



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



Maple Grove
Newsletter

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

Newsletter dated
 March 16, 2023



Lent 4 – March 19, 2023
Called to the Light – Ephesians 5:8-14 (NRSVUE)

Message: Pastor Nathanael Hofstetter Ressler
Worship Leader: Jill Liechty
Song Leader: Tom Lubbers
Children’s Time: Jim & Marty Miller

GATHERING

Prelude

Opening Song

Thy Word

Welcome & Announcements

Song of Reflection

VT #271 *Christ You Are Light*

Call to Worship & Prayer

Leader: The Lord is our shepherd.

People: *We shall not want.*

Leader: God makes us lie down in green pastures.

People: *We shall not want.*

Leader: God leads us beside quiet waters.

People: *We shall not want.*

**All: *Restore us through Your Holy Spirit, the love of Jesus Christ,
 and the comfort of Your presence.***

PRAISING

Praise Songs

I Shall Not Want
 STJ #54 *Longing for Light*

Offering – *Education Fund*

HEARING GOD’S WORD

Children’s Time

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 5:8-14 (NRSVUE)

Message

Called to the Light

RESPONDING

Song of Response

STS #30 *Arise, Your Light Is Come*

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Lord, we long for light, but all is darkness, and we walk in deep shadows. We have driven back justice. Truth has stumbled in the streets, and thick darkness is over the people. We confess our sinful deeds. We confess to the Lord . . .
(*Silent Prayer*)

Leader: As everything exposed to the light becomes visible, we walk from darkness into light.

ALL: ***Open our eyes, Jesus, that our lives may radiate Your glory. Amen.***

Congregational Sharing/Prayer

SENDING

Sending Song

This Little Light of Mine/I Saw the Light Medley

Benediction/Blessing

Postlude

PERMISSION TO PHOTOCOPY

Subscribers to Leader are welcome to photocopy, adapt, and project the Lenten 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)



✝ Pray for Sylvia Miller who is recovering from knee surgery she had on Wednesday.

✝ Pray for Rob Richardson, Tom Johnson's brother-in-law, who has been diagnosed with Stage IV prostate cancer and doctors are determining next steps. Praise for Rob's wife Brenda who is recovering and doing well after a liver transplant in October.

✝ Pray for others with health concerns: Sara Mae Miller; Twila Miller; Lura Bowin; Barbara Volk and her family with health issues; Harold & Nancy Beachy's daughter Kim and Harold Beachy's sister Shirley with some health issues; Arrie Ledsome's brother-in-law Wendy Kandel who is recovering from heart surgery.

✝ Pray for those affected by violence and hate everywhere on a daily basis. Pray for peace and justice for everyone throughout the world.

Below is an address for Sara Mae if you would like to send her a card or go for a visit:

Sara Mae Miller, Room 405

St. Joseph's Senior Living

2308 Reno Drive

Louisville, OH 44641

St. Joseph's Phone Number: 330-875-5562



Offering last Sunday, March 12

General Fund	\$ 2,710.00
Education Fund	600.00
Total Offering	<u>\$ 3,310.00</u>

Attendance: 54

Online giving thru PayPal available on website or via this QR code



The third Sunday of each month is Education Sunday;
on March 16th, non-designated funds from the offering will go toward the Education Fund.

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!



- Wednesday – March 22 @ 1pm - Puzzle Time in the Fellowship Hall
- Sunday – March 26 - Nathanael's Ordination
- Sunday – April 2 - Carry-in Meal after Worship Service
- Tuesday – April 4 @ 3:30pm - Palm Sunday
- Tuesday – April 4 @ 4pm - Ministry of Education Meeting
- Wednesday – April 5 - Ministry of Worship Meeting
- Thursday – April 6 @ 6:30pm - Ladies' Sewing & Comforter Knotting
- Sunday – April 9 - Maundy Thursday Meal & Service
- 8:30 am - Easter Breakfast
- 10am - Easter Service
- No Sunday School classes

Next Sunday, March 26th, will be Nathanael's ordination and Dick Barrett, Ohio Mennonite Conference Minister, will be a part of the service.

- Zack Babb, a long-time friend of Nathanael's, will bring the message. Zack and his wife Celesta are pastors in the Seventh Day Adventist denomination. Most recently they were pastoring two churches in Alaska. They are currently in Michigan at Andrews University to finish their master's degrees with intentions to return to Alaska.
- There will be a carry-in meal after the service. All are welcome to stay for lunch!

There will be puzzle time in the Fellowship Hall at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 22nd.

Come and work on a puzzle with us or just enjoy the company! Anyone is welcome to come and participate. If you have any questions, contact Savannah Hofstetter Ressler.



Palm Sunday: Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday on April 2nd. Palm Sunday observes Jesus's triumphant and joyful entrance into Jerusalem, marked by jubilant crowds waving palm branches, which symbolize victory over sin, peace, and eternal life.

Maundy Thursday Service: On Thursday, April 6th, we will celebrate communion together as well as demonstrate our commitment to a servant's life by washing feet. A light meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. with the service following immediately after the meal.

We invite all believers to come to this service, giving thanks for Christ's life, death, resurrection and the gift of Salvation. We encourage you to prepare your hearts for this time.



Easter Sunday Celebration: On April 9th, our Easter Sunday Celebration will begin with sharing breakfast together at 8:30 followed by worshipping together at 10:00 a.m.

There will not be Sunday School classes. If you are planning to join us for Easter Sunday breakfast, please sign up and note how many are attending from your family.

A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board at the church or let Cindy know in the church office. *This is only for planning purposes – all are welcome to join us for breakfast Easter Sunday whether you are signed up or not!* The Food Committee has posted sign-up sheets for breakfast items if you would like to bring something to share. Please let a member of Ministry of Congregational Care know if you have any questions.

Family Ministry has a few more 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. 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

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.



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

Ohio Conference is offering a Missional Workshop entitled “Outward Church: Mobilizing the church wherever you are,” on Saturday, April 15, 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. 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.**

The March-April 2023 issue of the *Ohio Mennonite Evangel* from Ohio Conference is now available. Click [here](#) to read the issue online; paper copies are available on the literature rack at the church.

The March edition of *On the Level* is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service.

In the current issue, Executive Director Kevin King shares his experiences of working on an MDS project in Dulac, Louisiana; a home dedication in Kentucky provides visible reminders that God cares; and MDS Canada returns to Cape Bretton to repair damage from Hurricane Fiona. Click [here](#) to read more. A paper copy is posted on the bulletin board at the church.

The Friends of the Lake Community Library will be holding a Book Donation Drop off Event

on Saturday, April 1, from 10:00am to 12:00 (rain-date April 15) at the Lake Library (Stark County). We will be accepting clean, gently-read books, games, DVDs, CDs, and puzzles. We cannot accept textbooks, encyclopedias, research materials or manuals, magazines, VCR or cassette tapes, or dictionaries. There may be drop off dates in May and June as well.



Lake Township FISH
GOLF CLASSIC

Saturday, May 13th, 2023

Shotgun Start: 2:00pm

Mayfair Country Club

2229 Raber Rd, Green, OH 44685

Register online today!

www.laketownshipfish.org/ltfishgolf

*Golfers can register online individually
and email their foursome group names to
director@laketownshipfish.org

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

Facebook – Maple Grove Mennonite Church Group

(send updates to Pastor Nathanael, Jill Liechty or Julie Yoder)

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 – 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-4th Grade: Rooms 7-8
Jr. Youth (Grades 5-8): Rooms 3-4
Youth (Grades 9-12): Youth Room-Basement