



***“The Voice”* Newsletter of  
The United Church of Mapleton**

201 Troendle Street SW; PO Box 413  
Mapleton, MN 56065

[www.unitedchurchmapleton.org](http://www.unitedchurchmapleton.org) 507/524-3141

**OCTOBER 2017**

*Address Service Requested*

*“The United Church of Mapleton is a Christian fellowship  
of mission, worship, and faith formation dedicated  
to the Maple River community.”*

The United Church of Mapleton  
PO Box 413, 201 Troendle St SW  
Mapleton, MN 56065



# THE UNITED CHURCH OF MAPLETON

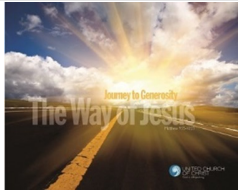
www.unitedchurchmapleton.org

secretary@unitedchurchmapleton.org

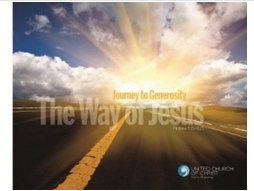
## 9:30 am Sunday Worship

**Communion is held the 1st Sunday of each month with Activity Stations for Grade 1—5**  
**10:30 am Coffee & Fellowship, Faith Formation (FF) during worship except first Sunday**

*Church Office Hours are Typically, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday from 8:00 am—Noon*



# OCTOBER 2017



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

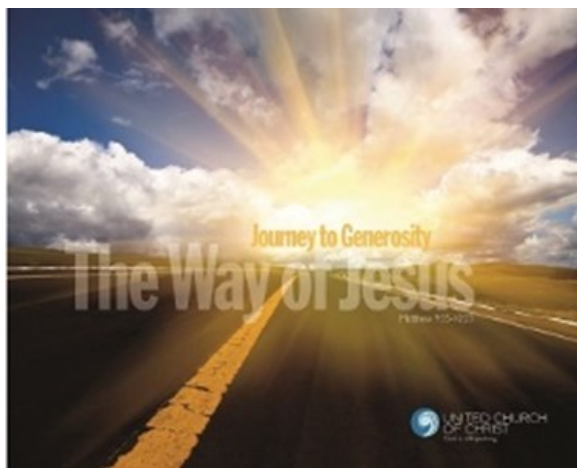
Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

1 9:30 am Worship Communion, Loaves & Fishes Collections, Youth Activity Stations, Special Offering	2	3 6:30 am Men's Breakfast in Good Thunder 1:00 pm Quilters 3:00 pm Talent Team	4 After school LOGOS program Gr. 1-5 at St. John Lutheran	5 7:30 pm Bible & Brew at Maggie J's <small>Different Brews Different Views</small> BIBLE & BREW <small>BEER, CONVERSATION, &amp; GOD</small>	6 <b>RECYCLE!</b>	7 Pastor Cindy's 30th Ordination Anniversary Open House (held at her home in Buffalo)
8 9:30 am Worship with Special Offering  <b>Holy Conversation:</b> <i>What We Can/not Expect of a Pastor Part 1</i>	9  <b>7:00 pm Women's Fellowship</b>	10 6:30 am Men's Breakfast in Good Thunder 1:00 pm Quilters	11 After school LOGOS program Gr. 1-5 at St. John Lutheran 3:00 pm CRC 7:00 pm Search Committee	12 7:30 pm Bible & Brew at Maggie J's <small>Different Brews Different Views</small> BIBLE & BREW <small>BEER, CONVERSATION, &amp; GOD</small>	13	14
15 9:30 am Worship Faith Formation / Special Offering  2—6 pm ABC mtg. in Albert Lea	16	17 6:30 am Men's Breakfast in Good Thunder 11:00 am Bible Study 1:00 pm Quilters	18  7:00 pm Council Mtg.	19 7:30 pm Bible & Brew at Maggie J's <small>Different Brews Different Views</small> BIBLE & BREW <small>BEER, CONVERSATION, &amp; GOD</small>	20 <b>RECYCLE!</b>	21 <b>9:30—11:30 am. Mapleton Kilites</b>
22 9:30 am Worship FF during worship/ Special Offering <b>Holy Conversation:</b> <i>What We Can/not Expect of a Pastor Part 2</i>	23  <b>Newsletter articles/reports are due into the church office</b>	24 6:30 am Men's Breakfast in Good Thunder 11:00 am Bible Study 1:00 pm Quilters	25 After school LOGOS program Gr. 1-5 at St. John Lutheran 7:00 pm Search Committee	26 7:30 pm Bible & Brew at Maggie J's <small>Different Brews Different Views</small> BIBLE & BREW <small>BEER, CONVERSATION, &amp; GOD</small>	27	28 <b>9:30—11:30 am. Mapleton Kilites</b>
29 9:30 am Worship FF during worship, Special Offering, Commitment Sunday w/Guest Preacher Rev. Rick Wagner; Associate Conference Minister All Church Brunch after worship	30	31 6:30 am Men's Breakfast in Good Thunder 11:00 am Bible Study 1:00 pm Quilters	<p>October Mission Jar Funds go towards:  <b>Loaves &amp; Fishes Food Shelf</b></p>			



