

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 Maple River 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, May 10th, 2015

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Based on Psalm 98, Acts 10:44-48, John 15:9-17

One: The Holy Spirit is coming to bless us all with a new song:

Many: Let our joy be complete!

One: Gifts for the good of all, poured out on all to teach us a new song:

Many: Love one another!

One: Strangers and neighbors, foreigners and family will join in the new song:

Many: No longer servants but friends!

One: Come, let our worship make a joyful noise:

All: Rejoicing in the communion of God!



***Opening Hymn**

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” #358

***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

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**

Litany: The Wide Spectrum of Mothering

*Please turn to your bulletin insert titled “The Wide Spectrum of
Mothering” and join in this responsive reading.*

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**

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus” #473

Scripture

John 15:9-17 (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

“Abiding Love”

***Closing Hymn**

“O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus” #398

***Benediction**

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

Postlude

Please rise in body or spirit.

Serving Us Today: Sunday, May 10th, 2015

Pastor—Ashley Whitaker

Lay Leader—

Organist—Jola Walker

Greeters—Dave and Kathy Byram

Head Usher—

Coffee Hour Host—Women's Fellowship

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 Hour (*Fellowship Hall*)

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 *Friends of God: Service Prayers for the Sixth Sunday of Easter*, written by the Rev. Susan A. Blain and posted on the United Church of Christ's Worship Ways website at ucc.org/worship_worship-ways.



The **beautiful flower arrangement** that was placed on the altar last Sunday, May 3rd, was in loving (M) of Troy Schultz.

The **paraments are white** during the Easter season (which is from Easter Sunday until Pentecost Sunday) to invite the church to remember that, instead of finding a sealed tomb, the women who came at dawn on Easter Sunday were surprised by an angel who announced astonishing news: "Jesus has been raised from the dead!" (Mt 28:7) The heavenly messenger invited the mourners on that day as well as Christians of all time to see the empty tomb and then go and tell the world that the Crucified One is alive!

Information from ucc.org

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 Pastor Ashley, a Deacon, or the church office so that we may serve you. The church phone number is (507) 524-3141. Pastor Ashley's phone number is (507) 381-8199 and her email is pastor@unitedchurchmapleton.org.

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 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



Our church prayer list includes:

- Those with ongoing health concerns: Norma Baack, Kathy Cramer, David Keller, Stan Solie, Marge Walters, Lloyd Mitchell, Jack Madsen
- 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
- Jaine Firstbrook, wife of Beauford United Methodist Church Pastor Clint Firstbrook, who recently suffered a stroke, is currently paralyzed on her right side, and is facing long-term rehabilitation and care needs
- The people affected by April 25th's 7.8 magnitude earthquake in Nepal, including the more than 7,000 dead and 14,000 wounded

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

Prayers:

- At the goodbyes said yesterday for dear friend John Kern, who died at age 95, of "Kern Variety Store" fame
- For those who do not have a church; to bring them to find one, and to bring them to our church home

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, May 10th, 2015

Monday, May 11th, 7:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship

Tuesday, May 12th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Wednesday, May 13th, 7:00 p.m. Deacons

Friday, May 15th, 1:00-7:00 p.m. Relay for Life Survivor's Supper

Planning Ahead

Tuesday, May 19th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Wednesday, May 20th, 7:00 p.m. Trustees

Thursday, May 21st, 2:00-3:00 p.m. Bible Study

Tuesday, May 26th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Tuesday, May 26th, 8:00 a.m. Newsletter Articles/Reports are due

Thursday, May 28th, 2:00-3:00 p.m. Bible Study

How to Contact Pastor Ashley

Pastor Ashley's cell phone number is (507) 381-8199 and her email is pastor@unitedchurchmapleton.org. Her usual weekly schedule includes these times and places. *Monday* Sabbath. *Tuesday* 9:00 -11:00 a.m. church office, noon-1:00 p.m. Preaching Text Study Group, 3:00-5:00 p.m. The Maple River Youth Center. *Wednesday* 9:00-10:30 a.m. The Windmill Restaurant (Location for Community Office Hours will change occasionally and be announced here). *Thursday* 9:00 a.m.-noon church office, 2:00-3:00 p.m. Church Bible Study. *Friday* Sermon writing. At other times, she may be making pastoral visits or be serving elsewhere in the community. Please feel free to contact her for a visit or meeting!

