

The United Church of Mapleton

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Order of Worship

Sunday, March 19, 2017

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.*

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!

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements & Opening Prayer

*Call to Worship

One: In the driest desert, O God, you provided a rock that held a fountain for those who thirst.

All: Come, gracious God, and fill us with your love.

One: In a helpless world, at the right time, you sent Jesus to die for us all.

All: Come, gracious God, and fill us with your love.

One: In a place of quarrelling, you provide an answer that holds life for those who hope.

All: Come, gracious God, and fill us with your love.

One: In a place of wonder, you provided living water, for those who met there.

All: Come, gracious God, and fill us with your love. Amen.

***Gathering Song** *Lord Prepare Me to be a Sanctuary* **Blue #482**
(words also found on screen)

*Claiming Our Brokenness

ONE: Thank you, God, for the gift of life

ALL: and for water that sustains it.

ONE: Thank you, God, for the gift of Jesus

ALL: whose unending life and unconditional love transforms our lives.

ONE: Thank you, God, for the gift of your Holy Spirit

ALL: that leads us into truth and enlightens us on our way.

(1)

The United Church News, Announcements & Church Calendar For this Week

Maple River Loaves & Fishes

The March, MN Food Share Campaign, is the only statewide food and fund drive that raises more than half the food distributed by the 300 food shelves.

The “**Pack the Pews**” event will be the weekend of **March 24-26**. You are encouraged to bring a grocery bag of non-perishables to your worship service to be donated to Loaves and Fishes.

The March Campaign also matches the dollar amount donated throughout the month of March. **Remember, for every dollar you donate, we can buy \$10 worth of food** using our network which includes Second Harvest, Dietz Foods and other organizations.

Thank you! Maple River Loaves and Fishes

A Thank you from Odd Fellows

We would like to say thank you to the members of The United Church for their generous support of our annual pancake feed. We express our appreciation for the use of the United Church facilities and we thank the Women’s Fellowship for the use of the kitchen area. Because of your generosity, several area youth will have a great week this summer at **Camp FaHoCha**. Thanks so much from the Mapleton IOOF.

Open House 90th Birthday Celebration for Mabelle Larson!

Please join Mabelle Larson and family in celebrating Mabelle’s 90th Birthday on Sunday, March 26th from 10:30 am—12:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall of the United Church. Coffee and cake will be served.

***The United Church News, Announcements &
Church Calendar For this Week***

Tues, - Thurs., 8 a.m.—Noon are the church office hours

Pastor Cindy will be in the office

Monday—Wednesday from 10:00 am –2:00 pm

<u>TODAY:</u>	9:30 a.m. Worship w/Faith Formation for our Children/OGHS Offering
Mon., 3/20:	3:00-8:00 p.m. Wrestlers Banquet
Tues., 3/21:	6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in Good Thunder 1:00 p.m. Quilters
Wed., 3/22:	6:00 p.m. Lenten Supper followed by Holy Conversations
<u>Sun., 3/26:</u>	9:30 a.m. Worship w/Faith Formation for our Children/OGHS Offering 10:30 a.m. 90th Birthday Celebration in Fellowship Hall for Mabelle Larson

Next Week's Worship Leaders

Lay Reader: Pam Foster
Hospitality Team: Bill & Linda Pfeffer
Organist/Pianist: Kathy Byram
Sound System: Dick Dietz

In Our Prayers This Week

Members living in Care Facilities:

Norma Baack-Blaisdell., Kathy Cramer, and Alberta Samuelson

Others to hold in our prayers:

- *For Hazel Kreuer, who fell and broke a hip and is at Pathstone*
- *For a mother who is recovering from some health issues*
- *For our daughter who hurt her foot and is on crutches*

ONE: Like the woman at the well, we all do wrong. May we, like her, have the courage to bring all of who we are and what we do into the light of your healing love.

In a moment of silence, we ask God to bring to mind one thing for which we need God's forgiveness. (*Silence*).

ALL: Loving God, we ask for forgiveness.

ONE: In a moment of silence, we ask God to bring to mind someone we have hurt or neglected. (*Silence*).

ALL: Loving God, we ask for forgiveness.

ONE: In a moment of silence, we ask God to guide our actions and our interactions. (*Silence*).