## Journey to Generosity—The Way of Jesus

This is the theme we will be thinking about, listening to, preaching on and praying about during the month of Oct.

Because we have all received love, encouragement, and forgiveness during our lives, it is time to return a portion of our many gifts back to Jesus.

We hope you will attend worship throughout this month and hear from our own members who believe they have been blessed so generously by God that they have chosen to support the United Church with their financial gifts.

**Daily devotional material** has been emailed to many of you and will be made available each Sunday during October in hardcopy form.

We invite you to read these materials in order to prepare your heart and mind for

**Commitment Sunday—October 29th.**

**On this day** we will be given the opportunity to decide how important Jesus' generosity has blessed our lives by completing an *Estimate of Giving* card for 2017. **Following worship that day we will all share in a catered brunch. You will be given the opportunity to make reservations for this brunch soon.**

Thank you!

### United Church Development Team:

Joyce Johnson , Bruce Stanton, Linda Whitney,  
Ruth Cumming, Kathy Kunkel, with Pastor Cindy



## Special Offering Received During October

Neighbors in Need (UCC) and World Mission (ABC) offering will be received during the month of October. The money received will be divided evenly between our two denominations.

**The focus of the UCC offering** is to support ministries of justice and compassion in the United States and to support our American Indian neighbors. **The focus of the ABC offering** is on Peace and Justice, Abolishing Global Slavery and Economic and Community Development.



Your offering can be mailed to the church or put in the small manila envelopes found in the pew racks and dropped in an offering baskets.

Thank you for your generous gifts!



### Next Up— A Two-Part Holy Conversation

where we will examine our expectations of a Pastor. This will aide the Search Committee in identifying the skill set needed in a new Pastor.

Another important aspect of these Holy Conversations will be with regards to whether we will be calling a full-time or part-time Pastor.

Please join us in these important discussions which will be held on

**Sunday, October 8th and 22nd  
after worship in the Fellowship Hall.**



**Thank you** for your generous gift of \$100 to Church World Service!



## Ministry Schedules & Coffee Hour Hosts

### October 1

Lay Reader:	Joyce Johnson
Hospitality Team Lead:	Lanny & Kathy Cox
Pianist/Organist:	Jola Walker
Sound System:	Chad Kunkel
Power Point:	Gary Fritz
Coffee Hour Host:	Council

### October 8

Lay Reader:	Linda Whitney
Hospitality Team Lead:	
Pianist/Organist:	Janice Lange
Sound System:	Chad Kunkel
Power Point:	Jay McCutchen
Coffee Hour Host:	Women's Fellowship

### October 15

Lay Reader:	Louise Webb
Hospitality Team Lead:	
Pianist/Organist:	Ann DeWitz
Sound System:	Chad Kunkel
Power Point:	Kathy Cox
Coffee Hour Host:	Youth Center

### October 22

Lay Reader:	Pam Foster
Hospitality Team Lead:	Stan & Linda Whitney
Pianist/Organist:	Kathy Byram
Sound System:	Chad Kunkel
Power Point:	Konnor McCutcheon
Coffee Hour Host:	NEEDED

### October 29

Lay Reader:	Linda Whitney
Hospitality Team Lead:	Bob & Lisa Shubert
Pianist/Organist:	Guitar Group
Sound System:	Chad Kunkel
Power Point:	Randy Cumming
Coffee Hour Host:	NEEDED

## Harvesting God's Abundance

Throughout the month of October we want to decorate our chancel area in the sanctuary with a variety of fall items. This is where we need your help!

