

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, June 26th, 2016

Visiting Missionary Katie Longkumer

Taku and Katie Longkumer serve as country coordinators for India, providing mission coordination of International Ministries personnel and partners in the country. They also serve as Development Workers with the Council of Baptist Churches in Northeast India, where they have opportunities to train pastors and lay leaders within the 7,000 churches comprising the Council. Due to the tremendous diversity of the region, they are involved with more than 80 different people groups. In addition, they have opportunity to minister with the International Ministries Partners in other regions of India.

Katie will preach during worship, and during Coffee Fellowship Hour on **June 26th**, they will share more about their ministries in India. Come learn more about these American Baptist international missionary partners!

Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf

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.

We will be trying out these two new ways of worshipping and communicating during the month of June and evaluating at the end of the month. Thank you!

More announcements on the Ministry Table.

The United Church of Mapleton

Order of Worship

Sunday, June 26th, 2016
Sixth 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

Pastor Ashley Whitaker

***Call to Worship**

Based on Psalm 67

One: Let all the peoples praise you, God;

Many: let all the peoples praise you!

God, be gracious and bless us, we pray;

make your face to shine upon us, Lord.

Let all the peoples praise you, God;

let all the peoples praise you!

Let nations be glad and sing for joy,

and let the ends of the earth worship the Lord!

Let all the peoples praise you, God;

All: let all the peoples praise you!

***Opening Hymn**

“Your Servant Comes This Hour” #566

***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**

“Breathe on Me, Breath of God” #461

Scripture

Habakkuk 1:5, 2:1-3, 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

“Look What God Is Doing!”

***Closing Hymn**

“We All Are One in Mission” #552

***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—Rev. Katie Longkumer
Worship Leader—Pastor Ashley Whitaker
Lay Leader—Louise Webb
Sound System—Dick Dietz
Coffee Hour Host—Christian Education

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

Sunday, June 26th, 9:00 a.m. AB Missionary Katie Longkumer will be with us in worship

Tuesday, June 28th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in G.T.

Tuesday, June 28th, 7:30 p.m. PRC meeting

Wednesday, June 29th, Film, Fun, & Faith Movie Night

Wednesday, July 6th, Film, Fun, & Faith Movie Night

Sunday, July 10th, Call to Ministry Speaker Jeannie Jackson (youth foster home)

Sunday, July 17th, Baptism of Zander Ehlers

Wednesday, July 13th, Film, Fun, & Faith Movie Night

Wednesday, July 20th, Film, Fun, & Faith Movie Night

Thursday, July 21st 7:30 p.m. Congregational Relations meeting

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 prayer requests and praises from worship last week were:

Thanksgiving:

- For Pam's beautiful music. God has given her a special talent, and we give thanks!

Prayers:

- For all fathers and all they have done for their children

The prayers and sympathies of The United Church of Mapleton are extended to the family and friends of Rev. Dr. Roger Fredrikson, father of former United Church pastor Rev. Joel Fredrikson, who passed away on Thursday, June 16th. Roger's visitation was held on Thursday, June 23rd, and his memorial service was on Friday, June 24th, both at First Baptist Church of Sioux Falls.

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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 June and 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!

Special Mission for June

During the month of June our special mission will be America for Christ (ABC)/Strengthen the Church (UCC).

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.

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Greeting from Maple River Loaves and Fishes!

As you go through your week, please keep our clients in your prayers. We were reminded again Saturday about the struggles our clients face in their daily lives. Whether it be loss of a job, disability struggles, and even death in the family, these are real families that MRLF (and you!) are helping. Here are some of the events from Saturday:

We spoke to a new client that lives close by who said he only had a pizza and a jar of peanut butter in his house (3 younger kids). He was reluctant to take very much, saying he didn't want to take food that others could really use. Needless to say, we loaded him up above and beyond the amount he should have received. When I watched him and his boys unload the shopping carts at their house, one boy yelled "yeah, milk!" I tell the short version of the story here, because even typing it brings tears to my eyes. It's a reminder of what really matters and how lucky all of us are! But for the grace of God, there go I. (John Bradford)

While I was watching the boys unload the carts, an older man was walking by. He asked "where are my groceries?" (Smiling) I told him through those doors if he needed some. He said he didn't but asked more about the food shelf, even implying that most clients should just get a job and are taking advantage of things. (He's not alone in that thinking in our community). About that time, the boy was yelling "yeah milk!" It was a perfect opportunity to educate someone about the real needs in the community. He's a WWII vet, and it was such an honor to spend some time, outside on a nice day, talking about his service and also the food shelf. Hopefully, educating him just a little.

Another client talked to us about a recent death in the family, and how each day is a struggle. It was yet another reality check for me. I share these stories with you not only to demonstrate God's Grace in our lives, but also to give you just a little glimpse into what goes on every Tuesday and Saturday at MRLF. For a first-hand experience, find your MRLF board member and help out the week your church is at the food shelf. You won't regret it!

MRLF thanks you for your support!! Again, put a special focus in your prayers on our clients, and those in need that haven't walked through our doors.

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Scripture for the Week: We know that a person is justified not by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. Galatians 2:16

Sunday:

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith. Colossians 2:6–7

Thank you, God, for your gift of love and grace through your Son, Jesus Christ. Help us to live lives rooted deep in faith, acting in love toward all as Jesus taught. Amen.

Monday:

Those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life. John 4:14

God, we thank you for your promise of abundance. Sustain us through difficult times and help us to remain faithful to you. Bless all those who don't have enough; teach us to be helping hands of love and make us compassionate to those in need. Amen.

Tuesday:

Through Jesus Christ we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. Romans 5:2

Keep us humble and in wonder of your glory, God. Help us to trust in you, and to honor and praise you throughout our lives for the grace and hope that we share through the gift of your Son. Amen.

Wednesday:

The Lord says, "I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth. "Isaiah 49:6

Almighty God, let us be lamps in the middle of dark shadows. Help us to spread the light that you have given us to those around us who carry darkness on their shoulders. You are with us. Amen.

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Thursday:

Do not claim to be wiser than you are. Romans 12:16

Heavenly Father, guide our prayer and meditation to your wonder. Help our thoughts to remain positive and rooted in love. Let us speak only words of love and act with kindness and humility. Amen.

Friday:

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits.

1 John 4:1

Faithful Shepherd, lead us; through trial and injustice, lead us; through stress and business, lead us; through illness and loss, lead us. Carry us when we are weak and tired, find us when we are lost, heal us when we are sick; leave no one behind. Faithful Shepherd, lead your flock. Amen.

Saturday:

Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. Romans 15:8–9

God, in this time of greed and injustice where what we have is never enough, let us be reminded of what is truly important. Let our hearts and prayers be filled with gratitude. Help us to give to those with less, be fair and just with others, and listen to and live your teachings of love. Amen.

Source: Moravian Daily Texts