ALL: Holy Spirit, show us the way. Amen.

***Assurance of God's Love and Forgiveness**

ONE: God, you know us: you know our past and present,Keep our hearts open to your love and to your spirit of truth.

All: We thank you, God, that we are accepted, forgiven, and free. Amen.

***Song** *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* **Blue #501**

***Extending the Hand of Christian Fellowship**

One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering Video

Sharing Our Gifts

All adults are invited to share any spare change with the children so they may participate through the offering.

*For the month of **March**, the Mission Jar offerings (from both front and back jars) will go to the **Jackson Foster Home**.*

***Singing Our Thanks to God**

TUNE: Old Hundred

*God of our lives whose call comes clear,
Through Jesus Christ your presence near.*

*By Spirit led, your will we heed,
Your grace to show in word and deed. Amen.*

***Blessing Our Gifts**

All: Your love for us, gracious God, is overwhelming: in the midst of our complaining, you pour out abundant water for us. Now we respond in kind, giving you what we can for the work of your people. Take our gifts, and take us, and use us to share living water with others. Amen.

Message for All of God’s Children

*The Children are now free to attend Sunday School.
For children PreK through K please go to Classroom A.
For those in 1st – 5th grades please head to the Youth Room.
Both classrooms are found down the hall upstairs.
Children of any age are invited to remain in worship with their parents in their pews, in the Family Space in the Overflow Room in the back of the Sanctuary, or in the Nursery (if they are younger than Pre-Kindergarten age).
Worship Bags, “The Sunday Paper” coloring pages, and Ministry Card making kits are available in the back of the Sanctuary.
The Service is piped into the Overflow Room and the Nursery.*

Scripture Exodus 17:1-7 & John 4:5-42

***Song** I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say **Black #489**
(verses 1-4 only)

Message

Prayers of the People

Congregational Response: God of love, hear our prayer.

***Song to Send Us Forth** (words found on screen)
Crashing Waters at Creation TUNE: Stuttgart 8.7.8.7.

***Blessing**

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

If You have a Pastoral Emergency or Need

You can contact Pastor Cindy Mueller at
pastor@unitedchurchmapleton.org

Please check your weekly bulletin for
Pastor Cindy’s office hours.

Email secretary at secretary@unitedchurchmapleton.org

Today’s Worship & Fellowship Leaders

Intentional Interim Pastor—Cindy Mueller
Lay Reader—Jack Madsen
Hospitality Team—Mike & Julie Johnson
Organist/Pianist—Joanne Cramer
Sound System—Dick Dietz

Today’s Coffee Fellowship
Donations will be given to the **Youth Center**

Special Offering Received During March

For 48-year-old Iraq war veteran Robert Z., buying a house was an important step toward recovery from post-traumatic stress disorder. Then the floods came.



After completing military service, Robert established his own trucking company. But then depression and stress incapacitated him. He closed his business and moved in with friends. It took Robert years of hard work to get on top of PTSD, but he did it.

“The house was the next step in trying to take care of myself again” Robert said. He found a “fixer-upper” in West Columbia, S.C., and began repairing it. Then the storms of October 2015 came. Days of incessant rain and wind caused a large tree to fall onto Robert’s roof. The damage opened the house to the continuing rainfall soaking walls, floors, ceilings and furniture.

Robert did what he could, but it wasn’t enough. Then he heard about the Disaster Recovery Support Initiative (DRSI), a joint endeavor of the United Church of Christ Disaster Ministries, Brethren Disaster Ministries, and the Disaster Ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) DRSI volunteers were happy to assist as part of their work in modeling long-term recovery processes in the wider community. They connected with the emerging local long-term recovery organization.

They gutted Robert’s house and repaired the roof. They installed brand-new windows, walls, floor, electricals and plumbing. **“These are not just people talking,” Robert said. “They are really doing something. I am amazed that someone would do it for me.”**

“Generous giving to One Great Hour of Sharing is enabling us to reach the most vulnerable families,” said UCC Disaster Ministries Executive Zach Wolgemuth. **“It shows, you are here.”**

PLEASE USE THE SMALL MANILLA ENVELOPES MARKED FOR THIS SPECIAL OFFERING. THANK YOU!