



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



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

Newsletter dated  
 March 4, 2022

*In this season of Lent, we are invited into an intentional space of Seeking God's Ways. Lent is a time of surrendering, remembering, and acknowledging our need for God. Throughout the Scripture we see God, in a multitude of intersecting ways, reveal who God is and the way in which God is moving. In this season of Lent, we are giving special attention to how God's ways are very often not ours. And not only this but there are times in which our ways move counter to God's; in these spaces we are called to repent. In Hebrew the root word for "repent" is "turn" as in physically turning around. As we enter into Lent this year, let us turn from our own ways and move in God's ways. Let us open ourselves to a deep repentance that will move us in greater faithfulness toward God.*

*In Christ,  
 Pastor Nathanael*



**Lent 1 – March 6, 2022**

***The Next 40 Days - Luke 4:1-13 (NIV)***

***Seeking God's Ways: From Security to Generosity***

*As we seek God's way, we move from prioritizing our personal security to living with generosity toward our neighbors.*

**Message:** Jill Liechty  
**Worship Leader:** Gary Sommers

**Song Leader:** Tom Lubbers  
**Children's Time:** Kami Sommers

**GATHERING**

Prelude

Opening Song

HWB #6 *Here in This Place*

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship & Prayer

Leader: Together we seek the way of God,

**People: *through the wilderness of Lent, through the wilderness of life.***

Leader: We crave the safety of God's shelter,

**People: *the cool comfort of the divine shadow, the security of the Holy fortress.***

Leader: God offers the care of angels,

**People: *the gentleness of creation, the protection of love.***

Leader: God is generous to all who call on the Holy name,

**ALL: *so come, let us seek God's way of generosity.***

## PRAISING

Praise Songs

*Blessed Be Your Name  
Our God*

Offering – General Fund

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

Children's Time

Scripture Reading

Luke 4:1-13 (NIV)

Message

***The Next 40 Days***

## RESPONDING

Song of Response

*He Who Began a Good Work in You*

Congregational Response:

Leader: Your ways, O God, are higher than our ways.

**People: *Your thoughts are higher than our thoughts.***

Leader: We seek God's ways.

*(Pause)*

**ALL: *Lord, move us from our ways of clinging to security to Your ways of generous living.***

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Holy One, we seek You while You may be found.

**People: *We call upon You while You are near.***

Leader: Have mercy on us, O God, for our thoughts are not Your thoughts and our ways are not Your ways.

**People: *Forgive us for seeking security. Lead us into Your way of generosity.***

Leader: As we walk with Christ on this Lenten journey, let us see Your way more clearly,

**ALL: *and follow Your way more faithfully.***

Congregational Sharing/Prayer

## SENDING

Sending Song

*Whom Shall I Fear (God of Angel Armies)*

Benediction/Blessing

Postlude

### PERMISSION TO PHOTOCOPY

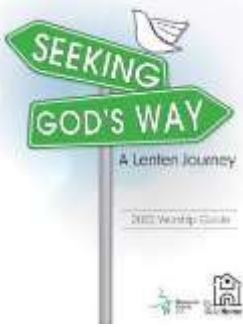
*Subscribers to Leader are welcome to photocopy, adapt, and project "Seeking God's Ways" worship materials.*

*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)*



**Seeking God's Way** is the theme of Mennonite Church USA's (MC USA) 2022 **Lent at Home worship guide**. The annual guide for home-based worship provides daily and weekly scripture readings, prayers and rituals for individuals and families observing Lent, the period of prayer and reflection from Ash Wednesday, March 2, to Easter, April 17. The guide also features at-home rituals for Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. New for 2022 is a printable calendar with daily worship prompts. Click [here](#) for the free Lent at Home guide, the calendar, and videos related to these resources from MC USA. Copies of the guide and calendar are available on the literature rack at the church.

**Stations of the Cross Coloring pages are available on the literature rack.** Each set of coloring pages includes two versions. A simplified version for some of the youngest colorer's (and those who prefer less detail to color) and a detailed version. Please help yourself to these resources!



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

✝ Pray for our homebound church family: *Mabel Weaver, Rachel Weaver, and Nelson Schlabach.*

✝ Pray for healing for others with health concerns: *Margaret Miller, Betty Miller's sister and Sheryl Weaver's sister-in-law; 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, February 27**

**Attendance: 62**



General Fund	\$ 4,880.19
Total Offering	<u>\$ 4,880.19</u>

**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>



Mark Your  
**CALENDAR**

**Maple Grove's leadership has been working on "Who is Maple Grove today and who is God calling us to be in Hartville and beyond!"**

On Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, Terry Shue and Pastor Nathanael will be leading a Visioning Process for Maple Grove. Mark it on your calendars and please make it a priority for you and your family to be present on that Sunday. Child care will be provided. More details to come!

**There will be puzzle time in the Fellowship Hall at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>.**

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.



