

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
- 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 the Tuesday Morning Men's Breakfast Fellowship as they serve in the Dietz Brat Stand to continue to support Lloyd Mitchell

Thanksgiving:

- To God for a joyful celebration with many family and friends for my father's 90th birthday
- To God for the love and support of many family and friends

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, July 26th, 2015
Ninth 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 121

One: I lift my eyes up to the mountains,
from where does my help come?

**Many: My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.**

One: We look not to the mountains or valleys,
even heaven or earth,

Many: for God is found among us.

One: Wherever two or three are gathered in Christ's name,

Many: God is here among us.

One: Let us worship the God of Creation.

Many: Let us follow Jesus, for Jesus is The Way.

One: Let us seek after the Holy Spirit, our eternal sustainer.

All: Let us worship together in faith!

***Opening Hymn**

“Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above” #56

***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

Pat John

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**

“How Firm a Foundation” #411

Scripture

Isaiah 58:3-7; Romans 4:1-5 (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

“Christ-like Righteousness”

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

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled..” (Mt 5:6)

***Closing Hymn**

“For the Healing of the Nations” #621

***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 26th, 2015

Pastor—Ashley Whitaker

Lay Reader—David Ward

Organist—Jola Walker

Greeters—David and Roberta Ward

Head Ushers—Emmit Johnson and Sharon Shuck

Coffee Hour Host—Board of Christian Education

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 by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell at rev-o-lution.org.

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 26th, 2015

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

Planning Ahead

Tuesday, August 4th, 6:30 a.m., Men's Breakfast in GT

Monday, August 10th, 7:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship

Tuesday, August 11th, 6:30 a.m., Men's Breakfast in GT

Wednesday, August 12th, 7:00 p.m. Deacons

Tuesday, August 18th, 6:30 a.m., Men's Breakfast in GT

Wednesday, August 19th, 7:00 p.m. Trustees

Tuesday, August 25th, 6:30 a.m., Men's Breakfast in GT

Tuesday, September 1st, 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 26th, 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.

Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf

Next Sunday, August 2nd, 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.

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!

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, July 26th, 2015

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.

Council for International Educational Exchange

CIEE is looking for host families from the Maple River area for the 2015-16 school year. Our students come from over 55 countries. They are between ages of 15-18. These students have 3 or more years of English language study, come with insurance and spending money. Students are also supported by a local coordinator and 24/7 support staff. Students are still available for this coming school year. Please consider opening your home to a student for a 10 month stay. **Please contact Melissa Decker at 507-382-3980 or ciee.org/host.**

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Scripture for the Week: You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God. 1 Peter 1:23

Sunday:

Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. Luke 15:4-5

Faithful Shepherd, in those times when our faith waivers and we fall away, we know you will find us and lead us back to the flock. Help us always to feel your love and grace. Give us shelter from life's storms and from our own lukewarmness. Amen.

Monday:

Peace, peace, to the far and the near, says the Lord; and I will heal them. Isaiah 57:19

Christ, you are our peace; on this we can depend. Amen.

Tuesday:

Christ was faithful as a Son over his house—whose house we are, if we hold fast our confidence and the boast of our hope firm until the end. Hebrews 3:6 (NASB)

God, we know you hear our prayers and that you walk with us through all we face. Help us to trust in you and to feel your enveloping love as we face life's challenges. Amen.

Wednesday:

We declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us. 1 John 1:3

Lord, we join together in fellowship as the family of God to praise and glorify your name. Help us to include others within our community so they, too, can come to know you. Amen.

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Thursday:

Do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength. Nehemiah 8:10

Father, we rejoice and sing your praise! You are our strength and stay as we seek your blessings and guidance throughout our days. Lord, be with us. Amen.

Friday:

Jesus said to the disciples, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." John 20:21

Most gracious Lord and God, your peace surrounds us day and night. Help us to share that peace and love with others as we go about your work in our daily lives. Amen.

Saturday:

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:2

Lord, help us to discern your will for our lives. Help us to do what you would have us do as we encounter temptation and strife. Amen.

Source: Moravian Daily Texts

Continue