



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
May 30, 2025

Looking Back—Facing Forward: 500 Years of Anabaptist Faith

**Sunday
June 1, 2025**



Message:	Nathanael Hofstetter Ressler
Worship Leader:	Michael Yoder
Song Leader:	Ruth Yoder
Greeters:	Alta Bates & Arrie Ledsome

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Song

STS #113 / *Will Stand in the Congregation*

Call to Worship

Leader: Lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness,

People: *with patience, bearing with one another in love,*

Leader: making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,

People: *one Lord, one faith, one baptism,*

Leader: one God and Faith of all,

ALL: *who is above all and through all and in all.*

PRAISING

Praise Songs

*There is a Redeemer
The Jesus Way*

Offering – General Fund

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Reader's Theater

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 4:1-4 (CEB)

Message

***Menno Simons would've loved Ubuntu:
Community is the Center of our Life***

RESPONDING

Song of Response

VT #813 *Heart with Loving Heart United*

Confession & Words of Assurance

Leader: God, for the times when we make our lives about ourselves, when we believe our perspectives or preferences are more important than our participating in community, when we fall prey to the trap of hyper-individualism,

All: *Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us.*

Leader: Spirit, You are moving us toward each other, drawing all people together so that we might look more like You. We trust in Your loving kindness toward us; we trust You are leading us toward wholeness and unity. Amen.

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)
TMH – The Mennonite Hymnal (red) STS-Sing the Story (purple)
VT-Voices Together (purple)



- ✝ Pray for John Raber's brother Eli Ray and his family on the passing of his wife Jan last Thursday. Pray for peace for the family.
- ✝ Pray for John Raber who is having knee replacement surgery on June 4.
- ✝ Pray for Jeremy Graber, Kevin Graber's nephew, for his continued health struggles.
- ✝ Pray for Isaiah (Kristen Koshmider's friend) recovering from surgery.
- ✝ Pray for others with health concerns: Renee Koshmider; Junior Sommers; Alta Bates; Miriam Miller; Herm Weaver; Rachel Weaver; Mary Hilmer's brother Harold Yoder; and Nancy Beachy's sister Alta.
- ✝ Pray for Twila Miller's nephew who is a pastor in London, Kentucky where tornadoes swept through their town killing 19 people. Pray for this community and other communities that are recovering from recent storms.
- ✝ Pray for the Mykhaylyuchenko family - Vlad, Krystyna, Vlad and Emilia.
- ✝ Pray for Alexis Deuzoumbé as he continues nursing school and pray for his immigration process.
- ✝ Pray for peace and justice throughout the world. Pray for those affected by violence in Ukraine, Gaza, Myanmar and Sudan.



Offering last Sunday, May 25

Attendance: 75

General Fund	\$ 4,672.76
Alexis Deuzoumbé Mission	50.00
Love our Community	50.00
Total Offering	\$ 4,772.76

On April 27 we began a series entitled, “Looking Back—Facing Forward: 500 Years of Anabaptist Faith.” This ten-Sunday series explores the roots of our Anabaptist congregation and what we believe together. Each Sunday we will have a reader’s theater that will share a story from our Anabaptist past. Our prayer is that by learning more about and appreciating our past, we will be more faithful in the present and in the future.

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| April 27 - The Name on the Church Sign—Does it Really Matter? | -Pastor Myrri |
| May 4 - Power through Weakness Becomes Weakness through Power | -Pastor Myrri |
| May 11 - Why so Radical? | -Pastor Myrri |
| May 18 - Moving to the Promised Land | -Pastor Myrri |
| May 25 - An emPHAsis on a Different syllABLE:
Jesus is the Center of our Faith | -Pastor Nathanael |
| June 1 - Menno Simons would’ve loved Ubuntu:
Community is the Center of our Life | -Pastor Nathanael |
| June 8 - “I’m a Christian too, but you’re taking this way too seriously!”
Reconciliation is the Center of our Work | -Pastor Nathanael |
| June 15 - Why am I still a Mennonite? | -Panel |
| June 22 - Anabaptist Movement Worldwide Today | -Pastor Myrri |
| June 29 - Looking Forward: Being Anabaptist in Hartville, Ohio | -Pastor Nathanael |

We are waiting for a scheduled date (hopefully in early June) when as a congregation we can visit Behalt (Amish Mennonite Heritage Center) in Berlin to learn more about our Anabaptist past.

