



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
June 13, 2025

Looking Back—Facing Forward: 500 Years of Anabaptist Faith

Sunday - June 15, 2025



Worship Leader: Scott Hyland
Song Leader: Tom Lubbers
Sharing: Howard Miller, Vee Miller,
Gene Robinson, Lura Bowin,
Kevin Graber
Greeters: Alta Bates & Arrie Ledsome

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Song

VT #6 *Let's Walk Together*

Call to Worship

Leader: We gather this morning at Maple Grove as a community to worship our God,
to celebrate the gift of God's Son, to participate in the work of reconciliation.

**All: *We share our stories with one another as a community testifying to
God's faithfulness in calling us to new life in Christ, and accompanying us
through struggles and joys.***

Leader: In worship we mark significant moments of our lives—birth and death,
marriage and illness, transitions in work and personal life—

All: *And we share the concerns of our wider community and world.*

PRAISING

Praise Songs

VT #92 *Build My Life*
VT #163 *Amazing Grace*

Offering – *Education Fund*

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Reader's Theater

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 2:4-10 (CEB)

Message - Sharing

Why am I still a Mennonite?

RESPONDING

Song of Response

VT #306 *I Want Jesus to Walk With Me*

Prayer of Confession & Words of Assurance

Leader: We give You thanks, Lord, that You so loved the world, Your creation, that You came to live among us. On the cross, You took upon Yourself the consequences of evil, thereby defeating sin and death, giving us the possibility of new life as we follow Jesus in the power of Your Spirit.

All: *We give thanks for the five hundred years of history that has shaped our family, and for the privilege of being a worldwide family that can be enriched by the gifts and perspectives of all. Amen.*

Congregational Sharing/Prayer

SENDING

Sending Song

VT #389 *Together*

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 who is recovering from knee replacement surgery.
- ✝ Pray for Cathy Arble's niece Stephanie who delivered a baby girl prematurely on Sunday and baby girl Blake is in the NICU with breathing problems. Pray for Stephanie, her husband Justin and the baby, as well as the rest of the family.
- ✝ Pray for others with health concerns: Junior Sommers; Alta Bates; Miriam Miller; Rachel Weaver; Herm Weaver; Mary Hilmer's brother Harold Yoder; Nancy Beachy's sister Alta; and Jeremy Graber, Kevin Graber's nephew.
- ✝ Pray for the Mykhaylyuchenko family - Vlad, Krystyna, Vlad and Emilia, and the Khodyrieva family - Ludmila, Diana and Anastasia.
- ✝ 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.



- Sun. – June 15 - Father's Day
- Education Sunday
- Thurs. – June 19 - Scripture Reading & Prayer Time – 8:30am (SS Room #9)
- June 23-25 - Cindy Fleming out of the office
- Sun. – June 29 - Open House for Mary Hilmer's 90th Birthday – 2-4pm
- July 8-12 - Pastor Nathanael attending MC USA Convention in Greensboro, NC
- July 11-12 - Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale & Auction @ Mt. Hope Event Center
- July 14-18 - VBS Week with Evermore Community Church – 9-11:30am
- Sun. – Aug. 24 - Church Sunday Out @ Lake Mohawk

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.

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 June) when as a congregation we can visit Behalt (Amish Mennonite Heritage Center) in Berlin to learn more about our Anabaptist past.

As part of Anabaptism at 500, Mennonite World Conference hosted a celebration of ecumenism, joy and confession of hope at the historic Grossmunster Church in Zurich on May 29. You can now access the service at: <https://mwc-cmm.org/en/500-the-courage-to-love/>
The link will remain on the website, making it possible to watch any time.

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:

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



Offering last Sunday, June 8

Attendance: 62

General Fund	\$ 7,360.00
My Coins Count	600.00
Love Our Community	50.00
Total Offering	\$ 8,010.00



Church News

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*



Mary Hilmer is turning 90 on June 30th! Her family is hosting an open house here in the Fellowship Hall to celebrate and we'd love to have all of you join us.

When: Sunday, June 29th, from 2-4pm. There will be cake!

No presents - just your presence will be more than enough! If you are planning to attend, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board to give us a general headcount.

Nominees for Maple Grove Ministries – Ballots due back to the church by June 30

Ballots have been placed in the mailboxes of Active Members for affirmation of the nominees for open ministry positions that begin September 1, 2025. Ballots that are not picked up on Sunday will be mailed to the homes. Please check a box for each person listed on the ballot and return to the church by Monday, June 30th. 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. Thank you!



Registration is open for Vacation Bible School which is the week of

July 14-18 from 9am-11:30am at Evermore Community Church. VBS is for preschoolers age 4 through 5th grade. Please register for the grade that your child has recently completed when registering. Registration is limited and ends July 1st so sign up today at [Wonder Junction VBS 2025 - Evermore Community Church](#)

If you see a waitlist for the grade you are registering for, please contact

Kim Weaver and she will see about getting your child(ren) added.

Maple Grove will be supplying snacks for the week of VBS. Sign-up sheets will be available soon for donating snacks and for volunteering. If you have any questions, please see Kim Weaver.

The large print version of *Our Daily Bread* devotionals for July-September are now available by the mailboxes. Please help yourself.

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



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.

[What we do | Mennonite Central Committee](#)

208K

people received food
assistance globally

575K

pounds of MCC
canned meat shipped
worldwide

1,552

households received
home repairs or
reconstruction

4,003

people received
financial support or
rent assistance

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!

4 Sundays left to collect before the Relief Sale

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale & Auction – Egg Rolls

The Relief Sale will be held on Friday, July 11 and Saturday, July 12 at the Mt. Hope Event Center. We have the opportunity to help with preparing, rolling and manning the egg roll stand at the Relief Sale. Kindly consider giving some of your time on one or more of the following days:

- Wednesday, July 9 – Prepare the filling at the Hartville Kitchen
- Thursday, July 10 – Roll egg rolls at the Hartville Kitchen
- Friday, July 11 – Volunteer at the stand - Mt. Hope Event Center
- Saturday, July 12 – Volunteer at the stand - Mt. Hope Event Center
- We especially need a few people to commit to helping clean up on Saturday around 1:30-2pm unless we sell out sooner.

Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board in the church lobby or you may call or text Pam Blough at 330-705-4720 with your name, phone number and which day(s) you are available.

Thanks for your consideration! It's a fun opportunity - good fellowship, good cause!



Hartville Thrift Shoppe is looking to fill our Donated Goods Manager Position

The Donated Goods Manager manages the donation process and the warehouse. They supervise the donation and warehouse teams. They also oversee the maintenance of the building and work with various vendors. If you or someone you know may be interested in more information, please reach out to Phil Stauffer, the Executive Director, at pstauffer@hartvillethriftshoppe.org, 330-877-2769.

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: 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	