



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 9, 2023



On Sunday, Maple Grove welcomes Rev. Angel Jackson to our worship service for the Lake Clergy Pulpit Exchange. Angel pastors at St. Jacob's Lutheran Church. Pastor Nathanael will bring the message at St. Jacob's on Sunday. Pastor Angel has been at St. Jacob's since March of 2021. We at Maple Grove thank you for joining us, and we wish you God's blessing.

Sunday  
 November 12, 2023



**Message:** Angel Jackson  
**Worship Leader:** Myron Weaver  
**Song Leader:** Renee Koshmider  
**Offertory:** James Yoder

**GATHERING**

Prelude  
 Opening Song  
 Welcome & Announcements

VT #422 *Called or Not Called, God is There*

**PRAISING**

Praise Songs  
 Offering – General Fund

*Days of Elijah  
 May the Peoples Praise You  
 Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing  
 James Yoder*

**HEARING GOD'S WORD**

Scripture Reading  
 Message

Colossians 3:12-17 (NRSVUE)

***Getting Dressed for Thanksgiving***

**RESPONDING**

Song of Response  
 Congregational Sharing/Prayer

*Give Thanks/Sanctuary*

**SENDING**

Sending Song  
 Benediction/Blessing  
 Postlude

HWB #118 *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

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 Lura Bowin as she recovers from being hospitalized.
- ✝ Pray for Kathy Johnson's mother, Gale, who has surgery on Thursday, November 9.
- ✝ Pray for those with health concerns: Tom Lubbers, Rachel Weaver, Cindy Fleming
- ✝ 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 12 - Kids' Club/Jr. Youth Event – 4-6pm
- November 12 & 19 - Thanksgiving Collection for Lake Township FISH
- November 23 - Thanksgiving Day (church office closed)
- Sunday – November 26 - Bring in Christmas gifts & gift cards for Lake Community Christmas
- Wednesday – November 29 - Bring in Christmas gifts for Lighthouse Ministries

**Kids' Club/Jr. Youth Event – Sunday, November 12**



Kids' Club and Jr. Youth will meet on Sunday, November 12, for painting pottery and supper at Wendy's. Drop off your child at 4pm at Glazed & Amused in Washington Square and pick up at 6pm at the Wendy's in Washington Square. If you have any questions, please contact Michael or Ruth Yoder.

**From Ministry of Gifts Discernment**

*The following members have agreed to serve on committees beginning January 1, 2024. Many agreed to serve another term on their committee – thank you!*

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Term Expires end of year</b>
Building & Grounds (3-year term)	AJ Geiser – 1-year term	2024
	Marty Miller	2026
	Savanah Hofstetter Ressler	2026
Family Ministry (2-year term)	Barb Dutcher	2025
	Holly Miller	2025
Food Committee (2-year term)	Kami Sommers – 1-year term	2024
	Harold & Nancy Beachy	2025
Ushers (2-year term)	Larry Hills	2025
	Mike Sommers	2025

*Thank you to those coming off committees the end of this year: John Raber who has served on Building & Grounds Committee and Sheryl Weaver on Family Ministry.*

*A list of all the ministry and committee members is available on the literature rack at the church. Ministry of Gifts Discernment appreciates everyone's willingness to serve!  
Vee Miller, Charla Sommers, Vernon Sommers, Michael Yoder*

# 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 – November 12 & 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. The collection Sundays are November 12 & 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://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, 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.**

## **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. Greeters will 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. Greeters are to be in the foyer from 9:15 - 9:35 and 10:15 - 10:30 a.m. If you are willing to be a greeter, please write your name down on the month you are available to serve. Any questions, please contact Lois Bontrager.

## **Other News**

**The November-December 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.

To include something in the newsletter, please email Cindy Fleming at [secretary@maplegrovenennonite.org](mailto: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 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