

## Service Notes

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*

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. Sunday School is available for children PreK– 5th grade after the Message for God's Children, and children can meet their teachers at the back of the Sanctuary at that time. Children's Worship Bags with creative supplies are available in the back of the Sanctuary for children during worship.

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## The United Church of Mapleton

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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 4th, 2014

Third Sunday of Easter

### Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

### \*Call to Worship

One: We stand before the Lord this day, the Lord of the burning bush and the cloud upon the mountain.

**Many: To God be praise and glory! This is the Lord of our lives.**

One: We welcome the risen Christ, our redeemer recognized in the breaking of bread and among the dust of the Emmaus road.

**Many: To Jesus Christ be praise and glory! This is the Savior who makes all things new.**

One: We recognize the Holy Spirit that enables us, seen in the descending dove, heard in the rushing wind and tongues of fire.

**Many: To the Holy Spirit all praise and glory! This is the one who empowers us.**

One: In this time and in this place, we have seen signs of God's greatness.

***All: Come, let us sing praise to God! Alleluia!***

**\*Opening Hymn**

“Thine Is the Glory ” #310

**\*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**

Dick Dietz

**Worship with Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory**

“I Then Shall Live”

Adult Choir

**\*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**

“Open My Eyes, That I May See” #480

**Scripture**

Luke 24:13-35 (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**

“On the Way”

**Communion Service**

*At the United Church of Mapleton, the Communion Table is open to all without restriction. This is not our table, but it is God’s, and it is open to all of God’s children.*

*Today, we will participate in communion by passing two sets of plates that contain the elements of bread and juice. Please hold each element until all have been served so that we may celebrate communion together after each element has been shared.*

**\*Closing Hymn**

“As We Gather at Your Table” #695

**\*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 4th, 2014

Pastor—Rev. Ashley Whitaker

Lay Leader—Laura Fritz

Organist—Jola Walker

Greeters—Bob and Virginia Clark

Head Usher—Pat Carter

Coffee Hour Host—Alleven Family—LLS

### About Today's Worship & Fellowship

9:00 a.m. Morning Worship with Communion and Loaves & Fishes collections (*Sanctuary*)

9:00-10:30 a.m. Nursery Childcare (*Babies-Toddlers*),  
Crib/Toddler Room, upstairs

9:15-10:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School  
(*PreK-1st Grade*), Classroom A, upstairs  
(*2nd-5th Grade*), Classroom E, downstairs

10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour

10:05 a.m. Adult Choir practice

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 from [clergyresources.net](http://clergyresources.net).

Beautiful **Easter Lilies**, donated by church members, adorn our altar during this Easter season.

Adult and Youth **Sunday School** are now on break for the summer. The last day of **Children's Sunday School during worship time** will be Sunday, May 18th. We will resume all classes in the fall.

### 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: Bill Brice, Stan Solie, Alberta Samuelson, Lorraine Stanton
- 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 recent hip surgery at the Mapleton Community Home
- Norma Baack, who is recovering from recent hip surgery at Oak Lawn Nursing Home in Mankato
- Benjamin Brockmann of Lake Crystal, age 6, a family friend of the Allevens, who is undergoing treatment for leukemia
- All those affected by the tornado outbreak this past week, which killed at least 28 and left many others injured or homeless

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

Thanksgiving:

- For the Pfeffers who recently helped with clean up around the church grounds
- To God for answered prayers and for continued strengthening in our faith
- For positive test results: ten years cancer free!
- To God for the United Church of Mapleton for its rich Christian heritage

Prayers:

- For all youth who are bullied daily. May God protect them and even teach them love for their bullies
- For Colleen Lindemann, who is dealing with serious back problems

The prayers and sympathies of The United Church go to the family and friends of Alice Zimmerman-Madsen, longtime member, who passed away on Sunday, April 27th at the Mapleton Community Home. Alice's funeral was held on Wednesday, April 30th at First Presbyterian Church of Winnebago.

## **The United Church News and Announcements**

### **Sunday, May 4th, 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, May 4th, 2014**

Monday, May 5th, 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts  
Tuesday, May 6th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT  
Wednesday, May 7th, 7:00 p.m. Confirmation  
Thursday, May 8th, 3:00 p.m. Bible Study

#### **Planning Ahead**

Monday, May 12th, 7:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship  
Tuesday, May 13th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT  
Wednesday, May 14th, 1:00 p.m. Quilting  
Wednesday, May 14th, 7:00 p.m. Confirmation  
**Wednesday, May 14th, 7:00 p.m. Deacons**  
Thursday, May 15th, 3:00 p.m. Bible Study

**The United Church News and Announcements**  
**Sunday, May 4th, 2014**

**Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf**

Today, Sunday, May 4th, 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.

**Coffee Hour Host**

Today our coffee hour will be hosted by the Allevan family. Our donations will go towards the Lymphoma-Leukemia Society.

**Easter Lilies**

The Ambience Work Group thanks all who donated Lily plants to beautify our sanctuary for the Easter Season.

**United Church Directories**

Our new United Church of Mapleton directories are here! Please take **one directory per household** as you leave the Sanctuary today.

**Prayer Chain**

The United Church Prayer Chain is now active! If you have a prayer request, please call Karen Stanton at 524-4956 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.

**The United Church News and Announcements**  
**Sunday, May 4th, 2014**

**Pancake Breakfast - Relay for Life**

A sophomore class Relay for Life team will host a pancake breakfast to help support the American Cancer Society.

This breakfast will be held Sunday, May 11th from 9:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m. at St. Teresa's Catholic Church in Mapleton. Free will donations will be accepted.

