



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 4, 2024

Sunday  
 April 7, 2024



**Message:** Nathanael Hofstetter Ressler  
**Worship Leader:** Gary Sommers  
**Song Leader & Offertory:** Renee Koshmider  
**Greeters:** Alta Bates & Arrie Ledsome

**GATHERING**

Prelude  
 Opening Song VT #30 *Jesus Calls Us*  
 Welcome & Announcements  
 Call to Worship & Prayer  
 People: We have gathered from our different places to worship here.  
**Leader: How good it is to worship together in unity!**  
 People: We come from our different occupations, our diverse activities.  
**Leader: How good it is to worship together in unity!**  
 People: We come as unique individuals, bound together in the love of Christ.  
**Leader: How good it is to worship together in unity!**

**PRAISING**

Praise Songs *Build My Life*  
*I Will Sing of My Redeemer*  
 Offering – General Fund

**HEARING GOD'S WORD**

Scripture Psalm 133 (NRSVUE)  
 Message *Unity toward Shalom*

**RESPONDING**

Song of Response *Unity*  
 Congregational Sharing/Prayer

**SENDING**

Sending Song *VT #813 Heart with Loving Heart United*  
 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)



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- ✝ Pray for Sheryl Weaver who is meeting with a cardiologist to schedule open-heart surgery for heart issues that she is experiencing.
  - ✝ Pray for those with health concerns: Ruth Yoder and Margaret Miller recovering from surgery; Lura Bowin; Rachel Weaver; Nathanael's cousin Trevor Parish; Alta Bates' nephew Ray Miller; Myron & Sheryl Weaver's friend Bob Brown; and Harold Beachy's brother Darold.
  - ✝ Pray for Alexis Deuzoumbé and his family that they may soon be reunited as they continue to work at the immigration process. Pray for the process to move forward quickly.
  - ✝ 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.



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Thank you so much for all the prayers, texts, calls, cards, flowers, visits, and meals you showered me with as I prepared for surgery and now heal. I felt the presence of God through your kindness and love. Thank you for walking with me during this difficult time.

Love, Ruth Yoder

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### Mark Your CALENDAR

Next Sunday, April 14, Dr. Maurice Stutzman will be at Maple Grove.

Maurice is a retired physician living in Holmes County, Ohio with a passion for restoring hope. He is married, (Carla), and has five adult children, one of whom was welcomed into their family as a homeless teenager. He is a member of the Walnut Creek Mennonite Church and currently serves as the secretary/treasurer for MDS (Mennonite Disaster Service) Region 2. Hobbies include making furniture for the Ohio MCC relief sale and volunteering for Saturday breakfast duty in the same venue. He has assisted in the relocation of six Ukrainian families.

Maurice will be sharing during the Sunday School hour as well as the worship service. His presentation during Sunday School will be in the Fellowship Hall and include information about MDS and their mission of hope and restoration, and he will illustrate what a process looks like for a church to bring a family to America. There will be a time for questions and answers. During the worship service, he will show videos of refugees and how churches should respond, as well as share a story of a family sponsored by Berlin Mennonite Church to America. Please plan to join us on April 14!



- Sunday – April 14 - Presentation during Sunday School with Dr. Maurice Stutzman (in the Fellowship Hall)
  - Sermon Guest Dr. Maurice Stutzman
  - Bible Memory Sunday for children to recite verses (John 3:16-17)
- Sunday – May 5 - Communion Sunday & Bible Memory Recognition
- Wed. – May 8 - Spring Cleaning & Outside Work Night @ Church – 6pm
- Sunday – May 12 - Mother's Day & Parent-Child Dedication
- Sunday – May 19 - Pentecost & Graduation Sunday



## Are you interested in exploring baptism and/or membership at Maple Grove?

If so, we would love to discuss that with you. Classes will be offered soon. Please reach out to Pastor Nathanael if you would like to learn more. *Ministry of Congregational Care*



### Offering last Sunday, March 31, 2024

Attendance: 110

General Fund	\$ 9,730.75
Capital Replacement Fund	5,000.00
Alexis Deuzoumbé Mission	50.00
Total Offering	<u>\$ 14,780.75</u>



## Church News

### Please Note:

- Erin Cartner is looking for an apartment or mobile home to rent in the near future. If you know of a place that will accept a small dog, please let her know.
- Lura Bowin has a sofa bed she would like to see if anyone is interested in. She is having someone move in with her to help her out, and she is clearing out a room to prepare for her guest. She has a Lazy Boy sofa bed that is in good condition and green in color. She would like to get rid of it before April 18 when her guest arrives. She is having a garage sale in about a month and the sofa could be moved out for the garage sale, but she thought to see if anyone in the congregation is interested. Please contact Lura if you would like more information.
- Lake High School is performing the musical, The Little Mermaid, on April 11-13 (Thursday-Saturday) at 7pm and Sunday April 14, at 2pm in their Performing Arts Hall. James Yoder is playing violin for the pit orchestra during the performances. If you are interested in watching a fabulous show, please let James Yoder know and he can help get you tickets.  
The show will sell-out, so reserve your seats early! Or click [here](#) to purchase tickets yourself.