**Here is a list of possible things you might share with the church:**



Pumpkins, dried wheat bundles, gourds, a bushel of apples (or at least a bunch), a bale or two of hay/straw, bundles of corn stalks (tied in such a way that they can lean against the communion table), potted mums, baskets of plastic fruit and any produce you are willing to share.

The harvest display will grow each week so keep in mind we need all these items throughout the month of October. The display will be completed on the final Sunday in October 29th. On that day we will celebrate our *Journey to Generosity* by harvesting God's abundance and all we have to share by offering back to God our own *Estimate of Giving for 2017* through this faith community.

Contact Pastor Cindy or Sheila in the office if you are willing to donate the afore mentioned items or any other appropriate harvest items for display in church this October. Thank you for your consideration.

May our display exhibit the abundance God has blessed each of us with!

With the Greatest of Hope,  
*Pastor Cindy*

## Newsletter Submissions



Please submit all items for the **November** newsletter into the church office no later than **Monday, October 23**. Thank you!

## Contact Information



If you have a **pastoral emergency or need**, please contact Pastor Cindy Mueller.

**Please check your bulletin each week** for Pastor Cindy's office hours and how to reach her.

## Loaves & Fishes Garden of Eatin' Update

Total produce to date: 60.3 lbs.



PLEASE CHECK BOTH CHURCH BULLETIN BOARDS WEEKLY, FOR CHURCH AND LOCAL COMMUNITY INFORMATION!

Daily Devotions Online

You may visit the following website for daily devotions:

http://www.ucc.org/daily\_devotional

Prayer Chain

If you have a prayer request, please call Karen Stanton at (507)327-8168 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.

Fall Turkey Supper

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Minnesota Lake, Sunday, October 8, 2017 from 4-7 pm \$10, children under 5 Free



Mid-American Baptist Churches Gatherings

All men, women & young people are invited to attend! Saturday, October 14 FBC Indianola, IA, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 15

Bridge Community Church, Albert Lea, MN 2:30 - 6:00 p.m.

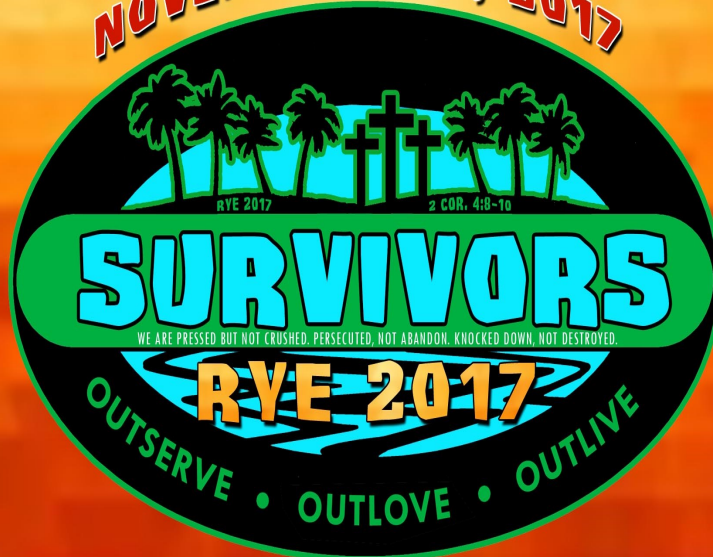
Guest Speaker: Rev. Matt Lundgren, Executive Director Friendship House of Christian Service, Billings, Montana



Cost: \$7.00 per person Please contact Pastor Cindy if you are available to attend with her. She will plan to drive.

COME EXPERIENCE GOD'S LOVE ON AN AMAZING ADVENTURE OF HIS GRACE!

NOVEMBER 3-5, 2017



JOIN US FOR AN INCREDIBLE WEEKEND!

MID-ABC CHURCHES REGION YOUTH EVENT IN CEDAR RAPIDS, IA FOR STUDENTS IN 6TH-12TH GRADE COSTS: \$50 (BEFORE OCT. 1ST) | \$60 (AFTER OCT. 1ST)

SPEAKER/RAPPER: ADAM SIEFF | SPECIAL MUSIC WITH STEVE OLIVER

A WEEKEND OF PRAISE, WORSHIP, PRAYER, GROWING, FRIENDS, AND FUN SPECIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDE: ICE ARENA FUN, BREAK OUT SESSIONS WITH SERVICE PROJECTS, AND SATURDAY NIGHT LOCK-IN\*

WE ARE MADE WHOLE THROUGH OUR BROKENNESS AND THROUGH CHRIST'S SUFFERINGS WE EXPERIENCE ABUNDANT LIFE!

