



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



Maple Grove
Newsletter

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

Newsletter dated
 July 3, 2024

Sunday
 July 7, 2024



Message: Myrrl Byler
Worship Leader: Paul Bontrager
Song Leader: Ruth Yoder
Greeters: Alta Bates & Arrie Ledsome

GATHERING

Prelude

Opening Song

Shine, Jesus Shine

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship & Prayer

Leader: Remain in Jesus, and Jesus in you.

People: Just as a branch is unable to produce fruit by itself unless it remains on the vine,

Leader: Neither can we unless we remain in Jesus. Jesus is the vine;

People: We are the branches. Everyone who remains in Jesus and Jesus in them produces much fruit,

Leader: Because we can do nothing without Jesus. . . .

People: As the Father has loved Jesus, Jesus has also loved us.

Leader: Remain in Jesus' love.

ALL: Jesus has told us these things so that his joy may be in us and our joy may be complete.

PRAISING

Praise Songs

*I Will Sing of My Redeemer
 Be Unto Your Name*

Offering – General Fund

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture

Acts 5:12-16; Acts 4:32-35 (NRSVUE)

Message

Why Can't We Be More Like Them

RESPONDING

Song of Response

HWB #545 *Be Thou My Vision*

Congregational Sharing/Prayer

SENDING

Sending Song

VT #71 *Praise God (Doxology)*
 (Verses A & B)

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 Nancy Beachy's sister Hazel who fell and broke her neck, and Nancy's brother-in-law Jake who had surgery for his cancer.
- ✝ Pray for Diamond Howell's grandfather Dennis Howell. He has "end stage" of life health issues and she is his caregiver.
- ✝ Pray for Twila Miller's sister Elnora Yoder and her husband Orvan. Elnora is dealing with cancer.
- ✝ Pray for those with health concerns: Rachel Weaver and Alice Rini (Lura Bowin's sister) who are both on Hospice Care; Lura Bowin.
- ✝ 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 the refugee family Maple Grove is planning to sponsor.
- ✝ 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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- Thurs.-Fri. – July 4-5 - Church Office Closed for Independence Day
- Wed.-Thurs. – July 10-11 - Help make Egg Rolls for Relief Sale
- Fri.-Sat. – July 12-13 - OH Mennonite Relief Sale @ Mt. Hope Event Center
- Sunday – July 14 - Return Household Items for Refugee Family
- Fun Summer Activity Day for Post-High & Youth Group
- after church @ Steve & Holly Miller's
- Monday – July 15 - Ministry of Gifts Discernment Ballots due back to church
- Mon.-Fri. – July 15-19 - VBS with Evermore Community Church – 9am-11:30am
- Sunday – August 11 - Herm & Vince – Sharing & Singing during Sermon Time
- Sunday – August 25 - Church Sunday Out – Service, lunch & afternoon
@ Lake Mohawk

A Note from Myrri

I would appreciate some help and input as I prepare sermons in the coming weeks. If you feel so led (no pressure), please respond to all or a few of the questions below anytime in the next week or two. You can email responses, text them or if you want to leave a voice mail or call me, that works too.

1. What are several characteristics of a successful church or what do you think makes a church successful?
2. If someone who has just moved into the Hartville area asked you why you attend Maple Grove, what would be your one or two sentence answer?
3. How does being a part of this congregation most help you in the development of your own spiritual life/journey?
4. What is the best way for you to make a contribution in our congregation, or what gifts/talents do you bring to the church?
5. If you could change one thing about your church experience at Maple Grove, what might that be?
6. What part of being involved in this congregation gives you the most joy?

Thank you, Myrri Byler



Offering last Sunday, June 30 Attendance: 45

General Fund	\$ 4,600.00
My Coins Count	19,000.00
Refugee Family	2,750.00
Alexis Deuzoumbé Mission	50.00
Total Offering	<u>\$ 26,400.00</u>

Nominees for Maple Grove Ministries – Ballots due back to the church by July 15

Ministry of Gifts Discernment has sent ballots to Active Members for affirmation of the nominees for open ministry positions that begin September 1, 2024. **Please check a box for each person listed on the ballot and return to the church by Monday, July 15.** A box is available by the mailboxes at the church to collect the ballots or you may return them to the church office. Any questions, please contact a member of the Ministry of Gifts Discernment: Vee Miller, Charla Sommers, Vernon Sommers, Jr., Michael Yoder.

Refugee Family Update from Brenda LaTulippe

Thank you for your support of the refugee family. They are currently living in Germany with an aunt and are anxiously looking forward to relocating here. Our request for sponsorship has been submitted and we're waiting for US Citizenship and Immigration Services to review/rule.

Holly Miller and Lois Bontrager are coordinating donations of furniture and household items.

Christmas in July-Household Items: Many items are needed to stock the house and make it functional. Please see the display in the church lobby for specific things that are needed. If you're able to help with any of them, pull the tag, purchase the item and bring them in by Sunday, July 14.

Furniture still needed:

- 3 Bedroom Dressers

The Fundraising Committee has set a goal to raise \$25,000 as a starting point to help our Ukrainian family. Over half of this dollar amount is scheduled to be used to purchase a reliable car for the family. If anyone has a reliable vehicle that they would be interested in donating to this cause, please contact Steve Miller.

Thanks for the financial donations you've already made, your continued gifts are appreciated. Please continue to mark your offering envelope with "Refugee Family."