### Ministry of Outreach Kicks-Off “My Coins Count” Collection



My Coins Count offering will go to MCC (Mennonite Central Committee) at the Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale on July 12-13 @ the Mt. Hope Event Center. My Coins Count raises money for water projects sponsored by MCC to help provide clean drinking water and new wells for communities all over the world. ***Last year Maple Grove donated \$59,930.64 (which includes a \$20,000 match). Let's see what we can do this year!***

### Share the love of Jesus with a thirsty world! Ways to give:

- Mark your offering envelope “My Coins Count”
- Drop your change in the coin vortex at the church
- Take a mission bank home and start collecting your change  
- the banks are on a table in the foyer.

To include something in the newsletter, please email Cindy Fleming at [secretary@maplegrovemennonite.org](mailto:secretary@maplegrovemennonite.org) by Wednesday each week – thank you!



**Registration for Camp Luz Summer Camp Programs is now available at [www.campluz.com](http://www.campluz.com).**

Camp Luz has programs for ages 4-18. Rates increase April 15<sup>th</sup>. Please note they do have Campership Request forms available for those who need financial assistance.

**Open Arms Hispanic Ministry Fundraiser – April 26**

Open Arms Hispanic Ministry will be having a family friendly stand-up comedy show at Grace Church in Berlin (5850 Co. Hwy 77, Millersburg). The fundraiser is on Friday, April 26, at 5:00 p.m. and features Brett Hollis & Bob Mortimer, two Christian comedians. This is in place of the annual Taco Tuesday. Bring the whole family – desserts provided. There will be a free-will offering taken for Open Arms Hispanic Ministry.

**Lake Center Christian School Annual Benefit Auction – April 27 from 4-8pm**

Our mission at Lake Center Christian School is to work together with churches and families to grow God's kingdom and raise disciples in Christ. The auction is the main form of fundraising for our K-12 school and goes towards the operating costs. \$25 event ticket purchase includes dinner and reserved table seating. The Online Auction is available April 17-27. All auction information can be found at [LCCS 38th Annual Benefit Auction \(ejoinme.org\)](http://LCCS38thAnnualBenefitAuction.ejoinme.org).

**Lighthouse Ministries' Annual Fundraising Banquet – May 2**

Join us on Thursday, May 2, at 6:30pm at the Hartville Kitchen for our Annual Fundraising Banquet! It will be a fun-filled evening celebrating the work of the Lighthouse and, of course, celebrating the students we work with! Thanks to our sponsors there is no cost to attend but there will be an invitation to give at the end of the evening. Our fiscal year ends May 31 so our goal is to raise \$60,000 to meet our budget. The banquet will also mark the grand opening of nine of our student-run businesses! Come ready to meet our entrepreneurs and to do some shopping at the end of the evening! Doors open at 5:45. Register today at [www.cantonlighthouse.org/banquet](http://www.cantonlighthouse.org/banquet). If you are unable to make it but still want to help us reach our goal? Visit [www.cantonlighthouse.org/give](http://www.cantonlighthouse.org/give) to make your donation. We are still looking for a few individuals willing to host a table of 10 for the banquet. If you are interested, reach out to Darin Nissley at [director@cantonlighthouse.org](mailto:director@cantonlighthouse.org) for more info.

**Lake Township FISH Annual Golf Classic – June 22**

Registration and hole sponsorships are now available for the 2024 FISH Golf Classic on Saturday, June 22. The outing will be at Paradise Lake Country Club with a shotgun start at 2pm. Go to [2024 Golf Outing | Lake Township FISH](http://2024GolfOutingLakeTownshipFISH) for more information and to register and sponsor a hole.

**From Hartville Thrift Shoppe – Volunteers Needed!**

The Hartville Thrift Shoppe is so fortunate to have all of our great volunteers and they are a joy to work alongside each week! We are looking to increase our volunteer numbers especially in the following areas: Books, Electronics, Shoes, and Videos/Music. Of course we welcome volunteers in other areas as well. You can go to our website at [www.HartvilleThriftShoppe.org](http://www.HartvilleThriftShoppe.org) and submit a Volunteer Information Form there, or come into the store and fill one out in person. We couldn't do what we do without our volunteers. Come and join our wonderful team!

## 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!

The meals are in the freezer in the church kitchen and labeled with heating instructions - there is Tater Tot Casserole, Chili, Broccoli Cheese Soup and homemade bread . 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](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-1pm; Tuesday thru Thursday-8am-noon; 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