



*Disciples of Jesus, Revealing His Kingdom  
Through Love, Spiritual Growth,  
and Service Together*

Watch Sunday's service live at 10:00 a.m.  
at [www.mgmennonite.org](http://www.mgmennonite.org)

Weekly Newsletter dated June 5, 2020



**We are happy to announce that our first in person worship service is this Sunday at 10am.** We know some of you are on opposite ends of the spectrum but we are asking the same things of everyone: give grace, act in love and not to judge. Be respectful of each other.

Remember we are all brothers and sisters in Christ.

If you are uncomfortable with following the reopening guidelines, please follow us online until further relaxations are approved. The reopening guidelines were sent out to the congregation earlier this week and are also available on the website. Click below for a digital copy:

[Maple Grove Reopening Guidelines](#)

**Sunday's Service - June 7, 2020**  
**Stumbles, Bruises and Bumps**  
**II Corinthians 6:1-13**

**Message:** Terry Shue  
**Worship Leader:** Jill Liechty  
**Song Leader:** Ruth Yoder

Opening Song	–	<i>Revival (Revive Us)</i>
Praise Songs	–	<i>Open the Eyes of My Heart</i>
	–	<i>You Never Let Go</i>
Song of Response	–	<i>HWB #575 Precious Lord, Take My Hand</i>
Sending Song	–	<i>TMH #573 All the Way My Savior Leads Me</i>



*Thank you to my church family for blessing me with cards, visits, prayers, flowers, phone calls and of course food. I feel very taken care of by all of you. I am doing therapy and doing well. I am still not running and jumping but I will get there! Love to you all, Carol Sommers*



✝ *Pray for Lois Bontrager who is recovering from hip replacement surgery.*

✝ *Pray for the Pastor Search Committee: Paul Bontrager, Jen Geiser, Jill Liechty, Perry Miller and Scott Sommers.*



## AT HOME

Philippians 1:6

"He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."

### This year, Vacation Bible School will a bit different.

In order to keep each person safe and to prevent further spread of the virus, VBS will not gather together as in past years. However, the VBS Committee is putting together backpacks for each child in preschool though children just completing 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Each VBS At Home backpack will include 6 days of fun activities: a Bible story, game, craft and a verse to learn for the week. These will be distributed during church on Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup>. If your child will not be in church on July 5<sup>th</sup>, please contact Kim Weaver or Ruth Yoder and we will make other arrangements.

### Congratulations to the children who participated in Bible Memory this past school year

Kindergarten: **Nora Shelly**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: **Miles Yoder, Caroline Shelly, Paige Sommers**  
5<sup>th</sup> Grade: **James Yoder, Caleb Shelly**  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade: **Brody Shrock**  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade: **Kyle Eklich, Braeden Shrock**



The children will be acknowledged during an upcoming worship service.



*Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.*  
Psalm 119:105



**Mennonite Church USA released a statement on racial injustice**, calling for all congregations to "continue to pray for, seek out and lend our voices and bodies to God's healing, justice and peace." Read the full statement here: [http://mennoniteusa.org/news/mc\\_usa-statement-on-racial-injustice/](http://mennoniteusa.org/news/mc_usa-statement-on-racial-injustice/) Executive Director Glen Guyton also wrote an open letter to the denomination: <http://mennoniteusa.org/menno-snapshots/more-costly-peacemaking/>

**Please see the statement on racial injustice from Ohio Conference at the end of this newsletter.**

**Click below for the June issue of Prayers for Faith & Learning from Mennonite Education Agency.**

[June Prayers for Faith and Learning](#)

A copy of the prayer requests is posted on the Ohio Conference bulletin board in the hallway of the church.

**If you would like to include something in the newsletter,  
please contact Cindy by noon on Wednesday each week – thank you!**

Church Information: 2121 Smith Kramer St. NE, Hartville, OH 44632 Phone: 330-877-2400  
Website: [www.mgmennonite.org](http://www.mgmennonite.org) Facebook @MapleGroveMC

Terry Shue: Bridge Pastor

Cindy Fleming: Church Secretary ([Secretary@maplegrovemennonite.org](mailto:Secretary@maplegrovemennonite.org))

Ministry of Congregational Care: Dan Dutcher, Paul Bontrager, Marty Miller, Gary Sommers

Prayer Chain Contacts: Kami Sommers and Jen Geiser

Congregational Care Contacts: Harold Beachy, Dan Dutcher, Matthew Manchester,  
Dorothy Shrock, Clara Sommers, Rhoda Sommers

## Leadership Team makes statement on racial injustice

As the Leadership Team of Ohio Conference of Mennonite Church USA, we affirm the recent statement from Mennonite Church USA on racial injustice and Executive Director Glen Guyton's open letter to the denomination. We lament the death of George Floyd, the latest death of an African-American person at the hands of a white police officer. We grieve the violence that has erupted in many cities across the country, and yet we acknowledge that much is the result of anger and frustration due to systemic injustice and racism against people of color that has been building for a long period of time, in fact for all of America's history.

As a conference of mostly white members we are invited to come to this moment in a spirit of repentance, recognizing our failure to listen and to take seriously the reality of racism and what it means to be African-American in America. We repent of our silence and complacency in response to injustice and systemic oppression. We desire by God's grace to listen, to learn, and to act in the spirit of Jesus Christ.

We encourage our congregations on Sunday, June 7, to pray and lament the deaths of numerous African-American men and women who have died as a result of racial violence at the hands of persons in authority, along with the most recent victim, George Floyd, and the violence, pain and injustice that is plaguing our nation. Please also pray for our nation's leaders to make wise and compassionate decisions in the days ahead.

We also encourage our congregations to take concrete steps to not only make themselves more knowledgeable of the systemic racial injustice that exists in America, but to grow in relationship with those from other racial and ethnic groups and to actively examine ways in which our churches and communities are organized to exclude or subvert the gifts of people of color.

We recommend the resources that are listed at the end of MC USA's statement on racial injustice. We affirm Glen Guyton's call that this is not the time to be "the quiet in the land," and that we need to stand with our black sisters and brothers in Christ.

Ohio Conference Leadership Team

Lynn Miller

Paula Snyder Belousek

Vickie Yoder

Alvis Pettker

Dean Falb

Dick Barrett

Alysa Short

Judy King