



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



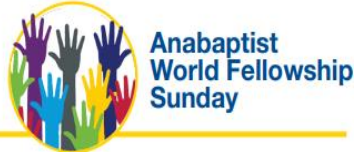
*Disciples of Jesus,
 Revealing His Kingdom
 Through Love, Spiritual Growth,
 and Service Together*

Newsletter dated
 January 18, 2024



Sunday we join together in giving thanks for Christ's life, death, resurrection and the gift of Salvation. We encourage you to prepare your hearts for this time.

Sunday
 January 21, 2024



Message: Nathanael Hofstetter Ressler
Worship Leader: Kami Sommers
Song Leader: Lois Bontrager
Greeters: Alta Bates & Arrie Ledsome

GATHERING

Prelude
 Opening Song
 Welcome & Announcements
 Call to Worship & Prayer

STJ #4 *You've Got a Place*

PRAISING

Praise Songs
 Offering – *Education Fund*

STJ #13 *My Soul is Filled with Joy*
 STJ #97 *The Lord is My Light*

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture
 Message ***Jesus' Flock***

John 10:14-16 (NRSVUE)

RESPONDING

Communion
 Song of Response
 Congregational Sharing/Prayer

HWB #355 *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

SENDING

Sending Song
 Benediction/Blessing
 Postlude

STJ #78 *We Will Walk With God*

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 Ray Miller, Alta Bates' nephew, who has been hospitalized at Mercy Medical Center with a staph infection. Pray for healing and his speedy recovery.
- ✝ Pray for those with health concerns: Brenda Latulippe recovering from surgery; Rachel Weaver; Sylvia Miller's brother-in-law Don Wagler; Kathy Johnson's mother Gale; Nathanael's cousin, Trevor Parish.
- ✝ Pray for Alexi Deuzoumbé and his family that they may soon be reunited.
- ✝ Pray for peace and justice throughout the world. Pray for those affected by violence and hate.
- ✝ Pray for those affected by natural disasters, and those involved with the relief & recovery efforts.

- Wednesday – January 24 - Puzzle Time in Fellowship Hall – 1pm
- Sunday – January 28 - Bible Memory Sunday for children to recite verses (John 3:16)
- Sunday – February 4 - Annual Congregational Business Meeting after Youth Fundraiser Haystack Lunch
- Tuesday – February 13 - “Be The Love” 1st Annual Love Our Community Men Who Cook! 6pm-9pm @ Hartville Marketplace & Flea Market
- Ash Wednesday – Feb. 14 - Self-led Time of Reflection & Imposition of Ashes by Nathanael (available from 11am-6pm)



Ministry of Worship is looking for Greeters for Sunday mornings

No one has signed up for February yet! If you would like to be a Greeter, please sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board at the church. 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. If you have any questions, please contact Lois Bontrager.



Offering last Sunday, January 14, 2024

Attendance: 47

General Fund	\$ 1,640.25
Total Offering	<u>\$ 1,640.25</u>



The 2023 year-end giving statements are under the mailboxes in envelopes marked with your offering number. Please pick up your numbered envelope. If you also donated through PayPal, remember to combine PayPal acknowledgements with this statement for total giving to Maple Grove Mennonite Church for the year. If you would like your giving statement mailed to you, please contact Cindy in the church office. Contact John Koshmider if you have any questions.



There will be puzzle time in the Fellowship Hall at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 24.

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.

Bible Memory begins next Sunday, January 28. Bible Memory is for children in Kindergarten-8th and the children will be given a chance to recite verses at the beginning of Sunday School classes once a month. All children will be reciting John 3:16-17 (NIV). There will be rewards for those who participate at the end of the school year. If you have any questions, please contact Savannah Hofstetter Ressler.

Annual Congregational Business Meeting – February 4, 2024



The Ministry of Administration has scheduled the Annual Congregational Business Meeting for Sunday, February 4. The meeting will begin after the Youth Group has a fundraiser lunch – a haystack lunch is being planned. MOA invites everyone to stay for lunch and the Annual Meeting afterwards.

An email has been sent to the chairperson of each committee and ministry requesting an updated report for 2023 – if you haven't turned in your report, please do so as soon as possible – thank you!

Maple Grove's Child Abuse Awareness Policy – return signed form by February 4th

Maple Grove's policy on Physical & Sexual Abuse of Children states all volunteers who are involved with children and youth are required to receive a copy of this policy and sign a form confirming they have read and understand the policy. This is done on an annual basis. If you received an email from the Ministry of Congregational Care in regards to Maple Grove's policy on Child Abuse Awareness, please return your signed form to the church office by Sunday, February 4th. If you have any questions, please contact a member of Ministry of Congregational Care. Thank you!

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.

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



“Be The Love” 1st Annual Love Our Community Men Who Cook Fundraiser – February 13

LOC is holding a fun night of raising funds with local community members cooking and competing, silent & live auctions, music and more. After you go all around and taste all the yummy food, you will vote for your favorites! **Our hope is to celebrate 5 years and continue to raise awareness and financial support to come alongside our neighbors who may be suffering in silence.** The event is Tuesday, Feb. 13, from 6pm-9pm @ Hartville Marketplace. Click [here](#) for more information.

2024 Annual Conference Assembly for Ohio Mennonite Conference – March 1-2



Sharon Mennonite Church in Plain City will host the Ohio Mennonite Annual Conference Assembly on March 1-2. The theme for this year’s gathering will be “Following Jesus Together with a Common Mission,” based on Philippians 2:5-11. Click [here](#) for more information and to register online. Paper copies of the registration form are available on the literature rack at the church for non-delegates.

Registration price increases after February 9th.

The 2024 Annual Conference Assembly is intended for all members of Ohio Conference churches, not just delegates. This year they will offer some exciting changes as ACA will begin on Friday morning to give more time to hear from our featured speaker, Meghan Larissa Good from Trinity Mennonite Church in Arizona. Meghan is the author of two books and will be sharing with us specifically on her newly published book, ***Divine Gravity: Sparking a Movement to Recover a Better Christian Story.***

Save the date for the Ohio MCC Comforter Bash on March 8-9!

A handmade comforter provides not only warmth, but also a tangible message to people that their needs are not forgotten. Join others of all ages for this two-day event at Fairlawn Mennonite Church to knot comforters that Mennonite Central Committee will distribute around the world. We invite you to make comforter tops (60” x 80”) and backs (65” x 85”) for use at the Comforter Bash. Comforter backs and tops should be marked for Sarah or MRC and dropped off **by February 1** at the MCC Material Resources Center in Kidron (4080 Kidron Road). For more information, visit mcc.org/ohio-comforter-bash.

Dates: Friday, March 8 (9:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.); Saturday, March 9 (9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.)

Location: Fairlawn Mennonite Church - 8520 Emerson Rd, Apple Creek, OH 44606

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

In our current issue: Kevin King shares inspiration from the dentist's chair; learn about a huge boost coming to Crisfield, Maryland; and don't miss the February 8 deadline to register for our Annual Celebration in Fresno in February. Click [here](#) to read more. A copy is posted on the bulletin board at the church.

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!

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, Holly Miller, Marsha Miller

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-1pm; Tuesday thru Thursday-8am-noon; 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