

**The United Church News and Announcements**  
**Sunday, September 25th, 2016**

**Garden of Eatin' Update:** 725.4 lbs. of produce to date.

**Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf Collections:** Sunday, October 2nd

**Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion & Community Announcements** are available for pick up from the Ministry Table.

**Children and Youth Mission Jar**

During Offertory time, the children and youth are welcome to come forward to place their donation into a mission donation jar. Each month the collections will be given to a chosen mission of the month.

**Party of 8**

Please sign up! Sheets are posted on the Ministry Table. Please be aware of, and if, there are any food items you could bring for the evening you attend. Thank you!

**Jackson Girls Foster Care Home**

The Jacksons now have eleven teenage girls in their home. An "items of need list" can be found in the entryway, underneath the Ministry Table. Please leave donated items in box provided. **Thank you so much for your generosity** in helping out this home. Most of all, please keep praying for these girls and their families. Thank you! Any Questions, please contact Sheila Samuelson.

**Call to Ministry and Ministry Table**

If you would like to share a **Call to Ministry** at the beginning of worship, please contact Marissa Pfeffer or the church office no later than Wednesday evening before that Sunday. The same timeline is requested for bulletin or Ministry Table information. The Call to Ministry time will be reserved for one announcement that is both informational and a call to action and should be directly related to The United Church of Mapleton's mission and ministry.

**2016-17 Energy Assistance Program**

This program provides a grant for income-eligible households which can help defray some of their monthly energy bill costs. Please see information posted on bulletin board in mail room.

**The United Church of Mapleton**  
**Order of Worship**

Sunday, September 25th, 2016  
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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.*

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

*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 Ministry**

**\*Call to Worship**

*Based on Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16*

One: All you who take refuge in the Lord, proclaim together:

**Many: "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust."**

One: The Lord covers all people with sheltering wings,

**Many: for the faithfulness of the Lord is a sure shield.**

One: Do not fear the terrors of night or the dangers of the day,

**Many: for all who call on the Lord will be delivered!**

One: The Lord promises,

**Many: "All who love me, I will rescue.**

One: All who call on me, I will answer.

**Many: All who know my name, I will satisfy."**

One: People of God, give thanks to the Almighty!

**All: Let us praise the name of the Lord!**

**\*Opening Hymn**

“God of Grace and God of Glory” #569

**\*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!

**\*Sharing Grace and Peace**

One: God’s Word is a word of forgiveness, assurance, and grace.

**Many: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

One: Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

**Many: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

One: Let us greet one another in fellowship.

**Invitation to Worship Through Offerings**

*All adults are invited to share any spare change they may have with the children nearest them so that all may participate in worshiping through the offering.*

*Children are invited to place their offering in the offering basket or come to the front of the Sanctuary and place it in the jar. For the month of September, the Mission Jar offerings will go to The Maple River Youth Center.*

**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**

**Message for God’s Children**

*Sunday School for children Pre-Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade age is available in Classroom A, down the hall from the Sanctuary.*

*All children may remain in their pews during worship, use the Family Space in the Overflow Room in the back of the Sanctuary, or use 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.*

**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 momentarily and shared with the congregation anonymously before our Preparation for Prayer.*

**Preparation for Prayer (Moment of Silence)**

**Prayers of the People**

**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**

“Great is Thy Faithfulness” #72

**Scripture**

Luke 16:19-31 (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**

“Listen to Them”

**\*Closing Hymn**

“For the Healing of the Nations” #621

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

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

## The United Church of Mapleton

201 Troendle St SW—PO Box 413—Mapleton, MN 56065  
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pastor@unitedchurchmapleton.org

### Today's Worship & Fellowship

Pastor—Ashley Whitaker

Lay Leader—Lisa Shubert

Hospitality Team Lead—Clint Lindemann

Organist/Pianist—Pam Braunshausen

Coffee Fellowship Host—Christian Education

9:00 a.m. Morning Worship

9:00 a.m. Nursery/Toddler Care (*in Nursery/Toddler Room*)

9:30-10:00 a.m. PreK—5th grade Sunday School (*Classroom A*)

10:00-11:00 a.m. 6th—12th grade Sunday School (*Youth Room*)

10:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship

Today's *Call to Worship* is by Rev. Ashley Whitaker and is posted online at [praxisandpraise.weebly.com](http://praxisandpraise.weebly.com).