Mark your calendars - Fun Summer Activity Day for Post-High & Youth Group – July 14

A pizza lunch on July 14th @ Steve & Holly Miller's lake house is planned following the Sunday worship service. We will carpool from the church. Please bring games, swimsuits, sunscreen, sunglasses, a towel, etc. Pontoon rides, a ski boat and boat skis are in the mix of activities. Or just enjoy the day relaxing and or playing games. In case of bad weather, the church Fellowship Hall is reserved. Any questions, please see Youth Sponsors Gary & Charla Sommers or Jade & Jill Liechty, or contact Vee Miller or Steve & Holly Miller.



Vacation Bible School is the week of July 15-19 from 9am-11:30am at Evermore Community Church (Monday starts at 8:30am for registration).

VBS is for preschoolers age 4 through 5th grade. Click on this link for more info:
[The Great Jungle Journey 2024 - Evermore Community Church \(churchcenter.com\)](http://churchcenter.com)

Maple Grove is supplying snacks for the week of VBS. If you are willing to help, sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board at the church for food & volunteering:

- **Food Donations Needed!** A list of needed items is posted on the bulletin board in the church lobby. **If you would like to help, please sign up for the item(s) you will donate and bring to the church by Saturday – July 13.**
- **Volunteers Needed!** Two volunteers are needed each day to assist with preparation and serving of daily snack time. Please sign up if you are willing to volunteer.

Thanks for your help! If you have any questions, please see Kim Weaver.

Help Needed with Egg Rolls for the Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale

Egg rolls are one of the most popular items at the Relief Sale. There is an opportunity to help with preparing and rolling the egg rolls, and manning the egg roll stand. Pam Blough is coordinating this and asking you to kindly consider giving some of your time on one or more of the following days:



- Wednesday, July 10th - Prepare the filling at Hartville Kitchen
- Thursday, July 11th - Roll egg rolls at the Hartville Kitchen
- Friday, July 12th - Volunteer at the stand - Mt. Hope
- Saturday, July 13th - Volunteer at the stand - Mt. Hope

Sign-up sheets are posted on the bulletin board at the church, or you may call Pam Blough at 330-705-4720. *Thanks for your consideration! It's a fun opportunity - good fellowship, good cause!*



Festival of Nonviolence & Peacemaking with RAWtools Demonstration– Sunday, July 21

Lighthouse Ministries is sponsoring the Festival of Nonviolence & Peacemaking on Sunday, July 21, from 3:00-7:00 p.m. at Nimisilla Park in Canton (1075 O'Jays Blvd. NE). It will be a look at the effects of gun violence in our community. There will be music, food, games and engagement with organizations committed to nonviolence and peacemaking, with a ceremony where guns are forged into garden tools. Plan to attend and help explore tangible ways to promote nonviolence and peacemaking in our community. More information on the event can be found at [FESTIVAL OF NONVIOLENCE AND PEACEMAKING | Together \(togetherneo.com\)](http://togetherneo.com)

An anticipated opening at the Hartville Migrant Center starting August 2024

Director of Services: A part-time director (20-25 hours a week) to oversee all center activities, advocate for the needs of the underserved in the Greater Stark County Area, assist with the operations and record-keeping of the medical clinic. The Director must work with a wide variety of volunteers and community members as well as an active Board of Directors to achieve the center's mission of service to the migrant and the underserved in the community. Office management and public speaking skills are essential. Spanish language abilities and any healthcare experience preferred. If interested please send your resume to Lora Wyss wlyyss@neo.rr.com by July 15, 2024.

July 7 is last Sunday to donate to My Coins Count

If you took a mission bank home, please bring back to the church by Sunday



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.

MCC works around the world to help people dig wells and find sources of clean water

- † In India, MCC creates irrigation systems that bring water from hills down to villages.
- † In Nigeria, MCC builds latrines in villages so that people can stay healthy.
- † In Jordan, MCC installs water collection tanks and gardens at schools in order to improve the learning environment.

Share the love of Jesus with a thirsty world!

"... I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink ..." (Matthew 25:35)

Mark your offering envelope "My Coins Count" or bring in your change!

We have met the \$20,000 offer of matching funds for My Coins Count!



Relief Sale Schedule of Events

All events inside the air-conditioned Event Center!

Friday Evening, July 12

4pm Silent Auction, Food Stands,
Artisan's Market, Quilter's Corner
& Auction Displays Open
6pm Volleyball Tournament
6:30pm Music by the Walhonding Amish Youth
Group

Saturday, All Day, July 13

7am **Fuel up for Sale Day Breakfast**
Pancakes, Fresh Sausage, Eggs & More!
7:30am 1K Kids' Fun Run; 5K Run and Walk for
Relief to follow at 8am

Saturday, All Day, July 13 (continued)

8am Artisan's Market, Quilter's Corner,
Auction Displays & Food Stands Open
9am **Live/Online Auction**
Quilts, wall-hangings, locally-made quality
furniture, tools, toys and "Experiences" will
sell to the highest bidders!
Thousands of Dollars of Gift Cards
donated by Ohio's Amish Country business
will sell live and online!
10:30am **Children's Auction**
Toys for children 12 and under, auctioned
by a youth auctioneer-in-training!

Click [here](#) to go the Relief Sale website for more information. Copies of the Relief Sale brochures are available on the literature rack at the church.

To include something in the newsletter, please email Cindy Fleming at secretary@maplegrovemennonite.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!

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

Facebook – Maple Grove Mennonite Church Group
(send updates to Jill Liechty or Julie Yoder)

Myrrl Byler: Sabbatical Fill Pastor

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

Children/Youth/Young Adult Classes

PreK-4th Grade: Rooms 7-8
Jr. Youth (Grades 5-8): Rooms 3-4
Mixed Post-High & Youth
(Grades 9-12) Fellowship Hall