



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))



Maple Grove  
*Newsletter*

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

Newsletter dated  
 February 9, 2023

*Next Sunday, Dan King will be bringing the message at Maple Grove. Dan was the pastor at Beech Mennonite Church and currently on the Ministry Development Team with Ohio Conference.*

**February 12, 2023**



**Message:** Pastor Nathanael Hofstetter Ressler  
**Worship Leader:** Julie Yoder  
**Song Leader:** Renee Koshmider

**GATHERING**

Prelude  
 Opening Song *HWB #544 When We Walk with the Lord*  
 Welcome & Announcements  
 Call to Worship & Prayer

**PRAISING**

Praise Songs *Goodness of God  
 Christ is Mine Forevermore*  
 Offering – General Fund

**HEARING GOD'S WORD**

Scripture Reading Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Matthew 7:7-12 (NRSV)  
 Message ***Choosing the Way of Life***

**RESPONDING**

Song of Response *VT #417 Seek Ye First*  
 Congregational Sharing/Prayer

**SENDING**

Sending Song *STS #34 You Are Holy*  
 Benediction/Blessing  
 Postlude

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)*



✝ Pray for those with health concerns: Ruth Hills recovering from knee surgery; Tom Johnson's sister, Brenda Richardson, recovering from a liver transplant; Harold Beachy's sister Shirley having tests done for some health issues; Pastor Nathanael's Spanish teacher Adriana and her husband who has been diagnosed with cancer.

✝ Pray for all those affected by the devastating earthquakes in Turkey and Syria.

✝ Pray for those affected by all the natural disasters around the world

✝ Pray for all those involved with the relief and recovery efforts due to these natural disasters.

✝ Pray for peace and justice throughout the world. Pray for those affected by violence and hate everywhere.



**Offering last Sunday, February 5**

**Attendance: 61**

General Fund	\$ 27,227.78
Education Fund	600.00
Alexis Deuzoumbé Mission	5,000.00
100-Year Book Sales	60.00
Total Offering	<u>\$ 32,887.78</u>

**Please note the change in the taking of the offering.**

An offering basket will be available at the back of the sanctuary for you to drop your offering envelope before the service begins. The basket will be brought to the front of the sanctuary during the offertory music to be blessed during the offertory prayer. You may also place your offering in the basket after the service.

**Online giving through PayPal is now available on the church website**

Click on the "GIVE ONLINE" button on the top header of the website, or use this QR code. If you have any questions on this, please contact John Koshmider, Church Treasurer.



**Coffee Time & Informal Fellowship @ Church**

**Join us Sunday mornings before Sunday School – Everyone is welcome!**



If you would like to help with supplying donuts and/or baked goods, please get in touch with Barb Dutcher (for baked goods) or Perry Miller (for donuts). Two dozen donuts and homemade or store-bought baked goods are needed at the church by 9am on Sunday mornings. Thanks for your help!



**Ash Wednesday – February 22:** Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent and marks 40 days until Easter, excluding Sundays. This first day of Lent reminds us that new life with Christ involves a daily surrendering of the old life, and the first step on this Lenten journey invites us to acknowledge our mortality and our sinfulness by the imposition of ashes.

For the practice of Ash Wednesday this year, there will be a guide set up in the Library at the church for a self-led time of reflection, and Pastor Nathanael will be in the Sanctuary for the imposition of ashes. The church will be unlocked from 11am-6pm on Ash Wednesday for this time of reflection and imposition of ashes. We invite all to participate as we begin our journey through Lent.

### **Wednesday Fellowship Time – February 15**



Anyone who is interested in participating in informal gatherings on Wednesday afternoons when there is no sewing, puzzle time or other church activity scheduled, is invited to meet Wednesday, February 15, any time after 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall. We could do crocheting, crafts, sewing, arts, Bible journaling, preview the next Sunday's Sunday School lesson, discuss the previous Sunday's Sunday School lesson or sermon, or just visit. Any other ideas are welcome. This would be an informal gathering and fellowship time and set up a month at a time for now on a monthly or twice a month basis. If you have any questions, please ask Clara Sommers.



### **All-Church Social – Sunday, February 26 @ 4:30 p.m.**

Family Ministry has scheduled a game night at the church on Sunday, February 26, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. All ages are welcome!

We'll have pizza at 5:30. Bring your favorite game to play. If you have any questions, please contact a member of Family Ministry: Barb Dutcher, Betty Miller, Marsha Miller & Sheryl Weaver

### **Rejoice! Devotional Magazines have been placed in the mailboxes for the spring quarter.**

*Rejoice!* is a quarterly devotional magazine published by MennoMedia. If you would like to be added to the list to receive this quarterly magazine, or if you currently receive and no longer want to receive it, please contact Rhoda Sommers or Cindy in the church office.

**Our Daily Bread devotionals for March-April-May 2023 are available on the literature rack at the church.** Please help yourself!

### **Higher Education Grants from Maple Grove for 2023-2024 School Year**



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 can be accessed from Maple Grove's website by clicking [here](#). There are paper copies available on the literature rack in the foyer or contact Cindy in the church office.