\*THE LOCK-IN IS OPTIONAL FOR EACH GROUP. THERE WILL BE AFTER HOURS ACTIVITIES & MOVIES AT THE CHURCH FOR THOSE WISHING TO FORGO THE SATURDAY NIGHT HOTEL. ADULT LEADERS MUST ACCOMPANY THEIR GROUP AT THE LOCK-IN. PLEASE BRING SLEEPING BAGS AND PILLOWS.

## Join the Celebration!

You're Invited to  
Celebrate the  
30<sup>th</sup> Ordination Anniversary  
of Rev. Cindy Mueller

Cindy wants to celebrate her 30<sup>th</sup> ordination anniversary with friends, family, and the members of the congregations she's served.

Please join Cindy on  
**Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**1:00PM—4:00 PM**

[1503 Pulaski Road, Buffalo 55313](https://www.google.com/maps/place/1503+Pulaski+Road,+Buffalo,+NY+14203/@42.858144,-78.858144,15z)



## We need your help!



We would like photographs of the activities here at church to include in the church profile. If you have any to share, please give them to a Search Committee member - or better yet, send them electronically to the church office —

[secretary@unitedchurchmapleton.org](mailto:secretary@unitedchurchmapleton.org).

Thank you!

Search Committee Members: *Karen Stanton; Chairperson, Gary Fritz, Kathy Cox, Louisa Belle Shuck, Jay DeLeon, Annalivia Bair & Carolyn Becker*



## Christian Education

**! Attention All Families with  
1st—5th Graders !**

### Sunday School/Faith Formation

As in the past, children will go to their class immediately after the Faith Forming Moment.

*However*, on the first Sunday of each month – Communion Sunday - the children will move to the Overflow area following the reading of scripture where activity stations related to the scripture lesson will be available with supplies for children to engage in hands-on activities provided at the stations. Fun at the stations will happen during the sermon. On those Communion Sundays, the children will be invited to assist in preparing the communion table by bringing the cloth, bread and juice forward at the start of communion which follows the sermon.

Sunday School/Faith Formation curriculum for the 2017-2018 year will follow the same lectionary readings Pastor Cindy shapes the service around.

The curriculum is entitled *Seasons of the Spirit*. Sharon Shuck will be serving as the lead teacher.

**Substitute teachers are need!**

Sincerely and in Christ's love,  
*Pam Foster*, CE Coordinator

## Logos, a new after-school program for grade school children

is being planned St. John's Lutheran Church. We at UCM have been included in a recent planning meeting and are encouraging our children to join in this program.

It is open to all grade school students, grades 1—6, in the Maple River area. This program will be held at St. John's every Wednesday afternoon after school, **beginning October 4**, and will run for 9 weeks. There will be a winter break from the program and then it will resume in the spring for an additional 9 weeks. A detailed letter explaining the Logos program has been mailed out to parents of our grade school children here at UCM. If you no longer have your letter or did not receive one, a copy can be obtained at the church office.

Sincerely and in Christ's love,  
*Pam Foster*, CE Coordinator



*Different Brews*  *Different Views*  
**BIBLE & BREW**  
 ——— BEER, CONVERSATION, & GOD ———

Every Thursday evening beginning,  
 October 5, 2017 at 7:30 pm  
 in the back room of Maggie J's.

We hope to see you there!

**Public Service Announcement**  
**Mapleton Senior Nutrition**



*We're moving to a Diner's Club @ Maggie J's!* As of Monday, October 2nd, **Maggie J's will be the onsite provider of Mapleton Senior Dining and Meals on Wheels!**

Senior diners age 60+ should make a donation for a single-meal (Diner's Club) ticket(s) @ Pioneer Bank, and redeem for the Daily Special (*limited availability!*) or Soup/Sandwich senior meal.

**No reservations required; coffee and gratuity not included.** Menus available in the Maple River Messenger and at Pioneer Bank.

Senior Dining meals will be available **5 days/week, Monday-Friday from 11AM-1PM. Meals on Wheels service will continue as-is.** Meals on Wheels participants should call 1-866-974-0284 to sign-up, change or cancel meal delivery\*.

