

Community Closet

The Community Closet is having a Winter Clearance Sale of all Women's and Men's clothing for \$2.00 a bag during the last two Saturdays in March. We have to make way for all the Spring and Summer wear that we have ready for the next season. Thank you!

Local Missions



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 Well Youth Center hours are Tuesdays-Fridays from 3:00-5:00 p.m. The mission jar will be in the back of the Sanctuary on the third Sunday of each month.

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, March 22nd, 2015

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Based on Psalm 119

One: How can a young person live a clean life?

By carefully reading the map of your Word.

**Many: I'm single-minded in pursuit of you;
don't let me miss the road signs you've posted.**

**I've banked your promises in the vault of my heart
so I won't sin myself bankrupt.**

One: Be blessed, God;

train me in your ways of wise living.

**Many: I'll transfer to my lips
all the counsel that comes from your mouth;**

**I delight far more in what you tell me about living
than in gathering a pile of riches.**

**I ponder every morsel of wisdom from you,
I attentively watch how you've done it.**

**I relish everything you've told me of life,
I won't forget a word of it.**

All: Let us worship God!



***Opening Hymn**

“Come Away from the Rush and Hurry” #655

***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

*Children are invited to attend Sunday School after the
Message for God’s Children or return to their pews. Children’s
Worship Bags are available in the back of the Sanctuary.*

Mission Moment

Liz Bair

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**

“Breathe on Me, Breath of God” #461

Scripture

Jeremiah 31:31-34; John 12:20-33 (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

“The Source of Life”

***Closing Hymn**

“Amazing Grace!” #422

***Benediction**

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

Postlude

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

Serving Us Today: Sunday, March 22nd, 2015

Pastor—Ava Adams-Morris

Lay Leader—Hugo John

Organist—Jola Walker

Greeters—Wally and Joyce Johnson

Head Usher—Sean and Marian Mallory

Coffee Hour Host—Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf

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 Fellowship (*Fellowship Hall*)

10:00 a.m. Choir Practice

9:15 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School (*PreK-5th Grade*)
Classroom A, upstairs

10:10-10:40 a.m. Youth Sunday School (*6th-12th Grade*)
Youth Lounge, upstairs

Today's **Call to Worship** is from The Message Bible.

The altar **flower arrangement** is in memory of Richard Shuck.

The **paraments** are **purple** during the season of Lent as a symbol of both the sovereignty of Christ and personal penitence. The season of Lent is bracketed by the mourning black paraments colors of Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.



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 Ava Adams-Morris, a Deacon, or the church office so that we may serve you. The church phone number is (507) 524-3141. Ava's phone numbers are (507) 243-3891 or (507) 380-7233 and her email is kreolelady@aol.com.**

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.

In Our Prayers

- The ministries of The United Church, including our local missions: The Well 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

Our church prayer list includes:

- Those with ongoing health concerns: Norma Baack, Hutch Cramer, Kathy Cramer, David Keller, Stan Solie, Marge Walters, Lloyd Mitchell
- Family members and loved ones who are ill
- Traveling mercies for our members, family, and friends
- All who are grieving and mourning
- The 2015 American Baptist Churches, USA Biennial Mission Summit, to be held June 26-28 in Overland Park, KS
- The 2015 United Church of Christ General Synod 30, to be held June 26-30 in Cleveland, OH
- Prayers for Tony Passmore's ministry time while working with the Dallas Texas Metro Dream Center.
- Jack Madsen, who had surgery on March 11th

The prayer requests and praises shared during last week's worship service include:

Prayers:

- Continued healing for Warren's knee
- For the employees who have lost their jobs at Target, that they may get through the tough times of searching for employment

Thanksgiving:

- For Lloyd Mitchell beginning to learn to walk again—Thanks be to God!
- Praise God for a successful basketball season!

The prayers and sympathies of The United Church of Mapleton are extended to the family and friends of Leroy Baack, Norma Baack-Blaisdell's husband, who passed away Tuesday, March 17th, 2015.

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, March 22nd, 2015

Tuesday, March 24th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Tuesday, March 24th, 8:00 a.m. Newsletter articles/reports due

Tuesday, March 24th, 1:00 p.m. Quilting Group

Wednesday, March 25th, 6:30 p.m. Lenten Service

Planning Ahead

Tuesday, March 31st, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Wednesday, April 1st, 6:30 p.m. Lenten Service

Thursday, April 2nd, 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service

Friday, April 3rd, 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service

Contact Information

While Pastor Ashley Whitaker is on Family Leave and you are in need of or would like pastoral care, please contact **Ava Adams-Morris at (507) 243-3891 or (507) 380-7233; email: kreolelady@aol.com.**

You may reach the Secretary/Administrative Assistant at the church office by calling (507) 524-3141 or email secretary@unitedchurchmapleton.org.

