

## Service Notes

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.*

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.

**Children's Worship Bags** with creative supplies are available at the back of the Sanctuary for children during worship.

## The United Church of Mapleton

201 Troendle St SW; PO Box 413

Mapleton, MN 56065

(507) 524-3141

[www.unitedchurchmapleton.org](http://www.unitedchurchmapleton.org)

[secretary@unitedchurchmapleton.org](mailto:secretary@unitedchurchmapleton.org)

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, June 29th, 2014

Third Sunday After Pentecost

“What Does It Mean To Be American Baptist?”

### Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

### \*Call to Worship

*Based on Psalm 119:1-8*

One: Blessed God, your grace is revealed to us as we search your Holy Word.

**Many: We come today, to listen to the Word of the Lord.**

One: Gracious God, you help us to know you through your Holy Word, which guides us.

**Many: We come today, to worship the Lord our God.**

One: Holy God, we gather to worship you, to learn from your Word together.

***All: We come today, to praise the Lord our God. Alleluia! Amen!***

**\*Opening Hymn**

“Wonderful Words of Life” #668

**\*Prayer of Invocation**

**\*Gloria Patri**

“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**

**Mission Moment**

Karen Stanton

**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**

“Lord, We Hear Your Word” #671

**Scripture**

2 Timothy 3:14-17 (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**

“Claiming our Four Freedoms: Bible Freedom”

**\*Closing Hymn**

“O Word of God Incarnate” #670

**\*Benediction**

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

**Postlude**

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

## Serving Us Today: Sunday, June 29th, 2014

Pastor—Ashley Whitaker

Lay Leader—Karen Stanton

Organist—Jola Walker

Greeters—Sharon Shuck

Head Usher—Gerald & Donna Webb and Bob and Geri Howieson

Coffee Hour Host—Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf

### 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

10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour

10:10 a.m. Called to Care Session 4

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 is by Joan Stott at [thetimelesspsalms.net](http://thetimelesspsalms.net). ©2011 Joan Stott – 'The Timeless Psalms' RCL Psalms Year A. Used with permission.

This week's message is the first in a series of four seeking to answer the question, "What does it mean to be American Baptist?" The next four weeks will focus on the question, "What does it mean to be United Church of Christ?" This eight-week summer sermon series is aimed to help us as The United Church of Mapleton reconnect with and gain a greater sense of appreciation for our two denominational affiliations.

### 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: Normas Baack, Bill Brice, Colleen Lindemann, Stan Solie, Alberta Samuelson
- Family members and loved ones who are ill
- Traveling mercies for our members, family, and friends
- All those who are grieving and mourning
- Hutch Cramer, who is recovering from hip surgery at the Mapleton Community Home
- Benjamin Brockmann of Lake Crystal, age 6, a family friend of the Allevens, who is undergoing treatment for leukemia
- Isaac Kolstad, who suffered a severe head injury early on May 11th in Mankato, was recently transferred to a rehab facility. The Kolstads are friends of Joe and Sheila Samuelson. You may visit Isaac's Caring Bridge site at <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/isaackolstad>.
- Louis Fritz, who was recently diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor. Radiation treatment has ended and chemotherapy will begin in late July, after a period of rest for Louie.

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

- For Dwayne Goodrich, who was burned on the face and hands at his farm in Mapleton and who is now hospitalized in the Twin Cities area for treatment
- For Maureen Springer and Gertrude O'Connor, who are coping with cancer
- For Rachel of Lake Crystal, age sixteen, who had her colon removed on Thursday

## **The United Church News and Announcements** **Sunday, June 29th, 2014**

### **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.

### **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](mailto: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!

## **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, June 29th, 2014**

Sunday, June 29th, 10:10 a.m. Called to Care Session 4 in the Overflow Room

Tuesday, July 1st, 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study in GT

Wednesday, July 2nd, 7:00 p.m. Called to Care Session 5 in the Overflow Room

Sunday, July 6th, 10:10 a.m. Called to Care Session 5 in the Overflow Room

### **Planning Ahead**

Tuesday, July 8th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study in GT

Tuesday, July 8th, 3:00—6:00 p.m. Loaves & Fishes work day at St. John's Lutheran Church

**Wednesday, July 9th, 7:00 p.m. Deacon Meeting**

Saturday, July 12th, 9:00—Noon Loaves & Fishes work day at St. John's Lutheran Church

**The United Church News and Announcements**  
**Sunday, June 29th, 2014**

**Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf**

**Remember: Sunday, July 6th, 2014** we will collect donations for the Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf. Please consider giving monetary gifts and/or non-perishable items to this meaningful mission.

The United Church supports Loaves & Fishes in this way on the first Sunday of each month.

**Head Ushers Needed**

The United Church is in need of Head Ushers for the months July through October. Please consider signing up to help by calling the church office at 524-3141.

**Proposed Constitutional Amendments**

The Official Board has endorsed proposed Constitutional amendments to be voted on by the congregation as a whole. These amendments mainly concern membership clarifications, numbers of committee/board members, and board/committee member terms. A special meeting for consideration of these amendments has been called for Sunday, July 20th immediately after worship in the Sanctuary.

The proposed amendments are available in hard copy in the narthex and online at [www.unitedchurchmapleton.org](http://www.unitedchurchmapleton.org) under the "Resources" tab. If you have any questions, please speak to Dick Dietz, Moderator.

