

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
- Those affected by mental illness, including anxiety and depression



Our church prayer list includes:

- Those with ongoing health concerns: Norma Baack, Kathy Cramer, Dawn Dietz, Janie Firstbrook, Mary Beth Fritz, Aubrielle Howley, David Keller, Lloyd Mitchell, Jack Madsen, Marian Mallory, Stan Solie, Alberta Samuelson
- Former President Jimmy Carter, a lifelong Baptist, who announced that he has cancer in his brain and is undergoing treatment
- Gabe Samuelson, who is in basic training for the Army Reserves
- All those affected by the ongoing crisis in Syria and the hundreds of thousands of refugees fleeing the Middle East
- Marian Mallory, who was recently diagnosed with a recurrence of cancer and is undergoing treatment
- Jack Madsen, who recently had knee surgery and is in recovery and rehabilitation in Mankato
- Sue Prenzlów, who is recovering from toe surgery
- Eli, husband of Mary Dietz (sister of Dawn and Dick Dietz), who recently had a stroke and was airlifted to Rochester

The United Church of Mapleton

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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, November 15th, 2015

Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements

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!

*Call to Worship

Based on Psalm 146

One: Joy comes to those who hope in God,

Many: for the Lord is a Keeper of promises.

One: Our God is a God of healing, help, and hope!

Many: The Lord will reign forever.

One: Our God will keep faith with all generations.

All: Let us praise the Lord, both now and forevermore!

***Opening Hymn**

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing” #87

***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

After the Message for God’s Children, children are invited to return to their pews, use the Family Space in the Overflow Room in the back of the Sanctuary, or use the Nursery if they are younger than Kindergarten age. Worship Bags, The Sunday Paper coloring pages, and Ministry Card making kits are available in the back of the Sanctuary.

Mission Moment

Rebecca Benson

Worship with Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Adult Choir

The Choir’s music is an offering to God, not a performance for our entertainment. Please do not applaud to show your appreciation. Instead, please try saying “Amen” or thanking them individually after worship.

***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**

“O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee” #589

Scripture

Mark 12:38-44 (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

“Whole Living”

***Closing Hymn**

“You Call Us, Lord” #583

***Benediction**

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

Postlude

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

Serving Us Today: Sunday, November 15th, 2015

Pastor—Ashley Whitaker

Lay Reader—

Organist—Jola Walker

Greeters—Wally and Joyce Johnson

Head Usher—

Coffee Hour Host—Women's Fellowship

Today's Worship & Fellowship

9:00 a.m. Morning Worship with Youth Center Collections

9:00 a.m. Nursery/Toddler Care (*upstairs north end of hallway in the Nursery/Toddler Room*)

10:00 a.m. Choir Practice

10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour

10:00 a.m. Congregational Annual Budget Proposal and Election Meeting in Fellowship Hall

Today's *Call to Worship* is from the archives page of the *Lectionary Sermons* website (lectionarysermons.com/ARCH-W.html).

After a **Choral Offering**, please refrain from applause, which traditionally follows a performance meant for entertainment in our culture, whereas the choir's music is offered to God in a spirit of worship. If you would like to show your appreciation, please say "Amen" after their offering, or thank them individually after worship.

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.*

Worshipping With Children

Children are always welcome at The United Church!

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs." (Matthew 19:14)

During worship, several options are available for children: *The Sunday Paper* is a coloring page based on the Scripture reading for each Sunday. Two versions are available, one for older and one for younger elementary aged children.

Ministry card decorating kits are also available, and a sign next to these kits lets children know to whom their card will be sent (e.g. homebound members, Treats for Troops recipients, etc.).

Worship Bags with creative supplies are located at the back of the Sanctuary.

The Nursery/Toddler Room for infants and toddlers (Kindergarten and younger) is available throughout the morning worship service and is located at the north end of the upstairs hallway.

The Family Space, located in the Overflow Room at 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.

Care Connections

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.

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 us know! Feel free to contact Pastor Ashley, a Deacon, or the church office. 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.

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: The mission jar will be in the back of the Sanctuary on the third Sunday of each month.

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, November 15th, 2015

Sunday, November 15th, 10:00 a.m. **Congregational Annual Budget Proposal and Election meeting in the Fellowship Hall**

Sunday, November 15th, 6:00-7:00 p.m. Confirmation

Tuesday, November 17th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Tuesday, November 17th, 1:00 p.m. Quilting

Wednesday, November 18th, 6:00-7:00 p.m. **G.I.F.T.**

Wednesday, November 18th, 7:00 p.m. Trustees

Thursday, November 19th, 2:00 p.m. Bible Study

Saturday, November 21st, 9:00-11:00 a.m. Kilties

Planning Ahead

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

Tuesday, November 24th, 1:00 p.m. Quilting

Tuesday, November 24th, Newsletter Articles/Reports due

Thursday, November 26th, **Church Office Closed for Thanksgiving**

Saturday, November 28th, 9:00-11:00 a.m. Kilties

Sunday, November 29th, 6:00 p.m. Confirmation

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.

