



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  
 November 22, 2023

Sunday  
 November 26, 2023



**Moderator:** Scott Sommers  
**Worship Leader:** Paul Bontrager  
**Song Leader:** Tom Lubbers  
**Greeters:** Marty Miller & Vee Miller

**GATHERING**

- Prelude
- Opening Song *Way Maker*
- Welcome & Announcements
- Call to Worship & Prayer
  - Leader: In the midst of difficulty, the Lord sets a table of rejoicing for us.
  - People: *Though the world seems focused on turmoil, yet will we praise God!***
  - Leader: Our lives should be witnesses to God's goodness and power.
  - People: *Our hearts should encompass compassion and service to God's people.***
  - Leader: Help us to be Your workers and witnesses in today's world, O Lord.
  - People: *Enable us to be faithful and strong for You. AMEN.***

**PRAISING**

- Praise Songs *Great Are You Lord  
Good Good Father*
- Offering – General Fund *Gratitude*

**HEARING GOD'S WORD**

***Thankfulness & Gratitude Discussion***

**RESPONDING**

- Song of Response *Goodness of God*
- Congregational Sharing/Prayer

**SENDING**

- Sending Song *God of Wonders*
- 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)



✝ Continued prayers for those involved in the highway crash that happened with transporting students from the Tuscarawas Valley School District to Columbus. Pray for the families of the six victims who lost their lives.

- ✝ Pray for Sylvia Miller's sister Ellen and her husband Don as he recovers from the injuries he sustained in the highway crash.
- ✝ Pray for those with health concerns: Lura Bowin, Tom Lubbers, Rachel Weaver, Cindy Fleming.
- ✝ Pray for Kathy Johnson's mother, Gale, as she begins radiation treatment for cancer.
- ✝ Pray for Alexi Deuzoumbé and his family that they may soon be reunited.
- ✝ 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 26 - Bring in Christmas gifts & gift cards for Lake Community Christmas
- Monday – November 27 - Decorate the Church for Christmas – 9:30am
- Tuesday – November 28 - Bring in Christmas gifts for Lighthouse Ministries
- Sunday – December 3 - Advent Season begins
  - Kids' Club/Jr. Youth Christmas Caroling after church
- Sunday – December 24 - Christmas Eve Service – 4:30pm (only 1 service on Christmas Eve)



**Looking for volunteers to help decorate the church for Christmas - Monday morning @ 9:30am.** See Vee Miller or Sheryl Weaver if you can help – thank you!

**Kids' Club/Jr. Youth and their families are invited to go Christmas Caroling on Sunday,**



**December 3, after church.** We will all go to eat together at a local restaurant in Hartville (to be determined) and then Christmas Carol to some members of Maple Grove afterwards. If you have any questions, please contact Ruth and Michael Yoder.

**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!



### **Lighthouse Ministries' Affordable Christmas program – thank you for your support!**

- If you took a tag, please bring your gift in by next Tuesday, November 28.
- Please make sure that every gift has the purchase price listed somewhere on the packaging.
- Please tape the tag on the gift – gifts should be unwrapped.

### **Lake Community Christmas – Donations due this Sunday, November 26**

- Purchase gift cards for \$10, \$20, \$40 or \$60 – Label gift card(s) with gift amount and return to the church by Sunday.
- If you wish to purchase gifts, go to their website [HOME | CommunityChristmas \(laketownship.wixsite.com\)](http://HOME | CommunityChristmas (laketownship.wixsite.com)) 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.**
- 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.



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

**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](http://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.

## **Other News**

**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](http://www.malone.edu/christmas) or call 330-471-8231.

To include something in the newsletter, please email Cindy Fleming at [secretary@maplegrovenonnoite.org](mailto:secretary@maplegrovenonnoite.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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](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, 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-4<sup>th</sup> Grade: Rooms 7-8  
Jr. Youth (Grades 5-8): Rooms 3-4  
Youth (Grades 9-12): Youth Room-Basement