

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, July 3rd, 2016

Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf

Today, Sunday, July 3rd, 2016 we will collect donations for the Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf.

Call to Ministry and Ministry Table

Beginning the first Sunday of June, if you would like to share a Call to Ministry at the beginning of worship, please be in touch with Marissa Pfeffer or the church office no later than Wednesday evening before that Sunday. The same timeline is requested for bulletin or Ministry Table information. The Call to Ministry time will be reserved for one announcement that is both informational and a call to action and should be directly related to The United Church of Mapleton's mission and ministry.

The Ministry Table in the entryway (next to the East doors and the Sanctuary doors) will have information about church ministry opportunities, sign-ups, and community events. Some information will be moved from the bulletin or from the bulletin board in the hallway to this table for easier, more prominent access.

Call to Ministry Sunday, July 10th-Jeannie Jackson
Foster Care Home

Jeannie Jackson and her husband are a foster care home for young girls in the Albert Lea area. They currently have 8 girls within their home 24/7 and provide respite care for 2 other girls. I found out about this home from a young friend of mine who let me know about the girls limited resources and need for personal items. My hope is that our church, who always shows so much love and compassion to those in their time of need, may help this home and the girls in any way we can through Christ's love and may we continue a long-term connection. Thank you! Sheila

More announcements on the Ministry Table.
Check it out today!

The United Church of Mapleton
Order of Worship

Sunday, July 3rd, 2016
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Our Mission:

The United Church of Mapleton is a Christian fellowship of mission, worship, and faith formation dedicated to the Maple River community.

*The * symbolizes an invitation to rise in body or spirit.*

Prelude

Welcome

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 Ministry

***Call to Worship**

Based on Psalm 30

One: Give thanks to the Lord, faithful ones!

Many: Sing praises to the Lord, all people!

Lord, in our troubles, we pray to you,
and we cry out to your holy name.

**We know that tears may linger for the night,
but your joy comes with the morning.**

God, you turn our mourning to dancing,

and our deep grief into eternal joy.

Our souls will praise you and not be silent!

All: O Lord our God, we will give you thanks forever!

***Opening Hymn**

"Great is Thy Faithfulness" #72

***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!

***Sharing Grace and Peace**

One: God's Word is a word of forgiveness, assurance, and grace.

Many: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

One: Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

Many: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us greet one another in fellowship.

Message for God's Children

After the Message for God's Children, all children may return to their pews, use the Family Space in the Overflow Room in the back of the Sanctuary, or use the Nursery if they are younger than Kindergarten age. Worship Bags, "The Sunday Paper" coloring pages, and Ministry Card making kits are available in the back of the Sanctuary.

Invitation to Worship Through 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 momentarily and shared with the congregation anonymously before our Preparation for Prayer.

Preparation for Prayer (Moment of Silence)

Prayers of the People

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**

"Spirit of the Living God" #492

Scripture

2 Kings 5:1-14 (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

"To Work for God"

Communion Service

At The United Church of Mapleton, the Communion Table is open to all without restriction. This is not our table, but it is God's, and it is open to all of God's children.

Today, we will participate in Communion by intinction.

Intinction is the practice of coming forward to the front of the Sanctuary, taking a piece of bread from the loaf, dipping it into the cup of juice, and receiving the elements at that time. The piece of bread you will receive is intentionally large to allow for sanitary dipping into the common cup.

If you request that the elements to be brought to you in your pew, simply let a Hospitality Team member (usher/greeter) know during the Communion Service and the servers will come to you. All of our Communion elements are gluten free. A pastoral blessing is available if you or your child(ren) choose to not receive Communion today.

***Closing Hymn**

"Now Let Us from This Table Rise" #715

***Benediction**

Postlude

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

The United Church of Mapleton

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Today's Worship & Fellowship

Preacher—Gerritt Molenaar
Lay Leader—Marian Mallory
Sound System—Chad Kunkel
Coffee Hour Host—Church Council

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

9:00 a.m. Nursery/Toddler Care (*The Nursery/Toddler Room is at the north end of upstairs hallway*)

10:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship (*Fellowship Hall*)

Today's *Call to Worship* is by Rev. Ashley Whitaker and is posted online at praxisandpraise.wordpress.com.

