7:1

Dearest Lord, you are our refuge and strength throughout life. Help us to know this and to help others to know your love. Amen.

Source: Moravian Daily Texts

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