



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
February 14, 2025

Sunday
February 16, 2025



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

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Song

VT #9 *Come Away from Rush and Hurry*

Call to Worship

Leader: From the comfort of our Western homes and prosperous lives,

People: We come hungry for a better world for all.

Leader: In our society divided by power struggles, partisanship and prejudice,

People: We affirm and commit to showing the power of Your healing love.

Leader: With the honesty of our doubts and insecurities, we don't understand Your words to be
Happy when sad, hungry or insulted.

**ALL: But we rejoice in Your love for each of us; and because of that love,
seeking to be ministers of reconciliation to all the world.**

PRAISING

Praise Songs

VT #297 *You are Salt for the Earth*
STS #115 *Beauty for Brokenness*

Offering – *Education Fund*

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture

Luke 6:17-26 (CEB)

Message

How terrible for you...

RESPONDING

Song of Response

VT #601 *Lead Me, Guide Me*

Congregational Sharing/Prayer

SENDING

Sending Song

VT #793 *We are Marching*

Benediction/Blessing

Postlude

Songs used with permission: CCLI 465314
HWB- Hymnal Worship Book (blue) STJ-Sing the Journey (green)
VT-Voces Together (purple) STS-Sing the Story (purple)



- ✝ Pray for those recovering from surgery: Sylvia Miller, Becky Lubbers, Herm Weaver, and Jeremy Graber.
- ✝ Pray for others with health concerns: Rachel Weaver, and Mary Hilmer's brother Harold Yoder who has cancer.
- ✝ Pray for Isabelle Liechty and a group from Lake Center who are preparing to go on a mission trip March 1st to the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- ✝ Pray for the Mykhaylyuchenko family - Vlad, Krystyna, Vlad and Emilia.
- ✝ Pray for Alexis Deuzoumbé and his wife Gloria & their family.
- ✝ 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.



Dear Maple Grove Friends,
Thank you for the beautiful flowers and your expression of sympathy and care at the passing of my sister Janet Gisewhite. Janet and I joined you virtually every Sunday morning for your service. We enjoyed being with you and hearing the inspiring sermons and music. Your kindness is much appreciated. Joyce McKnight



- Saturday – Feb. 15 - Acme Community Cash Back Program ends (Please bring in your receipts)
- Sunday – Feb. 16 - Collection for Lake Township FISH
- Bring in Diapers for Diaper Shower for Tim & Violet
- Thursday – Feb. 20 - Scripture Reading & Prayer Time – 8:30am (SS Room #1)
- Wed. – March 5 - Ash Wednesday Service – 7pm
- Fri. & Sat. – March 7-8 - Annual Conference Assembly of Ohio Conference @ Berlin Mennonite Church
- Sunday – March 9 - Daylight Saving Time begins (Spring Forward)
- First Sunday of Lent
- Church Social – Game Night @ the Church – 4:30pm

Please Note: Pastor Nathanael will be out of the office February 17-20 attending a Pastors & Leaders Conference at Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Indiana. Please contact a member of Ministry of Congregational Care for any pastoral needs in his absence.



Offering last Sunday, February 9

Attendance: 69

General Fund	\$ 5,495.32
Charity Fund	1,000.00
Alexis Deuzoumbé Mission	50.00
Total Offering	\$ 6,545.32



Lenten Banner for 2025 –The Worship Visual Committee is currently working on the new Lenten banner using the *Leader* magazine suggestions. It will be set up in the Fellowship Hall during coffee time if anyone (of any age or skill) would like to help. If you have any questions, please see Vee Miller or Sheryl Weaver.

Morning Scripture Reading and Prayer: Join us on Thursday mornings in the Women's SS class at 8:30am for a time of scripture reading and prayer. We are following the 2-Year Bible Reading Plan – copies are available by the mailboxes. All are invited to join, whether you come every week or just once in a while. If you have any questions, please see Clara Sommers or Pastor Nathanael.