**Any interested students should return the application to Maple Grove's Treasurer, John Koshmider, by March 31, 2023.**



**FISH Collection – bring items in by February 12**

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. 100% of the donations received for this event will go to Lake Township FISH to serve our community members in need. **Collecting non-perishable food and hygiene items.**

- *Did you know that 1 in 3 students struggle with food insecurity right here in our community? Food insecurity is when they aren't sure where their next meal will come from and whether their family will have enough to meet their basic needs. FISH food pantry can help meet these needs.*

**Please bring items to the church by February 12<sup>th</sup> – Super Bowl Sunday.**

You may also donate through the offering by marking your envelope for FISH.

**DON'T FORGET: Family Ministry has freezer meals available for those in need.**

These can be taken to someone in the church or a neighbor or a friend who could use some help. The meals are in the freezer in the church kitchen and labeled with heating instructions. There is frozen Rigatoni, Sausage & Potato Soup, and Apple Crisp. Please let Cindy in the church office know what you are taking and who it is going to. If you have any questions, please contact a member of Family Ministry – Barb Dutcher, Marsha Miller, Vee Miller, Sheryl Weaver

**Open Arms Hispanic Ministry TACO TUESDAY – March 14 @ 6:00 p.m.**

Open Arms Hispanic Ministry will hold its annual Taco Tuesday fundraising dinner March 14 at 6:00 p.m. at Dutch Kitchen located at 14278 Lincoln Way E, Dalton, OH 44618. Please RSVP by March 10 to [kelsey@openarmshispanicministry.org](mailto:kelsey@openarmshispanicministry.org) or 330-466-7845 (call or text).

Ministry highlights will be shared and a freewill offering will be taken. Invite a friend and join us!



**Missional Workshop – April 15 @ St. Francis Spirituality Center in Tiffin**

Ohio Conference is offering a Missional Workshop this year instead of its annual Missional Conference. Entitled "Outward Church: Mobilizing the church wherever you are," this workshop will be held on Saturday, April 15, 2023, at St. Francis Spirituality Center in Tiffin, Ohio. Mauricio Chenlo, Minister for Church Planting at Mennonite Mission Network, will be facilitating this day-long event. This is an excellent workshop for a missional outreach team to attend together to work on a missional idea. Registration fees are based on the number of people attending together from a congregation. Click [here](#) for the Conference website for more information on the workshop, or see the brochure posted on the bulletin board at the church. **Pastor Nathanael is planning to attend. If you would like to attend, please let Nathanael or Cindy in the church office know by Monday, March 27, so registration can be done as a group.**

**Job Opportunity:** The Hartville Thrift Shoppe is looking to fill a Donated Goods Manager position. This is a full-time, salaried position with benefits paying between \$38-48k depending on experience. Click [here](#) for more information and a copy of the job description.

**Save the date for the Ohio MCC Comforter Bash on April 21-22!**

A handmade comforter provides not only warmth, but also a tangible message to people that their needs are not forgotten. Join others of all ages for this two-day event at Kidron Community Park to knot comforters that Mennonite Central Committee will distribute around the world. We invite you to make comforter tops (60" x 80") and backs (65" x 85") for use at the Comforter Bash. Comforter backs and tops should be dropped off **by March 10** at the MCC Material Resources Center in Kidron (4080 Kidron Road). For more information, visit [mcc.org/ohio-comforter-bash](http://mcc.org/ohio-comforter-bash).

**Put your faith in action by volunteering with SWAP this summer!**

MCC's SWAP (Sharing With Appalachian People) home repair program provides short-term service and learning opportunities for churches, school and university groups, families, other groups and individuals. Now is the time to make your summer plans and sign up! More information and registration at [swap.mcc.org](http://swap.mcc.org) or (606) 634-4418.

**Eastern Mennonite University Chamber Singers' Tour**

EMU Chamber Singers is a select choir that performs a wide range of choral literature of various periods, styles, and cultures. The choir will perform a concert at First Mennonite Church in Canton on Saturday, March 4, at 6:30 pm., and at Millersburg Mennonite Church on Sunday, March 5, at 6:30 p.m. See the poster on the bulletin board at the church for more information.

**To include something in the newsletter, please contact Cindy by 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 – Maple Grove Mennonite Church Group  
(send updates to Pastor Nathanael, Jill Liechty or Julie Yoder)  
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)  
- **Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday – 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  
Jr. Youth (Grades 5-8): Rooms 3-4  
Youth (Grades 9-12): Youth Room-Basement

**Mennonite Central Committee is accepting donations to support people affected by the Feb. 6 earthquake in Turkey and Syria.** MCC is working with long-term partners in Aleppo and surrounding areas to provide emergency food, shelter, hygiene, sanitation supplies and trauma counseling. In a country already vulnerable from years of conflict, this was a devastating blow. You can share God's love and compassion with our global neighbors by providing a gift online at [mcc.org/earthquake](http://mcc.org/earthquake), by calling (888)563-4676 or by sending a check earmarked for "Syria and Türkiye earthquake" to MCC, PO Box 500, Akron PA 17501.



## **EARTHQUAKE** Türkiye & Syria

Your help is needed to support people affected by the devastating quake in Türkiye and Syria.

MCC is responding with partners in northern Syria after the deadly quake. Your gift will provide essential food, hygiene and trauma counseling.

**[mcc.org/earthquake](http://mcc.org/earthquake)**

**DONATE TODAY**

