



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  
 April 20, 2023

**April 23, 2023**



**Message:** Pastor Nathanael Hofstetter Ressler  
**Worship Leader:** Paul Bontrager  
**Song Leader:** Lois Bontrager

**GATHERING**

Prelude

Opening Song

STJ #2 *Come, Walk with Us*

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship & Prayer

Leader: Risen Lord Jesus, what is it that keeps us from recognizing You?

People: *Is it that we are so full of ourselves, that it is too easy to block You right out of our lives?*

Leader: Maybe it's the way we interpret Scripture that obscures the signs pointing to You.

People: *Perhaps we are guilty of being slow of heart when we don't recognize You in our neighbor, or in the guise of the poor or those on the margins.*

Leader: Our eyes and ears have become so crammed with the sights, sounds and activities of living that we simply fail to see You or to recognize Your voice.

**ALL:** ***Risen Lord Jesus, help us to empty ourselves of all that hinders our awareness of Your presence. Fill us with the joy of knowing Your continuing presence, so that like those travelers on the road to Emmaus, we too hasten to share this great Good News with others.***

**Prayer:** *Meet us, Lord, on the road to Emmaus. Guide us on the path toward our destination, and renew our strength as we continue to walk and commune with You. Open our eyes, so we see the signs of Your presence around us; open our hearts, so we may receive Your peace and love; and empower us to pass on to others the grace You have shared with us so freely.*

**PRAISING**

Praise Songs

VT #681 *Every Time I Feel the Spirit*  
 VT #57 *Holy Spirit, Come with Power*

Offering – General Fund

**HEARING GOD'S WORD**

Scripture Reading

Luke 24:13-32 (NRSVUE)

Message

***The Divine in Plain Sight***

**RESPONDING**

Song of Response

VT #601 *Lead Me, Guide Me*

Congregational Sharing/Prayer

**SENDING**

Sending Song

VT #834 *Send Me, Lord*

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-Voces Together (purple)



✝ Pray for those with health concerns: Rachel Weaver, Sara Mae Miller at St. Joseph's Senior Living Facility; 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 Wendyl Kandel who is recovering from heart surgery; Rob Richardson, Tom Johnson's brother-in-law, who has been diagnosed with cancer.

✝ Pray for those affected by violence and hate. Pray for peace and justice for everyone in the world.

✝ Pray for those affected by natural disasters, and those involved with the relief and recovery efforts.



We would like to thank the church for the flowers, prayers and visitations following the death of our mother, Judy Sommers Overholt. We are grateful for our church family.  
God bless, Marvin and Leroy Sommers and Families



- Wednesday – April 26 @ 8am - Ministry of Administration Meeting
- Saturday – April 29 / 4-6pm - Kids' Club/Jr. Youth @ Spins Bowl
- Sunday – April 30 - Guest Dick Barrett will bring the message (Dick is the Ohio Conference Minister)
- Wednesday – May 3 - Ladies' Sewing & Comforter Knotting
- Wednesday – May 10 @ 6pm - Spring Cleaning & Outside Work Night @ Church
- Sunday – May 21 - Bible Memory Recognition
- Friday-Saturday – July 7-8 - OH Mennonite Relief Sale @ Mt. Hope Event Ctr.
- Monday-Friday – July 17-21 - Vacation Bible School with Evermore



Thanks for Your Support!

**Offering last Sunday, April 16-Education Sunday**

General Fund	\$ 1,920.00
Education Fund	1,648.00
Special Designation	350.00
<b>Total Offering</b>	<b>\$ 3,918.00</b>

**Attendance: 70**

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



**Receiving of the offering**

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

**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!



### **Kids' Club/Jr. Youth Event – Date changed to Saturday, April 29**

A Kids' Club and Jr. Youth bowling event is planned for Saturday, April 29, from 4-6pm at Spins Bowl in Akron. Join us for bowling and pizza. Suggested price is \$5 per child. If you have any questions, please see Ruth and Michael Yoder.

### **Bible Memory Recognition – May 21**

Bible Memory participants will be recognized on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. **The last Sunday to recite verses is April 30<sup>th</sup>**. Please see Savanah Hofstetter Ressler if you have any questions.

### **The ladies' sewing group will meet on Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> – lunch provided & bring a guest!**



Everyone is welcome to join us for a day of fellowship. ***We are asking everyone to bring a guest - lunch will be provided!*** Spend the day or come for just a bit - we enjoy each other's friendship while we work! If you have any questions, please contact Twila Miller, Margaret Miller or Sheryl Weaver.

### **Spring Cleaning & Outside Work Night at Church – May 10 @ 6:00 p.m.**



The Building & Grounds Committee is planning a spring cleaning & outside work night at the church on Wednesday, May 10, beginning at 6:00 p.m. We'll need everyone's help to be able to clean the entire church as well as spruce up the outside in one evening. So bring your buckets, rags, ladders, wheelbarrows and shovels, and join us for an evening of work and fellowship. If you have any questions, please see a member of the Building & Grounds Committee:

AJ Geiser, Larry Hills, John Raber & Savanah Hofstetter Ressler



**My Coins Count offering goes to MCC at the Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale on July 7-8 @ the Mt. Hope Event Center.** With your support, MCC works with local partners to make sure people have access to clean water closer to their homes, both today and in the future.

#### **Global WASH Fast Facts | Global Water, Sanitation and Hygiene | Healthy Water | CDC**

- ***2.3 billion people lack basic hygiene services, including soap and water at home. This includes 670 million people with no handwashing facilities at all.***
- ***In 28 countries, at least 1 in 4 people have no handwashing facility at home.***
- ***In rural settings, only 1 in 3 people have access to basic hygiene services (such as soap and water at home).***

#### **Help provide water, the gift of life! Ways to give:**

- Mark your offering envelope "My Coins Count"
- Drop your change in the wishing well at the church
- Take a mission bank home and start collecting your change (banks are by the mailboxes)

***Maple Grove has an offer of matching funds for My Coins Count up to \$20,000. For every dollar donated, it will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$20,000. So if the church can raise \$20,000 – we'll have \$40,000 to give to MCC at the Relief Sale!***

If you have any questions, please contact a member of Ministry of Outreach:

Harold Beachy, Holly Miller, Savanah Hofstetter Ressler



**Mark your calendars for VBS this summer – July 17-21!**

It will be combined with Evermore Community Church again this year. More details will follow. If you have any questions, please see Kim Weaver.



**The Hartville Thrift Shoppe needs a host family for an international volunteer coming to Hartville from late August through the following July with MCCs IVEP program.** The volunteer, Daisy Toews, is from Paraguay. Information on the volunteer is posted on the bulletin board at the church. Click [here](#) for information on the IVEP program.

**Camp Luz Summer Camp Programs**

Camp Luz is offering eight weeks of camp programs this summer for children ages 4-18. This year’s theme is “United in Christ” based on Philippians 2:1-4. Brochures with the camp dates and rates are available on the literature rack at the church, or go to [www.campluz.com](http://www.campluz.com).

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

In our current issue, learn why some volunteers feel driven to be a part of the RV (recreational vehicle) program; search and rescue volunteers in Arkansas help bring closure to a grieving family; and volunteers in Florida deliver hope just in time for Easter. Click [here](#) to read more. A paper copy is posted on the bulletin board at the church.

**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](mailto: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