As we celebrate our series on Anabaptism at 500, we invite you to bring Bibles, books, hymnals or something that has been in your family for some years and passed on to you.

Perhaps you can include a 3x5 card or note that explains and shares the history. A table is set up in the church lobby in front of the sanctuary where these can be displayed; 3x5 cards are on the table for you to use for sharing your family history.

Also on the table are new books on Anabaptism for you to borrow:

- “Anabaptist Community Bible”
- “Drawing Near: A Devotional Journey with Art, Poetry & Reflection” -Eileen R. Kinch & John D. Roth, editors
- “Footsteps of Faith: A Global Anabaptist Devotional” -John D. Roth editor
- “Faith in Full Color: A Tapestry of Anabaptist Stories”-Compiled and written by Jeanne Zimmerly Jantzi
- “Radicals and Reformers: A Survey of Global Anabaptist History” -Troy Osborne
- “Finding Ourselves in God’s Story: Exploring Christian Faith and Life” -Michele Hershberger

Children’s Books:

- “Sparkling Peace” -Teresa Kim Pecinovsky and Hannah Rose Martin; Illustrated by Gabhor Utomo
- “Stitched Together” -Aimee Reid; Illustrated by Kate Cosgrove
- “A Light to Share: Stories of Spreading Love & Changing the World” -Natalie Frisk; Illustrated by Maria Diaz Perera



- Wed. – June 4 - Ladies’ Sewing & Comforter Knotting
- Thurs. – June 5 - Scripture Reading & Prayer Time – 8:30am (SS Room #9)
- Sun. – June 8 - Pentecost & Graduation Sunday
- Thurs. – June 12 - Maple Grove’s Volunteer Night @ Thrift Shoppe – 6-8 pm
- July 11-12 - Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale & Auction @ Mt. Hope Event Center
- July 14-18 - VBS Week with Evermore Community Church
- Sun. – Aug. 24 - Church Sunday Out @ Lake Mohawk

PLEASE NOTE: Cindy will be out of the office on Friday, June 6, and working Monday, Tuesday & Thursday. The newsletters will be finalized on Thursday.

Miscellaneous items that have been left in the kitchen are now by the mailboxes at the church.

Please stop by and claim any dishes/items that belong to you. These will be taken to the Thrift Shoppe after June 15th. *The Food Committee*



We have a close friend and colleague from China coming to visit this summer, along with her 10 year old son and 1 1/2 year old daughter (our "grandkids"!). We are looking for a place for them to stay, one bedroom is fine, where they would have some space, perhaps cook a bit on their own. Dates are July 10 to August 6. She will have transportation. --Ruthie and Myrrl



Church News

The ladies' sewing group will meet on Wednesday, June 4 – lunch provided & bring a guest!



Everyone is welcome to join us for a day of fellowship. ***We are asking everyone to bring a guest this month. Lunch will be provided!*** Spend the day or come for just a bit - we enjoy each other's friendship while we work! If you have any questions, please contact Twila Miller, Margaret Miller or Sheryl Weaver.

ATTENTION QUILTERS: There is a quilt in frame at the Hartville Kitchen which will be donated to the MCC Relief Sale next year. You can come to quilt any time during the hours that the restaurant is open. Bring several people with you and stay for a few hours or stay for the day. (Lunch isn't far away!) Needles and thread are provided; you may want to bring your own scissors & thimble. Thank you!

