



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
 November 16, 2023

Sunday
 November 19, 2023



Message: Nathanael Hofstetter Ressler
Worship Leader: Kami Sommers
Song Leader: Lois Bontrager

GATHERING

Prelude
 Opening Song
 Welcome & Announcements

VT #29 *Come, Now Is the Time to Worship*

PRAISING

Praise Songs
 Offering – *Education Fund*

Way Maker
 VT #111 *Bless the Lord (10,000 Reasons)*

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading
 Message

Judges 4:1-7 (NRSVUE)

Deborah: Judge of Israel

RESPONDING

Song of Response
 Congregational Sharing/Prayer

VT #155 *Lord I Need You*

SENDING

Sending Song
 Benediction/Blessing
 Postlude

STJ #73 *The Lord Lift You Up*

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 involved in the tragic highway crash that happened this week in Ohio. Pray for the families of the six victims who lost their lives from the Tuscarawas Valley School District.
- ✝ Pray for those with health concerns: Lura Bowin, Tom Lubbers, Rachel Weaver, Cindy Fleming, Kathy Johnson's mother, Gale.
- ✝ Pray for Alexi Deuzoumbé and his family that they may soon be reunited.
- ✝ Pray for all the lives lost in Palestine and Israel. Pray for peace and for an end to the violence
- ✝ Pray for those affected by violence and hate all over the world.
- ✝ Pray for peace and justice for everyone in the world.
- ✝ Pray for those affected by natural disasters, and those involved with the relief & recovery efforts.



- Sunday – November 19 - Thanksgiving Collection for Lake Township FISH
Bring boxed stuffing mix & \$10 gift cards!
- Wednesday – November 22 - Puzzle Time in the Fellowship Hall – 1pm
- Thursday – November 23 - Thanksgiving Day – Happy Thanksgiving!
(Church office closed Thursday & Friday)
- Sunday – November 26 - Thankfulness & Gratitude Panel Discussion
- Bring in Christmas gifts & gift cards for
Lake Community Christmas
- Wednesday – November 29 - Bring in Christmas gifts for Lighthouse Ministries
- Sunday – December 3 - Advent Season begins
- Sunday – December 24 - Christmas Eve Service – 4:30pm
(only 1 service on Christmas Eve)

PLEASE NOTE:

- Pastor Nathanael will be out of the office Nov. 21-24, but available for contacting if needed.
- For Sunday, November 26, a Thankfulness and Gratitude Panel Discussion will be held during the service with Scott Sommers leading the discussion.
- The church office will be closed Thursday and Friday, Nov. 23 & 24, for the Thanksgiving holiday. The newsletter will be printed and distributed on Wednesday, November 22. **Please have all items for the newsletter to Cindy by Tuesday, November 21. Thank you!**

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

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.



Ministry of Worship is looking for Greeters for Sunday mornings

Greeters will be at the main doors in the foyer to greet the congregation and hand out welcome packets to new attendees from 9:15-9:35 and 10:15-10:30 a.m. Greeters can be 1 to 2 persons or a family unit, and sign up for a month at a time. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the church foyer. If you are willing to be a greeter, please write your name down on the month you are available to serve or contact Lois Bontrager.

MISSION PROJECTS – 2023

Thanksgiving for FISH – Lake Community Christmas – Lighthouse Ministries' Christmas

Any questions, please contact a member of Ministry of Outreach:
Harold Beachy, Savannah Hofstetter Ressler or Sheryl Weaver

Collection for Thanksgiving meals for Lake Township FISH – DUE BY NOVEMBER 19



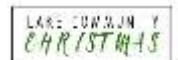
Maple Grove is collecting **boxed stuffing mix** for the Thanksgiving Community Outreach this year. Our goal is to collect 250 boxes of stuffing mix!

We will also collect \$10.00 gift cards to local grocery stores to give to each family to purchase their Thanksgiving meat of choice. You may make a monetary donation by marking your giving envelope for FISH. Collection Sunday is November 19.

The Thanksgiving Outreach will be at Evermore Community Church on Tuesday, Nov. 21.

Volunteers are needed that Monday and Tuesday. People can use this link to sign up to volunteer: <https://bit.ly/FISHVolunteer>.

Lake Community Christmas – Donations due by Sunday, November 26



SCAN TO DONATE!



The Lake Community Christmas program (previously LOC Christmas) is dedicated to providing joyful holiday experiences for families in need in Lake Township. The Christmas program partners with local churches and organizations, including Lake Township FISH, Love Our Community, Lake Local Schools, and Lake Center Christian School, to identify families who could use extra support during the holiday season. With your help through volunteering or donations, we can make a difference in the lives of families in our community.