**The United Church News and Announcements**  
**Sunday, May 4th, 2014**

**Treats for Troops—Spring 2014**

**Suggested Items:**

hot cocoa mix	soup mix
cereal & granola bars	fruit roll-ups
energy bars	hard candy
Skittles (they do not melt)	Ramen noodles
Pop Tarts	instant oatmeal
Easy Mac	single serve drink mixes
jerky	jelly beans
jaw breakers	foot powder
hand sanitizer	deodorant
Lip Ivo	cough drops
gum	licorice
face wipes	blister treatments
baby wipes	tall white socks
insoles	instant coffee
microwave popcorn	sunflower seeds
magazines	AA & AAA batteries
playing cards & dice	crossword & Sudoku puzzles
hand held games	inflatable pillows
music CD's	books on CD
paperback books	Icy Hot or similar patches

**The United Church News and Announcements**  
**Sunday, May 4th, 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 One: Wednesday 5/28, Sunday 6/1

Session Two: Wednesday 6/4, Sunday 6/8

Session Three: Wednesday 6/18, Sunday 6/22

Session Four: Wednesday 6/25, 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!

**Order a T-Shirt of The Well Youth Center**

The Well will be placing an order for T-Shirts through a local business.

T-Shirts are a deep Turquoise color with a large white imprint of The Well logo on the back and a smaller imprint on the front upper left.



The cost of each shirt will be \$10 (please pay when you order) and may be ordered by contacting or calling Sheila at (507) 995-8194, (507) 524-3839 or by a sign-up sheet at church posted on the bulletin board. Make checks out to The Well Youth Center.

Wearing these T-Shirts is a great way to promote our communities local youth center and **a great encouragement to our youth when they see you wearing them!**

**The United Church News and Announcements**  
**Sunday, May 4th, 2014**

**Mission Kits**

Thank you to all who donated to the Baby and Hygiene kits and to those who gave of their time and helped pack the kits! Your generous donations will help many in need of these items.

The United Church was able to pack and send 14 Baby kits and 33 Hygiene kits.

**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.

**Local Missions**

**The Well Youth Center**

The Well Youth Center is open for grades 4th through 12th from 3:00—5:00 p.m.

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays when school is in session.

We always welcome adult volunteers to help supervise, present a life-skill to our youth or help with fundraising events. Please call (507) 524-3839 or Sheila at (507) 995-8194.



**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!



**The United Church News and Announcements**  
**Sunday, May 4th, 2014**

**Treats for Troops—Spring 2014**

The community-wide project of sending packages to our servicemen and women from the Maple River Area is underway for the spring mailing. **Please have your donations to the church by Friday, May 9th.** We will do the boxing on **Saturday, May 10th**, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Mapleton, **at 9:00 a.m.** We do this with other congregations and auxiliaries in the area.

Please see the list of suggested items and keep them in mind when you are shopping. Single serve macaroni & cheese, jerky, and Skittles are the biggest hits. Nothing with chocolate or peanut butter can be shipped. Money for shipping is a welcome gift, as it costs \$13.45 for a box to be sent overseas, and \$15.45 stateside.

Our servicemen and women REALLY appreciate these boxes. A thank-you note received from a Maple River grad said, "It is difficult to put into words how much your efforts contribute to the morale of the soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines that you support. Whether at sea, in the desert, or here at home; your thoughts, prayers and generosity have lifted my spirits and helped (us) cope..."

Currently we have an adequate supply of decks of cards, hand balls, and beverage "koosies."

**NOTES AND LETTERS WOULD BE WONDERFUL!**

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

**Scripture for the Week:** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Peter 1:3

### **Sunday:**

Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord; keep watch over the door of my lips. Psalm 141:3

Lord, as your servants, we try to emulate your life but we often fail to live up to your examples. Cleanse our souls and renew our spirits so the words from our lips and the thoughts of our hearts may be pleasing to you. Amen.

### **Monday:**

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Deuteronomy 6:5

We love because he first loved us. 1 John 4:19

Lord God, what a gift you have given to us in your Son and his love. May we love one another just as you love us. In this, people will know we are your disciples. Amen.

### **Tuesday:**

Whether it is good or bad, we will obey the voice of the Lord our God. Jeremiah 42:6

We thank you, God, for your words of comfort and peace. Help us to obey your voice and your will for our lives. May all we do and say bring glory to your name. Amen.

### **Wednesday:**

Since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died.

1 Thessalonians 4:14

Gracious God, your promise of eternal life is our main focus as your children. Let us not forget this promise as we minister to people in need. May we also share it with all we meet. In Jesus' name. Amen.

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

### **Thursday:**

Now you, brothers and sisters, like Isaac, are children of promise. Galatians 4:28

Lord God, it is a great feeling to know we are your children and are heirs of your grace. Thank you for blessing us with your presence, your peace, and your comfort. May we be a blessing to others. Amen.

### **Friday:**

Rejoice always. 1 Thessalonians 5:16

Gracious God, as we live in this world of rapid changes and various issues, we can become discouraged about our Christian journey. Inspire us to be exceedingly joyful about our work, our ministry, and our passion to do your will. Amen.

### **Saturday:**

When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them, then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the Lord your God. Deuteronomy 8:12,14

Abound in thanksgiving. Colossians 2:7

Lord God, you're the giver of every good and perfect gift. In thankfulness we praise you for every blessing. We acknowledge you as our Creator for you provide for us our every need. Amen.

*Source: Moravian Daily Texts*

*Continue*