FISH Collection: The Ministry of Outreach is holding a collection for Lake Township FISH. Please bring items to the church on Sunday. You may also give through the offering by marking your envelope for FISH. Needed items are:

- Pasta
- Pasta Sauce
- Canned fruit
- Canned soup
- Kleenex



Diaper Shower for Tim & Violet: The Ministry of Outreach is having a diaper shower for Tim Miller (Miriam Miller's son). If you would like to participate, please bring in diapers this Sunday. Any size diapers - newborn to toddler. Any questions, please contact a member of MOO: Sheryl Weaver, Savanah Hofstetter Ressler, Howard Miller. Thank you!

Acme Community Cash Back Program ends Saturday, February 15.

Please bring your receipts 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.



Family Ministry has scheduled a game night at the church for Sunday, March 9, from 4:30-7:30pm. All ages are welcome! We'll have pizza at 5:30. Bring your favorite game to play and come enjoy the fellowship time! If you have any questions, please contact a member of Family Ministry: Barb Dutcher, Betty Miller, Holly Miller & Marsha Miller

Thank you from Love our Community

Dear Maple Grove Mennonite Church,

I can't tell you how much your kindness and generosity mean to us here at Love Our Community – and to me personally. When I think about the work we do and the lives we touch, I know that none of it would be possible without people like you. Your recent gift is so much more than just a donation. It's hope for a neighbor in need, a second chance for someone starting over, and a reminder that our community is full of people who truly care for one another. Because of you, we're able to provide housing, counseling, and vital resources to those who need them most. Thank you for the work we do. With heartfelt gratitude,

Kelli Viscounte, Founder/CEO, Love Our Community, Inc.



Join the Ohio MCC Comforter Bash on February 28 - March 1!

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.

For more information, visit mcc.org/ohio-comforter-bash.

Dates: Friday, February 28 (9am-8pm) and Saturday, March 1 (9am-2pm)

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

In 2025, Mennonite Disaster Service (MDS) is celebrating 75 years of bringing people home after a disaster. In celebration of Mennonite Disaster Service's 75th anniversary, we are inviting church sewing circles and individuals who enjoy sewing, knitting, crocheting, or weaving to join us by creating wall hangings or prayer shawls for our Housewarmer Project during the month of February! The Housewarmer Project provides quilted wall hangings and prayer shawls to disaster survivors whose homes have been rebuilt or restored by MDS. The wall hangings and prayer shawls are presented to the homeowner at the dedication of the home. These handmade gifts are a lasting symbol of compassion and of coming home. Housewarmer Project information, guidelines, and mailing instructions for completed wall hangings and prayer shawls can be found at [Housewarmer Project – Mennonite Disaster Service](http://HousewarmerProject-MennoniteDisasterService).

The Hartville Thrift Shoppe is looking for volunteers, specifically in the purses/accessories, electronics, cashier areas, and the Movies and Music department. Tours and more information are available. Hours and areas to work are as flexible as you need them to be! Join us in our work to support MCC and local charities. Contact Julie, Volunteer Coordinator at 330-877-2769 X1308, or fill out a volunteer information form on our website at hartvillethriftshoppe.org.

The Friends of the Lake Library will be holding several book drop off events at the Lake Library this year for the Book Sale to be held June 19-21, 2025 at the library. We can accept books, CDs, DVDs, records, cookbooks, games and puzzles. We cannot accept cassette tapes, textbooks, audio books, dictionary books, research materials or manuals, encyclopedias, VHS tapes, magazines or damaged books or other items. Book drop-off dates are February 22, April 5 and May 3 from 10am-12pm.

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.

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

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-12pm**

Cindy Fleming: Church Secretary (Secretary@maplegrovemennonite.org)

- **Office Hours:** **Monday-Tuesday & Thursday-Friday – 8am-1pm**

Ministry of Congregational Care: Dan Dutcher, Paul Bontrager, Harold Beachy, Jill Liechty

Prayer Chain Contacts: Jen Geiser and Kami Sommers

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES AVAILABLE

Adult Classes

Women's Class	Room 1-Education Side
Men's Class	Room 9-Hallway
Mixed Intergenerational Class	Room 2-Education Side
Mixed 30's-40's Class	Basement

Children/Youth/Young Adult Classes

PreK-5 th Grade	Rooms 7-8
Jr. Youth (Grades 6-8):	Rooms 3-4
Youth (Grades 9-12) & Post-High	
Youth Room in Basement	