This year, we will be offering families the opportunity to shop for the children for brand new gifts, including blankets, stocking stuffers, books, and toys. We will also be providing gift wrapping materials to each family! If you wish to purchase a gift, you can easily shop the online wish lists that are linked on our website: <http://bit.ly/lakecommunitychristmas> . Please remember to choose gifts of *quality over quantity* as we aim to provide families an opportunity to shop for items they would not normally have access to.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Purchase gift cards for \$10, \$20, \$40 or \$60 – see the Christmas giving tree in the church foyer, and take a tag for the amount you would like to spend – gift card ideas are on the back of the tags.
 - Label gift card(s) with gift amount and return to the church with the tag by Sunday, Nov. 26.
- If you wish to purchase gifts, go to their website [HOME | CommunityChristmas \(laketownship.wixsite.com\)](http://www.laketownship.wixsite.com/home) and select one of the stores listed under the Gift Wish Lists. A Charity List of requested items is shown for each store.
 - Return the **UNWRAPPED** gift to the church by Sunday, November 26.
- You may also click the "Make A Donation" button at their website and select "Christmas" from the designation dropdown menu or scan the QR code to make a financial donation.

Please send in all donations to the church by Sunday, November 26.



Deck the Halls & Stock the Store

Lighthouse Ministries' Affordable Christmas program is for families in the southeast neighborhood of Canton surrounding the Lighthouse.

In purchasing presents for kids, the real gift you are offering is dignity that comes with a parent's ability to provide for their children.

- The lists of gifts you see on the board in the church lobby were generated by responses to surveys that were distributed to parents and caregivers of the children who use the Lighthouse services.
Take a tag from the board.
- The presents you purchase will be sold at an affordable price in a "store" run by the Lighthouse. Affordable means the gifts are marked down 75% so that the parents are buying at 25% of the purchase price.
- Please make sure that every gift has the purchase price listed somewhere on the packaging.
- Please tape the tag on the gift.
- **All gifts should be returned UNWRAPPED by Wednesday, November 29.**



As you shop for the holidays, don't forget to save your Acme grocery receipts.

Acme will give a percentage of the cash back amount printed on the bottom of each receipt to FISH. The program runs through February 15, 2024. A box is available under the mailboxes for the receipts – thanks for your support of this project!

Other News

Support Adriel's Angel Tree Project: Each \$40 donation will sponsor a Christmas gift for an Adriel foster youth or Bridges young adult. Adriel currently has 152 foster youth in care and 35 Bridges young adults. Please help Adriel reach their \$10,000 goal to assure that each Adriel foster child and Bridges young adult receive a Christmas gift from their wish list in time for the holiday. Visit [Adriel Angel Tree](#) to make an online donation or mail a check with the memo "Angel Tree" to Adriel at PO Box 188, West Liberty, OH 43357.

Christmas at Malone – December 1 & 2: Usher in the holiday season as the Malone University Department of Music presents: *Veni, Veni, Emmanuel*. This beloved concert tradition combines Scripture and music in a joyful celebration of Christ's birth. This year's program features a variety of works inviting us to reflect on the themes of the Advent and Christmas seasons. Order tickets online at www.malone.edu/christmas or call 330-471-8231.

The November edition of *On the Level* is now available from Mennonite Disaster Service. In our current issue: Kevin King explains how MDS is an emulsifier; check out our new Annual Report; and we are now accepting registration for our Annual Celebration in Fresno in February. Click [here](#) to read more:

To include something in the newsletter, please email Cindy Fleming at secretary@maplegrovenennonite.org by Wednesday each week – thank you!

Ongoing News @ Maple Grove

Coffee Time & Informal Fellowship @ Church – Sundays @ 9am

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!

Encouragement Cards - There are encouragement cards placed in every pew so that as the Spirit lays someone on your heart, you can share your thoughts and encouraging words with them. You may place the cards in their mailbox or give directly to them.

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!



Offering Envelope Numbers

In order to receive a year-end statement of your offerings, you must have an offering number. To obtain an offering number, please contact Kami Sommers. The offering envelopes are designed so you can designate your offering to specific funds. If funds are not designated on the envelope, they are included in the General Fund with the exception of the 3rd Sunday of each month which is Education Sunday and non-designated funds go to the Education Fund.

Family Ministry has freezer meals available to share with 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, Betty Miller, Marsha Miller, Sheryl Weaver

Acme Community Cash Back Program runs through February 15, 2024.

If you shop at Acme, save your receipts and bring them into the church – a collection box is available under the mailboxes. Lake Township FISH can turn these in at the end of the program and Acme will give a percentage of the cash back amount printed on the bottom of each receipt to FISH.

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, Harold Beachy

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