Church Calendar

Tuesday, July 5th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT
Wednesday, July 6th, Film, Fun, & Faith Movie Night
Sunday, July 10th, Call to Ministry Speaker Jeannie Jackson (youth foster home)
Monday, July 11th, 7:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship
Tuesday, July 12th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT
Wednesday, July 13th, Film, Fun, & Faith Movie Night
Sunday, July 17th, Baptism of Zander Ehlers
Tuesday, July 19th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT
Tuesday, July 19th, 6:00 p.m. Personnel
Tuesday, July 19th, 7:00 p.m. Church Council
Wednesday, July 20th, Film, Fun, & Faith Movie Night
Thursday, July 21st 7:30 p.m. Congregational Relations meeting
Tuesday, July 26th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT
Tuesday, July 26th, 3:00-6:00 p.m. Loaves & Fishes workday
Wednesday, July 27th, Film, Fun, & Faith Movie Night
Saturday, July 30th, 9:00-Noon Loaves & Fishes workday

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, Janie Firstbrook, Mary Beth Fritz, Marian Mallory, Sean Mallory, Lloyd Mitchell, Stan Solie,
- Those recovering from recent health concerns or procedures: Jack Madsen
- All those affected by the ongoing crisis in Syria and the hundreds of thousands of refugees fleeing the Middle East
- The people of Britain, as they seek the way forward after Thursday's vote to exit the European Union
- The people of West Virginia whose lives have been devastated by recent flooding

The prayer requests and praises from worship last week were:

Prayers:

- For Donna Webb for health concerns
- For safe travel for summer vacationers
- For God's blessings on The United Church family
- For God's calm in the midst of crisis for those affected by the West Virginia flooding

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Garden of Eatin' Season

There are sheets on the Ministry Table for you to sign-up and volunteer throughout the season to tend, water, pick and deliver produce. **On any given week, produce can be delivered Tuesdays at 3:00 p.m. and Saturdays at 9:00 a.m.** This garden has been a great success in the past couple of years. Let's continue to grow and show love in our community with this great mission!

Sign-Up for Sunday Lay Ministries!

Please consider helping by signing-up to be a **Lay Leader, Hospitality Team Leader, and Communion Servers** for Sunday worship services. Sign-up sheets are on the Ministry Table. Thank you in advance for your service!

Film, Fun, & Faith

Every Wednesday during July the United Church will host a family movie night (***Film, Fun, & Faith***) in the Fellowship Hall starting at 6:00 p.m. There will be free popcorn and root beer floats! Bring a lawn chair or comfy blanket to sit on. You may make a guess of the title of the movie each week and be entered to win a door prize! All movies are PG or G rated. Bring your family, friends and neighbors! All are welcome!

Caregiver Support Group

The Caregiver Support Group is for friends and family members who are in a caregiver role. There will be opportunity for sharing and education about memory loss. Join us for our July session on **Tuesday, July 5th from 3:00-4:30 p.m.** at First Presbyterian Church, Amboy. There is no charge to attend. Questions? Call Joyce Kolbet (386-5583) at VINE Faith in Action.

Looney Lutherans

The Looney Lutherans will be at Hosanna Lutheran Church in Mankato on Sunday July 10th at 6:30 p.m. Call 507-387-5586 for ticket information. Proceeds will support VINE Faith in Action.

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Scripture for the Week: For dominion belongs to the Lord, and he rules over the nations. Psalm 22:28

Sunday:

Thus says the Lord: heaven is my throne and the earth is my footstool; what is the house that you would build for me? Isaiah 66:1

Heavenly Sustainer, as we gather for worship today, we pray for safety in our travels, and we thank you for our church fellowship. We ask that you strengthen and restore us. Let us be inspired by one another and by your words and our pastors' words. Strengthen us, restore us, and fill us with your peace and love to help us through the week ahead. Amen.

Monday:

Though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly; but the haughty he perceives from far away. Psalm 138:6

Father, give us energy and serenity for the week ahead. Help us to feel fulfilled by the work that we do, and to be mindful that we do all things through you and for you. Be with us this week, lead our decisions, and calm our minds so that we may focus on you. Amen.

Tuesday:

He is not far from each one of us. For "In him we live and move and have our being." Acts 17:27–28

May our homes be a refuge from the stress and injustice in the world around us where we are safe, rejuvenated, and loved. May our schools inspire a love of learning where students and teachers feel safe, loved, and happy. Bless our homes and schools, that they may be places where we grow closer to you. Amen.

Wednesday:

Whoever obeys his word, truly in this person the love of God has reached perfection. By this we may be sure that we are in him. 1 John 2:5

Lord, hear the prayers of all those in need, of those who are sick, hungry, homeless, oppressed, and impoverished. For all those who carry a heavy burden, please lighten their load. Help them to find your light and love in the world. Amen.

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Thursday:

You have given me the shield of your salvation, and your right hand has supported me. Psalm 18:35

Guide our nation and world leaders, grant them wisdom, conviction, courage, and compassion. We pray for an end to hatred and war, for a world united in love and peace. We pray for the ecological healing of our world, that we may be conscious of our impact on your creation. Help us to be better stewards of the world we live in and all those who inhabit it. Amen.

Friday:

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. John 1:6–7

God, thank you for our church families where we share and strengthen our faith. Empower and inspire us to live your love in the world each and every day. Amen.

Saturday:

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Hebrews 13:8

God, we pray for Christians, that we might hear your words and seek a deeper faith. Open our minds, hearts, and hands to love others so that we may share with them the good news of your grace. Amen.

Source: Moravian Daily Texts