



Informal Fellowship - 9:00 a.m.
 Sunday School Classes - 9:30a.m.
 Worship Service - 10:30 a.m.
 (Online at www.mgmennonite.org)



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

Newsletter dated
 February 4, 2022

Sunday's Service – February 6, 2022
Listening to Their Voices: Identity in Christ
Ephesians 4:1-6 (NRSV)

GATHERING

Prelude
 Opening Song *You Are Holy (Prince of Peace)*
 Welcome & Announcements
 Call to Worship & Prayer

PRAISING

Praise Songs *STJ #52 Jesus, Help Us Live in Peace*
God Would You Forgive Us
Be at Rest
 Offering – General Fund

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading Ephesians 4:1-6 (NRSV)
 Message ***Listening to Their Voices: Identity in Christ***

RESPONDING

Song of Response *VT #455 Make Us One*
 Congregational Sharing/Prayer

SENDING

Sending Song *We Are the Body of Christ*
 Benediction/Blessing
 Postlude

Message:	Nathanael Hofstetter Ressler	Song Leader:	Renee Koshmider
Worship Leader:	Myron Weaver	Offertory:	Renee Koshmider

Songs used with permission: CCLI 465314
HWB-Hymnal Worship Book (blue) TMH-The Mennonite Hymnal (red)
STJ-Sing the Journey (green) STS-Sing the Story (purple)
VT-Voices Together (purple)



FROM THE PASTOR

Sermon Series for February – “Listening to Their Voices”

February is Black History Month, a time when we take particular care and thought to celebrate and recognize black peoples throughout American History, both past and present - who they were, what they accomplished, and what we might learn from them. We recognize that we are a majority white congregation in a majority white area. Perhaps it can feel strange for us to recognize Black History Month. Recognizing Black History Month is important for it helps us more deeply understand our sisters and brothers in Christ who are different from us. This difference is not wrong and should not be diminished but rather celebrated and learned from.

All people are made in the image of God and without engaging the myriad of perspectives of humanity, our understanding of the Imago Dei (Image of God) will be limited. It is in celebrating and learning from our sisters and brothers of color that we come to know more profoundly who God is. It is not just for their sake that we do this work but for our own sake, for in Listening to Their Voices we come to understand ourselves more completely as well.

The point of this series is for us to hear from Black voices. The focus will not be racism or race relations but rather hearing from authors and theologians about a variety of subjects regarding Scripture, Jesus Christ, and our faith lives together.

*In Christ,
Pastor Nathanael*



✝ Pray for those from our congregation with health concerns: Lois Bontrager, Marsha Miller, Sam Miller, Carol Sommers.

✝ Pray for those homebound in our congregation: Mabel Weaver, Rachel Weaver, and Nelson Schlabach.

✝ Pray for healing for others with health concerns: Tom Johnson’s mother Donna; Marcus Yoder, Lois Bontrager and Ruth Hills’ brother, who is in a rehab nursing facility; Barb Dutcher’s brother-in-law Neal Orndorff on hospice.

✝ Pray for peace and justice throughout the world; we pray for the situation between Ukraine and Russia. We pray against the spirit of violence and war and pray for peace in the area.

Offering Last Sunday, January 30

Attendance: 71



General Fund	\$ 1,629.00
Youth Fundraiser Lunch	709.00
Lake Township FISH	500.00
Alexi Mission Project	1,800.00
Total Offering	<u>\$ 4,638.00</u>



The Youth Group would like to thank you for your support of the fundraiser lunch held before the Annual Meeting. We were able to raise \$709.00 to go toward Youth Group activities. We feel blessed by your offering and continued support!



The 2021 year-end giving statements are under the mailboxes in envelopes marked with your offering number. Please pick up your numbered envelope. If you would like your giving statement mailed to you, please contact Cindy in the church office.