The best time to visit the church office is Tuesdays through Thursdays 8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Reminder: Bulletin items are due to the church office **by 8:00 a.m., Thursday mornings**. Thank you!

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, March 22nd, 2015

Need for Lay Readers and Ushers

The Deacons are in the process of updating their list for Lay Readers and Ushers. If you are interested in signing up or would like more information, please contact Marian Mallory or any member of the Diaconate. There will be a **sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board outside the main office**. Thank you in advance for your service.

Youth: Palm Sunday Brunch and Set Up

There will be a Palm Sunday Brunch set-up time set for **Saturday, March 28th at 10:00 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. **All children and youth are encouraged to help.** All proceeds from the brunch go to help send our children and youth to camp.

The Board of Christian Education is hosting their annual **Palm Sunday Brunch Sunday, March 29th following worship.** The menu will include ham and eggs, cheesy potatoes, applesauce and muffins.

A free will offering will be accepted to support the camping fund for United Church children and youth.

Easter Season Plants

Please sign up on the sheet posted on the Sanctuary door to **purchase and bring in on your own**, Easter season plants. Please bring your plants to the church mail room by **Sunday, March 29th**.

If you would like to take your plant home after the season, please place your name on your plants. Thank you for helping beautify our Sanctuary for the Easter season!



The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, March 22nd, 2015

Quilting Group

The United Church Quilting Group will meet on **Tuesday, March 24th at 1:00 p.m.** Please watch the bulletin calendar for schedule updates. All, men and women, are welcome to attend this fun, creative, and mission driven group.

Church World Service Kits

We are collecting items for **Hygiene Kits and Baby Care Kits**. Please consider purchasing all the items for a kit, or purchase one or more items needed for kits. Cash donations are also needed to cover the cost of handling (\$2.00 per kit) and postage. Shopping lists are provided in the narthex area. Please bring items back to the church by **Sunday, April 12th**.

Kit items will be packed **Monday, April 13th at the Women's Fellowship meeting**. All are welcome to attend and help with this much needed mission project! Please feel free to contact Pat John for any additional information.

Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf

The 2015 March Campaign will host **Pack the Pews today, Sunday, March 22nd**. This will be an opportunity for congregations across the state to engage their members in supporting Minnesota food shelves by bringing non-perishable food items to worship services. Food shelves are able to stretch cash further than donations of food because of their access to discount products and programs.

Ham Dinner

Grace United Methodist Church of Vernon Center will host a Ham Dinner on Sunday, March 29th from 11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

The menu will include ham, baked potato, carrots, roll, salad and dessert. Adults cost: \$8.00; Children 10 and under: \$4.00; Pre School: Free. Take outs are available by calling (507) 549-3162.

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Scripture for the Week: God says, “I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations.” Genesis 17:7

Sunday:

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Romans 14:1

Let us take the time to listen, Lord, when you are calling. You are not always direct in your speaking to us. Let us be ready to meet you in the places and times of your choosing. Make us instruments of your peace and love. Amen.

Monday:

In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome. 1 John 5:3 (NIV)

Heavenly Father, we have learned your commands from pastors, teachers, and friends. May our love for you be evident in how we live our lives and obey your laws. Guide us to follow our hearts to you. Amen.

Tuesday:

Who will separate us from the love of Christ?
Romans 8:35

Dearest Lord, never let us be separated from you or our brothers and sisters in Christ. Help us to share your many blessings and boundless comfort with those whom we encounter today. Amen.

Wednesday:

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. Philippians 4:6

Loving Father, we come to you today with many questions. Guide us in our journey as we pray for the purpose that you have placed into our hearts, our minds, and our hands. Amen.

Continue

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Thursday:

Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights.

James 1:17 (NASB)

We thank you today, Lord, for all your gracious gifts given to us upon this earth. We look forward to the day when, joyfully, we may join with you in our eternal home. Amen.

Friday:

The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. James 5:15

Precious Savior and Lord, bind up our wounds today, both physical and spiritual, and allow us to see your grace that renews our imperfect lives. Bless and comfort us, and have mercy upon us. Amen.

Saturday:

Lord, let your compassion come to me, that I may live.
Psalm 119:77 (NIV)

Draw us nearer to you today, Lord. As we encounter temptations, let your guiding hand take hold of ours and lead each of us down the path of your choosing and not our own. Amen.

Source: Moravian Daily Texts