### Church Calendar

Tuesday, September 27th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Tuesday, September 27th, 3:00-6:00 p.m. Loaves & Fishes workday

Tuesday, September 27th, 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study

Saturday, October 1st, 9:00-Noon Loaves & Fishes workday

Sunday, October 2nd, 6:00 p.m. Party of 8

Tuesday, October 4th, 6:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast in GT

Tuesday, October 4th, 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study

Wednesday, October 5th, 6:00 p.m. G.I.F.T

Monday, October 10th, 7:00 p.m. Women's Fellowship

### In Our Prayers

- The ministries of The United Church, including our local missions: The Maple River Youth Center, Loaves & Fishes Food Shelf, Meals on Wheels, Jackson Foster Care Home
- 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, Janie Firstbrook, Marian Mallory, Sean Mallory, Lloyd Mitchell, Stan Solie,
- Those recovering from recent health concerns or procedures: Eli Alvarado, Jack Madsen, Sean Mallory
- All those affected by the ongoing crisis in Syria and the hundreds of thousands of refugees fleeing the Middle East
- Phyllis Lindemann, who has been undergoing evaluation testing for a double lung transplant at the University of Minnesota. She has been cleared to join the transplant list, but faces potential problems with finding a match to avoid rejection.
- For all affected by the apparently intentional explosion Saturday, September 17th in New York City, which left 29 injured
- For all affected by the knife attack at Crossroads Mall in St. Cloud on Saturday, September 17th, which left eight injured
- For Sean Mallory, who is recovering from abdominal surgery last week

### The prayer requests and praises from worship last week were:

#### Prayers:

- For my granddaughter, who lost the love of her life to suicide
- For a nation in crisis, and thanksgiving for those who hold it together

#### Thanksgiving:

- And praise to God and thanksgiving for all who supported the kit program at the Dietz Brat Stand this past weekend, helping raise \$341.50

## Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

**Scripture for the Week:** The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.  
Psalm 51:17

### **Sunday:**

Jesus said, “This is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me.” John 6:39

Everlasting Father, we know that nothing can separate us from your love. As that love abides in us, may we abide in you so that we might bear fruit as your disciples. Amen.

### **Monday:**

My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. John 15:8

Jesus, you call us to labor in your vineyard, the church. May we discern the tasks you have for us. Strengthen us for that work and use us in building your kingdom. In all things, may we glorify you. Amen.

### **Tuesday:**

A leper came to Jesus begging him, and kneeling he said to him, “If you choose, you can make me clean.” Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, and said to him, “I do choose. Be made clean!” Mark 1:40–41

Healer, faithful Friend, have mercy upon us! You see us in all of our frailty; you know all of the ways that we are “unclean.” We acknowledge you as the Great Physician of our bodies and our souls. Hear our humble petition: Stretch out your hand and touch us! Amen.

### **Wednesday:**

It is the King of kings and Lord of lords alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion.

1 Timothy 6:15–16

Eternal King, we call you both Father and Friend; yet, you are beyond our imaginations in power and grandeur. We recognize you as the source of every blessing in our lives; nonetheless, we sometimes find ourselves saying, “I believe, but help me in my unbelief!” In our uncertainty, lead us to stronger faith. Remove our doubt and comfort us with your almighty hand. Amen.

## Weekly Scriptures for Prayer and Devotion

### **Thursday:**

Having been justified by the grace of Jesus Christ, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. Titus 3:7

Lamb of God, as you conquered sin and death, empower us to reject the temptations and culture of materialism that are rampant in our world. Thank you for your covenant of grace and the ultimate inheritance that awaits us. Amen.

### **Friday:**

He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead. Colossians 1:18

Alpha and Omega, beginning and end, you have purchased us for yourself, as your church and as your bride. Help us, Lord, to live more righteously that we might become worthy of your favor and grace. Amen.

### **Saturday:**

Hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. Romans 5:5

Eternal Father, we thank you for giving us your Holy Spirit: for the comfort it brings; for its guidance as we seek your truth; for its enlightenment as we read your word; for the changes in heart that it provokes. As we persevere in the course that you have set for us, we ask that you continue to pour out your Spirit that we might grow in our discipleship. Amen.

*Source: Moravian Daily Texts*

*Continue*

**The United Church News and Announcements**  
**Sunday, September 25th, 2016**

**Annual Turkey Dinner**

St. Matthew's Catholic Church of Vernon Center, MN will host its Annual Turkey dinner with all the trimmings, including homemade pie and served family style on **Sunday, October 2nd from 4:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.** Take outs are available by calling 507-549-3004.

**Rural Caregiver Support Group**

This monthly support group is for anyone who provides care to a family member or friend with a progressive illness. The group is informal and meets on the first Tuesday of each month. Join us for our October session on **Tuesday, October 4th from 3:00-4:30 p.m.** at First Presbyterian Church of Amboy. Topic: 10 ways to manage stress and be a healthier caregiver. There is no charge to attend; pre-registration is not required. Questions? Call Joyce Kolbet at VINE Faith in Action at 507-386-5583.