The second Thursday of each month is Maple Grove's turn to supply volunteers at the Hartville Thrift Shoppe. Ministry of Outreach is encouraging volunteers to help with this. Men and women are needed Thursday, June 12, from 6-8pm. If you have any questions, please contact Julie Yoder.

MOA needs your help: The Ministry of Administration is requesting a Check Request form be filled out when you need a check for expense reimbursement, to pay an invoice, or to disburse money from a fund. This will replace the Purchase Order form that has been used in the past. There are printed copies of this form on the literature rack at the church and the form is also available in Excel and can be requested from Cindy Fleming in the church office. If you need help completing your Check Request, please contact Brenda LaTulippe or Cindy Fleming. Once the form is complete, please forward it to Cindy by placing in the mailbox outside the church office or via email. Cindy will review the forms, come back to you with questions if necessary, and then forward them on to Gary/Charla Sommers for processing. Checks will be mailed rather than put in your church mailbox. Please contact Cindy if you have any questions.



Ministry of Outreach Project – My Coins Count Collection for Food

My Coins Count offering will go to MCC (Mennonite Central Committee) at the Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale & Auction on July 11-12 @ the Mt. Hope Event Center.

- ✚ *Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) responds to food insecure populations by delivering food aid, such as food baskets, through partners during emergencies.*
- ✚ *MCC also supports conservation and “climate smart” agriculture projects, and other contextual and culturally sensitive approaches aimed at creating more equitable food systems. [Our right to food: World Food Day 2024 worship resource](#) | [Mennonite Central Committee](#)*

Your coins count! Ways to give:

- Mark your offering envelope “My Coins Count”
- Drop your change in the coin vortex at the church

Maple Grove has an offer of matching funds for My Coins Count up to \$20,000. For every dollar donated, it will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$20,000. So if the church can raise \$20,000 – we’ll have \$40,000 to give to MCC at the Relief Sale!

6 Sundays left to collect before the Relief Sale

Everence Workshop on Estate Planning – June 3 at Maple Grove

Join Everence for a workshop on estate planning basics with Everence rep Darius Meraj. The workshop is on Tuesday, June 3rd, at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at Maple Grove Mennonite Church. Attend our workshop and learn how you can control your legacy. Topics will include what estate planning entails, the four fundamental tools of every estate plan, and where assets can go. To register, or for more information, contact Kelly Troyer at 800-986-9988 or northeastohio@everence.com.

From the Hartville Thrift Shoppe

- We are always looking for more volunteers at the Hartville Thrift Shoppe. Do you have a few hours now and then that you could volunteer? The pay isn't great but the hours are flexible, the benefits and "co-workers" are WONDERFUL! Contact Julie, Volunteer Coordinator, at the store (330-877-2769), or you can fill out a Volunteer Information Form at our website - hartvillethriftshoppe.org. The more volunteers we have, the more we can give!
- Would you consider hosting an MCC International Volunteer Exchange Program participant who would be coming to work at the Hartville Thrift Shoppe for the coming year - July to July? We are tentatively looking for a host family. You could host for 6 months or the entire year. The young woman we are hoping will be coming is in the process of applying for a visa so her participation is a little uncertain, but we don't want to wait until we know for sure. Please contact Phil or Julie at the Hartville Thrift Shoppe 330-877-2769 and we would be happy to talk with you about it all! We have been SO BLESSED by the IVEP'ers who have been here with us and we really want them to have a wonderful home base while they are here - could that be you?

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

Ongoing News @ Maple Grove

Morning Scripture Reading and Prayer: Join us on Thursday mornings in SS classroom #9 at 8:30am for a time of scripture reading and prayer. We are following the 2-Year Bible Reading Plan – copies are available on the literature rack. 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.

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. Extra cards are on the literature rack.

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.

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**

Myrri Byler: Associate Pastor (myrri.byler@gmail.com)
- **Office Hours:** **Friday 8am-2pm**

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

Children's Ministry	Rooms 3-4
Youth (Grades 9-12) & Post-High	
Youth Room in Basement	