Coffee Time & Fellowship @ Church – Sunday mornings



If you would like to help with supplying donuts and baked goods for coffee time on Sunday mornings, please sign up by clicking on the link below. Two dozen donuts and homemade or store-bought baked goods are needed. Please have at the church by 9am on Sunday morning. If you have any questions with signing up, please contact Jen Geiser. Thanks for your help! Use this link to sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a054ea9a92da64-coffee>



There will be puzzle time in the Fellowship Hall at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 10th.

Feel free to bring a puzzle and we will decide which one to start! Anyone is welcome to come and participate. If you have any questions, contact Savannah Hofstetter Ressler.



All-Church Social – Sunday, February 20 @ 4:30 p.m.

– PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE

Family Ministry has scheduled a game night at the church on Sunday, February 20, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. All ages are welcome! We'll have pizza at 5:30 and chocolate for dessert! Bring your favorite game to play. If you have any questions, please contact a member of Family Ministry: Barb Dutcher, Masha Miller, Vee Miller & Sheryl Weaver

New Hymnal Update - Voices Together

The Ministry of Worship has ordered some of the new Mennonite hymnal worship books, *Voices Together*. A copy has been placed in the middle rack of each line of pews replacing some of the red hymnals, *The Mennonite Hymnal*. If you would like to have a red hymnal, please help yourself – they are on a table in the church lobby and free for the taking!



The second Thursday of each month is Maple Grove's turn to supply volunteers at the Hartville Thrift Shoppe. Men and women are needed Thursday, Feb. 10, at 6pm.



FISH Collection – bring in by February 6

The Ministry of Outreach is having a collection for Lake Township FISH as part of their annual "Souper Bowl of Caring" project to tackle hunger – *Let's #TackleHunger Together!* 100% of the donations received for this event will go to Lake Township FISH to serve our community members in need.

Brown bags are available at the church for collecting non-perishable food and hygiene items (cereal, condiments, pasta sauce, crackers, baking mixes, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, soap, etc.). Please bring items to the church by February 6th. You may also donate through the offering by marking your envelope for FISH.



Announcements & Prayers for February 2022 from Ohio Conference:

(Copies of all are posted on the Conference bulletin board in the hallway at the church.)

- Register by February 11 for ACA & Missional Conference being held in March – more information can be found at [Home - Ohio Mennonite Conference](#)
- Ohio Conference invites you to be in prayer for its pastoral staff, Conference Minister Dick Barrett and Regional Pastors Tony Doehrmann and Ralph Reinford. Please remember them as they serve around Conference and prepare for their particular roles at the upcoming Annual Conference Assembly on March 4-5.
- Mennonite Education Agency has compiled [Prayers for Mennonite Education](#) for February.
- [Prayer Vine](#), a publication of Mennonite Mission Network, lists daily prayer requests for mission workers serving in locations around the world.
- MC USA announcements for the month of February are available [here](#).

To include something in the newsletter, please contact Cindy by noon on Wednesday – thank you!

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

Nathanael Hofstetter Ressler: Pastor (pastornathanael@maplegrovemennonite.org)
 - Office Hours: Monday 9am-12pm; Tuesday thru Thursday-1-3pm; Friday-Sabbath

Cindy Fleming: Church Secretary (Secretary@maplegrovemennonite.org)
 - Office Hours: Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Friday – 8am-1pm

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

Prayer Chain Contacts: Jen Geiser and Kami Sommers

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES AVAILABLE

Adult Classes

Women's Class: Room 1-Education Side
 Mixed Intergenerational Class: Room 2-Education Side
 Sr. Men's Class: Room 9-Hallway
 Sr. Women's Class: Room10-Hallway
 Mixed Post-High/20's-40's: Basement

Children/Youth Classes

PreK-4th Grade: Rooms 7-8
 -Teachers: Lesli Miller & Sheryl Weaver
 Jr. Youth (Grades 5-8): Rooms 3-4
 - Teacher: Karen Miller
 Youth (Grades 9-12): Basement
 - Teacher: Kami Sommers