**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, March 10, at 6:00 p.m.

### **Derby Car Race**



The children and youth are making derby cars this winter and planning to have a race in April. Work on the derby cars has begun. There are several extra cars available if anyone else in the congregation would like to make one. We will meet at the church on Wednesday, March 16, from 6:30-7:30 to paint the cars.

**We will be having an All-church Social & Derby Race on Sunday April 3<sup>rd</sup> – mark your calendars!**

If you have any questions, please contact one of the Kids Club/Jr Youth Leaders:

AJ & Jen Geiser, Adam & Kim Weaver.



**Higher Education Grants from Maple Grove for 2022-2023 – Applications due March 31**

In an effort to encourage our members to pursue a Christian education that emphasizes the Anabaptist vision, Maple Grove has available a grant program for students enrolling in colleges and seminaries maintaining the Mennonite Anabaptist vision. Copies of Maple Grove's policy and the application form are available on the literature rack in the foyer or check with Jill Liechty, Youth Leader. **Any interested students should return the application to Maple Grove's Treasurer, John Koshmider, by March 31, 2022.**



**From MCC: Respond to the crisis in Ukraine**

On February 24, Russian military forces began an invasion of Ukraine by land, sea and air. Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) is accepting donations for a response in Ukraine. MCC is assessing the changing situation with local partners to determine the appropriate response. To learn more or to donate, please see <https://mcc.org/stories/crisis-ukraine>. Donation checks can be mailed to: MCC, Attn: Ukraine Crisis, PO Box 500, Akron, PA 17501-0500.

**Impact 2022:** Do you care about helping Mennonite Central Committee make an impact in the U.S. and around the world? If so, we want to listen to you. Your input can help fulfill MCC’s desire to find the best ways of responding to basic human needs and working for peace and justice. Share your ideas in this short survey: [surveymonkey.com/r/MCCimpact2022-Media](https://surveymonkey.com/r/MCCimpact2022-Media). Thank you for caring.

**Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale Kick Off Meeting – March 7 @ 6:30 p.m.**

You are invited to the 2022 Kick Off Meeting for the Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale. Join us at Salem Mennonite Church on Monday, March 7, at 6:30pm to open the 2022 Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale Season! We will be discussing plans for the 2022 Relief Sale and brainstorming new ideas. Salem Mennonite is located at 3363 Zuercher Rd, Dalton, OH 44618. Please bring a new toy for the Children's Auction!

**– YOUR IDEAS –**

In preparation for the meeting, we invite you to fill out the following survey and bring along to the meeting, or return to Brenda Latulippe at [blatulippe@hartvillethriftshoppe.org](mailto:blatulippe@hartvillethriftshoppe.org).

[SURVEY](#)



INVITE A FRIEND & JOIN US FOR

**Taco Tuesday!**

OPEN ARMS HISPANIC MINISTRY ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DINNER

MARCH 15, 2022 | 6PM  
KIDRON PARK COMMUNITY CENTER  
4434 KIDRON ROAD, KIDRON, OH 44636

FOR ANY QUESTIONS & TO RSVP:  
[KELSEY@OPENARMSHISPANICMINISTRY.ORG](mailto:kelsey@openarmshispanicministry.org)  
330.466.7845 (CALL OR TEXT)  
PLEASE RSVP BY MARCH 11



**Open Arms Hispanic Ministry is hosting TACO TUESDAY on March 15 – 6:00-8:00 p.m.**

Their annual fundraising dinner will be at the Kidron Park Community Center (4434 Kidron Road) beginning at 6:00 p.m. and will feature a delicious catered taco bar. A program of Open Arms ministry highlights will follow with live music by the Salem Worship Team. A freewill offering will be taken. Please RSVP by March 11 to [kelsey@openarmshispanicministry.org](mailto:kelsey@openarmshispanicministry.org) or 330-466-7845. *Invite a friend and join us!*

## **MCC Material Resource Center Informational Meeting – March 29 @ 7:00 p.m.**

MCC Great Lakes is in the beginning stages of planning to build a Material Resource Center for the eastern portion of the region to be located in Kidron near MCC Connections. A meeting has been planned for Tuesday, March 29, at 7:00 p.m. at Kidron Mennonite Church to present the plan and gather input from community members, volunteers, donors and anyone else who might be interested in the project. If you are interested, please contact Danae King, MCC Great Lakes Donor Relations Associate, at [danaeking@mcc.org](mailto:danaeking@mcc.org) or 330-201-0130.

## **Announcements & Prayers for March 2022 from Ohio Conference:**

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

- Please remember Ohio Conference congregations, pastors and related ministries in your prayers. The March-April 2022 issue of [Prayer Prompter](#) has been compiled by Dan Hooley, prayer coordinator for the Ohio Conference.
- Mennonite Education Agency has compiled [Prayers for Mennonite Education](#) for March.
- [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 March 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](http://www.mgmennonite.org) Facebook @MapleGroveMC

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

Cindy Fleming: Church Secretary ([Secretary@maplegrovemennonite.org](mailto: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  
Men's Class: Room 9-Hallway  
Mixed Post-High/20's-40's: Basement

#### **Children/Youth Classes**

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