**The United Church News and Announcements**  
**Sunday, June 29th, 2014**

**The Well Youth Center**

The Well Youth Center is closed for the summer.

**Friday, July 11th and Saturday July 12th,**  
**10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.:** Dietz Brat Wagon

**Saturday morning, July 26th:** Community Closet fundraiser

**Friday, August 1st and Saturday, August 2nd,**  
**10:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.:** Dietz Brat Wagon

**Saturday morning, August 23rd:** Community Closet fundraiser

**Loaves & Fishes**

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!

**Community Closet**

Open Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m.—Noon. 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.

Please leave donations at the top of the stairs close to the closet door, if you are able, but if that area is full you may leave them downstairs.

We are having great success with the \$3 bag sale on clothing and shoes. Right now there are lots of collectables and dishes, etc. Thank you for your donations of items as well as your time if you have worked there. It is much appreciated!

**The United Church News and Announcements**  
**Sunday, June 29th, 2014**

**Prayer Chain**

The United Church Prayer Chain is now active! If you have a prayer request, please call Karen Stanton at (507) 327-8168 or Joyce Johnson at 524-3727. Please let them know your prayer request, including the name of the person to pray for if applicable, and whether or not 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.

**Garden of Eatin' is Growing!**

Our new raised vegetable garden beds have been planted and are growing strong! These vegetables will be donated to Loaves & Fishes to help provide nutritious options for families in the Maple River community who visit the food shelf.



**Your help is needed to water the garden and pull weeds!** A sign-up calendar and instructions sheets are available in the Fellowship Hall. Please consider giving of your time and energy to make our newest community service ministry successful! If you have any questions, please call the office at 524-3141. Thank you!

**Open House Bridal Shower**

An Open House Bridal Shower will be held in the Fellowship Hall at the United Church for Jacob Fritz and Tricia Gunsolus on Saturday, July 26th from 9:30—11:30 a.m.

The couple is registered at Kohl's and Target, but would always welcome gift cards to Lowes and Menards.

**The United Church News and Announcements**  
**Sunday, June 29th, 2014**

**Called to Care Visitation Training**

One of the goals and needs that came out of our visioning process was a trained lay pastoral care visitation team to help make sure that all of our at-home members and members with long-term care needs receive the care and support they deserve from The United Church. Pastor Ashley will be leading training sessions based on the "Called to Care" curriculum for all who would like to become caregivers in this context. The Diaconate will coordinate this ministry with Pastor Ashley. There are five training sessions, and caregivers will need to attend all five sessions to be commissioned. Each hour-long training session will be offered twice: once on a Sunday after worship and once on a Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. The schedule is as follows:

Session Four: Sunday 6/29

Session Five: Wednesday 7/2, Sunday 7/6

If you have any questions or are interested in Called to Care, please talk to Pastor Ashley or Ruth Cumming. Thank you!

**Mission Committee**

On June 1st we started our America for Christ (ABC)/ Strengthen the Church (UCC) mission offering.

These missions are the transformative grace and compassion of Jesus Christ. They serve as the caring heart, serving hands, going feet and prophetic voice to churches and communities across the United States and Puerto Rico. Please give generously.

Please use a specially marked "Special Mission Offering" envelope from the pew racks for this offering. All Special Mission Offering collections will be evenly divided between the ABC and UCC unless otherwise designated by the giver.



## **Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion**

**Scripture for the Week:** Jesus says, “Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”  
Matthew 10:39

### **Sunday:**

Let your work be manifest to your servants, and your glorious power to their children. Psalm 90:16

Lord, in the hustle and bustle of our everyday lives, help us to slow down. Remind us that through your power and presence we will have time to discover all that is good in the world you created for us. In your name we pray. Amen.

### **Monday:**

They made their offering to the Lord with a whole heart.  
1 Chronicles 29:9

As we bring you our offerings, Lord, may they be pleasing to you and to the work of your kingdom here on earth. Be it through feast or famine, your love never fails. Amen.

### **Tuesday:**

God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. 1 Corinthians 1:28-29

God, in your world we are humbled by your actions to bring good out of bad no matter the circumstance. Let us sing praises to you for your blessings and the lessons you have taught us through Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **Wednesday:**

He shall be the one of peace. Micah 5:5

Lord, remind us again that you are three in one— Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Help us to live up to your expectations of showing peace to all. May we walk with you through the storm and the calm and be comforted knowing you have your arms around us at all times. Amen.

## **Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion**

### **Thursday:**

Paul wrote to Timothy: Continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of. 2 Timothy 3:14

Our gracious Teacher and Leader, keep us ever mindful of your doctrines and practices so we may follow your lead and teach those we see every day. Bless all those who hear your word and respond. Amen.

### **Friday:**

Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved. Jeremiah 17:14

Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, began to shout out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” Jesus stood still and said, “Call him here.” Mark 10:47,49

Lord, be near us when we are restless and in need of your healing touch. Gather us into your arms and lend us your ear as we seek your wisdom and guidance. In your Son’s holy name we pray. Amen.

### **Saturday:**

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. John 14:27

In the distractions of our daily lives, Lord, you watch over us and send your Spirit to guide us. Let us lift high the banner of your name and feel your peace as we do your will. Amen.

*Source: Moravian Daily Texts*

*Continue*