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, May 10th, 2015

Sign-Up for Lay Readers and Ushers

Please sign-up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board outside the main office. Thank you in advance for your service.

If you would like more information, please contact Marian Mallory or any member of the Diaconate. There is a **Lay Readers Pronunciation Guide** available in the church office for your needs.

Treats for Troops—Spring 2015

The community-wide project of sending packages to our servicemen and women from the Maple River Area is underway. **Please have your donations to the church by Friday, May 15th.** We will need volunteers to help pack boxes on **Saturday, May 16th**, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Mapleton, **9:00 a.m.**

A list of suggested items can be found in the narthex along with boxes to place your donated items. Nothing with chocolate or peanut butter can be shipped. Money for shipping is a welcome gift. **Including notes and letters** would be a wonderful addition!

A thank-you note and picture received from the Air Department on board the USS Michael Murphy may be viewed on the bulletin board of the church.

Open House Bridal Shower

An Open House Bridal Shower for Jessica Allevan, bride to be of Joe Carey will be held **Saturday, May 16 at 9:30 a.m. in the Gathering Space of St. Teresa's Church, Mapleton.** The couple is registered at Target and Amazon.

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, May 10th, 2015

2015 Service to Mankind Award

Mapleton Sertoma Club will be hosting an Open House honoring Marji Schwichtenberg and Jeanette Brandt as their 2015 Service to Mankind Award Recipients. The Open House will be held on Sunday, May 17 at the Town and Country Leisure Center from 1:00—4:00 p.m., with a short program at 3:00 p.m. Cake and refreshments will be served.

Jazz in the Park

Jazz in the Park will be held on **Wednesday, May 20th, 6:00 p.m.** at the Mapleton Library Park. The Maple River Jazz Band will be featured along with special guests, Bass Brand Bass Band. This event is free and open to the public. Please bring a lawn chair.

A food booth is being sponsored and served by the Mapleton Sertoma Club. They will begin serving at 5:30 p.m. and are asking for a free will offering. The Maple River Youth Center will be serving root beer floats and will host a plant sale. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held in the MR School Commons.

Free Community Workshop

Learn from a panel of experts while attending this program about: Legal Tools—which documents should we have in place? Medical Assistance—how can I protect my money from the nursing home? Funeral and Cremation Planning—explore your options and get the facts.

This workshop will be held at 2060 Commerce Drive in North Mankato, MN on **Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.** Pre-registration is required to assist in preparation, please call (507) 388-2288 to RSVP. A poster of this workshop is posted on the bulletin board.

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Scripture of the Week: See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are.
1 John 3:1

Sunday:

God gave Christ Jesus the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth. Philippians 2:9–10

Gentle Jesus, come alive in us this day, and strengthen us as you make beauty from our weakness. Amen.

Monday:

Everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.
Matthew 7:8

Blessed Jesus, you are the source of our life and our faith. As we wait for your direction, may we find comfort in your sustaining hand. Amen.

Tuesday:

Job answered the Lord: “See, I am of small account; what shall I answer you? I lay my hand on my mouth.” Job 40:3–4

Lord, teach us to pray—to listen, to give thanks, and to place our trust in you. May your will be done in us this day.
Amen.

Wednesday:

Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The Lord drove the sea back by a strong east wind. Exodus 14:21

Faithful God, we give thanks for your unfailing grace and for your nearness to us even when we have lost our way. Show us the road that leads to life. Give us the strength to follow after you, in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Thursday:

Keep yourselves in God’s love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life.

Jude 21 (NIV)

O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world. Make beauty of our broken hearts. We put our trust in you alone. Amen.

Friday:

The eyes of the Lord range throughout the entire earth, to strengthen those whose heart is true to him. 2 Chronicles 16:9

Christ says, “I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance.” Revelation 2:2

Emmanuel—God with us—you are never far away. Guide us by your tender hand. May we feel the embrace of your gentle care. Amen.

Saturday:

The Lord our God is righteous in everything he does.
Daniel 9:14 (NIV)

God of love, your generosity astounds us. Teach us to live, that we might demonstrate your endless compassion and boundless grace. Amen.

Source: Moravian Daily Texts

Continue