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, November 15th, 2015

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. Pastors' Preaching Text Study Group in Mankato, 3:00-5:00 p.m. Maple River Youth Center. *Wednesday* noon--1:00 p.m. Maggie J's Restaurant (Location for Community Office Hours may change occasionally and will be announced here), 1st & 3rd Wednesdays 6:00-7:00 p.m. G.I.F.T. *Thursday* 9:00 a.m.-noon church office, 2:00-3:00 p.m. 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!

TODAY! Congregational Annual Budget Proposal
and Election Meeting

There will be a Congregational meeting **Sunday, November 15th, 2015**. This meeting will begin immediately following worship service and will be held in the Fellowship Hall of the United Church.

This meeting is to adopt the 2016 Budget Proposal and a slate of officers nominated for 2016. Other business can be considered at this time, please inform the Moderator if you wish to place an item on the agenda.

A congregational information meeting (new structure) will be held, **Sunday, November 8th immediately after worship** in the Fellowship Hall.

GIFT Update—Generations In Faith Together

GIFT will be held on the **1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month from 6:00-7:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall, and will include a meal and Christian Education for all ages together. Our next GIFT gathering will be **Wednesday, November 18th. All are welcome!**

The United Church News and Announcements
Sunday, November 15th, 2015

High Chairs

The United Church is in need of newer high chairs for use in the Fellowship Hall. We are looking for gently used high chairs that have a three or five point safety harness and an adjustable, removable tray. Please let the office know if you have one you would like to donate. Thank you!

Ecumenical Choir

All those from our area churches who enjoy singing are invited to participate in a special Ecumenical Choir for the Ecumenical Thanksgiving service on November 25 at St. John Lutheran Church in Mapleton. We will have just one rehearsal, which will be at St. John's on **Wed., Nov. 18 at 7 pm**. Please join us that evening for singing, fun, and fellowship.

Holiday Boxes are back!

It's that time of year and in the holiday spirit, Maple River Loaves & Fishes will again be handing out Thanksgiving and Christmas boxes. In these boxes are a complete meal, including a turkey or ham and all the trimmings plus dessert.

We will be packing the boxes on **November 15th and December 20th at 1:00 p.m. at St. Teresa's** and handing them out on November 17th from 3:00-6:00 p.m. and December 22nd from 3:00-6:00 p.m. at St. Teresa's in Mapleton. We can always use volunteers to help!

The cost for the boxes is \$40/box and we anticipate handing out over 130 this year for each holiday. Please consider sponsoring a box (or several) this holiday season.

The need for food in our area continues to be great. The cost for the food continues to rise. In September, we gave out almost 13,000 pounds of food to 130 families. ALL from the Maple River area. They could be neighbors or friends. Many are in need of food, especially this time of year. Remember, for every dollar you donate, we are able to buy \$10.00 worth of food. Our mailing address is PO Box 227, Mapleton, MN 56065.

Thank you for your generous support for our food shelf, both financially and with prayer. God Bless!

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Scripture for the Week: Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Deuteronomy 6:4–5

Sunday:

Jesus asked the disciples, “What were you arguing about on the way?” But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. Mark 9:33–34

Guiding Light of the world, may we be inspired by the courage, spirit, and commitment of the saints who have gone before us. Let us celebrate our common call to serve and love you above all. Amen.

Monday:

If two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. Matthew 18:19

Gracious One, do not stop calling us to open ourselves to your unimaginable love. Help us to come together that our witness of faith may be unified for all the world to know of your great compassion. Amen.

Tuesday:

My God will fully satisfy every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19

Holy One, help us to see our need for you and for one another. May we be filled with your vision and act through your love towards your whole creation that all may be satisfied. Amen.

Wednesday:

Be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. James 1:22

God, may your presence empower us to live boldly and to do the work you call us to do with energy and hope for your future! Amen.

Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

Thursday:

Do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength. Nehemiah 8:10

Father, we rejoice and sing your praise! You are our strength and stay as we seek your blessings and guidance throughout our days. Lord, be with us. Amen.

Friday:

Jesus said to the disciples, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” John 20:21

Most gracious Lord and God, your peace surrounds us day and night. Help us to share that peace and love with others as we go about your work in our daily lives. Amen.

Saturday:

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:2

Lord, help us to discern your will for our lives. Help us to do what you would have us do as we encounter temptation and strife. Amen.

Source: Moravian Daily Texts

Continue