\*If you are already receiving Meals on Wheels, your meal service will continue as usual.

We invite you to join us on our new venture as we enter into an exciting new partnership with Maggie J's!

**Please contact Vanessa Mack, LSS Senior Nutrition Program Assistant Director @ 1-866-974-0284 with questions regarding this change.**

Meal tickets first available at the Mapleton Community Center on our last day, Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup>.

LSS Senior Dining & Meals on Wheels is made possible in part by the Minnesota River Area

To see the most recent approved Church Council Minutes, please check bulletin board outside of the church office. *Thank you!*

**In Our Prayers**



**Our church prayer list includes:**

- Those members living in Care Facilities: Kathy Cramer, Alberta Samuelson

**The prayer requests and praises shared with the congregation during last month's worship services include Prayers and Thanksgivings:**

- For all those suffering and healing from hurricane Harvey
- May the God given skill of doctors help those in pain
- For Lorraine Stanton, after a short hospital stay. She is now in Oaklawn Nursing home in Mankato
- Grant peace and healing to those who suffer. May they too find their passion and calling.
- Jack Madsen in hospice care at Pathstone Living in Mankato
- John Brindley and his wife Jan, as John faces serious health issues
- Jon (a nephew) and other families who are in Florida during hurricane Irma
- Geri Howieson who had surgery
- For family in their journey with God that they be brought through the days ahead. Give them a strong faith
- Safety for our family members Keith, Kerry, Katy and Kyle in Florida
- Thanks and praise to all who serve in the leadership of our church. Help us to pray and thank them for their service to you.
- Prayers of thanks to God for being with my family when they needed His healing
- Bob Howieson had a birthday yesterday! He entered into a new decade. God bless him and his future!
- For friends Eldora and Virgil, and daughter-in-law Phyllis

## **Behavior You Can Expect From Your Pastoral Leader**

A series by the Rev. Dr. Joe Kutter

Dear American Baptists,

This is the third article describing the “Code of Ethics,” the standards by which your Pastor and all ordained American Baptist Ministers agree to live as they serve the people and congregations of the American Baptist Churches USA. In this article, we’ll begin to look at the first three of the fourteen statements that summarize the ethical commitments by which our ordained leaders agree to serve and live.

**I will hold in trust the traditions and practices of our American Baptist Churches; I will not accept a position in the American Baptist family unless I am in accord with those traditions and practices; nor will I use my influence to alienate my congregation/constituents or any part thereof from its relationship and support of the denomination. If my convictions change, I will resign my position.**

In agreeing to serve as a pastoral leader within the family of ABC congregations, your pastor agrees to be a good steward of (to hold in trust) those things that give us a distinctive witness within the Christian family, i.e. our traditions and practices. In our ABC tradition, nobody who knows our tradition expects that everybody will agree on everything. We don’t do that! So, when your pastor finds himself or herself holding a minority position, when there is disagreement with the direction our denomination seems to be taking, our leaders agree to disagree and even protest in a manner that honors our core traditions. Even in season of profound disagreement, your pastoral leaders will refuse to lead the people and churches within their care to disengage from the family of ABC churches. Before your pastor seeks to take the church out of the denomination, he or she will resign!

**I will respect and recognize the variety of calls to ministry among my American Baptist colleagues, and other Christians.**

The Apostle Paul reminds us that there are a variety of calls and a variety of gifts. This is clearly true within the sphere of ordained ministry. Not all are called to be preaching pastors! Educators, counselors, administrators, pastoral care givers, denominational leaders, social justice leaders – different gifts for different ministries and all are honored within the community of ministers as persons called by God to serve as ministers of the Gospel.

**I will seek to support all colleagues in ministry by building constructive relationships wherever I serve, both with the staff where I work and with colleagues in neighboring churches.**

The Apostle Paul wrote about the body of Christ within which every member needs every other member to thrive and, for the body to thrive, every member needs to make his or her own unique contribution. This is true both for the congregations, for denominations, and in special ways for the community of Ordained Ministers. The evidence is clear that ordained leaders are both personally healthier and vocationally more effective when they intentionally build constructive relationships with colleagues in ministry. Lay leaders provide valuable support to their pastors as they offer both encouragement and time for their pastors to form these collegial relations.

In closing, allow me to offer this never-ending reminder – **Prayers for your pastor are always needed and appreciated.**