



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))



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

Newsletter dated  
August 15, 2025



As branches connected to Christ the vine, we are also connected to each other.  
On Sunday we rejoice in receiving Myrrl & Ruthie Byler and Scott & Dawn Hyland  
into membership at Maple Grove.

**Sunday**  
**August 17, 2025**



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

### **GATHERING**

Prelude  
Welcome & Announcements  
Opening Song  
Call to Worship

VT #393 *Build Your Kingdom Here*

### **PRAISING**

Praise Songs  
STJ #49 *Rain Down*  
VT #514 *I Saw a Tree by the Riverside*

Offering – *Education Sunday*

### **HEARING GOD'S WORD**

A Tapestry of Anabaptist Stories  
Scripture Reading  
Message ***Will Work for Food***

Myrrl Byler

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 (CEB)

### **RESPONDING**

Song of Response  
Congregational Sharing/Prayer  
Receiving of New Members

VT #778 *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant*

HWB #777 *Congregational Response*

## SENDING

Sending Song

Benediction/Blessing

Postlude

VT #793 We are Marching

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)



- † Remember the family (Leona, Arlen, Lisa and Rodella) of Ed Overholt in prayer. Ed passed away on Thursday morning. Details of his memorial have not yet been finalized, but will be updated during sharing on Sunday morning.
- † Pray for Cathy Arble who continues to struggle with the effects of having Covid/pneumonia.
- † Pray for others with health concerns: Diamond Howell; Becky Lubbers; Arrie Ledsome; Alta Bates; Miriam Miller; Rachel Weaver; Mary Hilmer's brother Harold Yoder; Nancy Beachy's sister Alta; Alta Bates' sister Leona; Sylvia Miller's brother Paul Yoder; & Jeremy Graber, Kevin Graber's nephew.
- † Pray for the students, administrators, faculty and staff who are preparing to return or have returned back to school.
- † Pray for Sophia Sommers who leaves August 26<sup>th</sup> to study abroad in Zambia, Africa, with a team of students from her school. Pray for their safety and health while serving and learning in Zambia during their fall semester of nursing school.
- † 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 the families and most vulnerable who suffer from war and violence in our world. For those in Sudan, Ukraine, Myanmar and the border between Cambodia and Thailand. Especially remember the people of Gaza whose suffering is difficult to even comprehend--may our prayers help them to know they are not forgotten.



I want to thank everyone who prayed for me and Tom and for all who called, texted, visited, brought flowers and sent cards. We are blessed to be part of such a caring community.  
Blessings to you all, Becky Lubbers

A big thank you to Kevin Graber and Julie Yoder for hosting last Sunday at the Graber Farm with Herm & Vince. What a blessing to have Herm & Vince share their music and to have such a wonderful place to hold our event.

To Maple Grove's Sewing Committee from Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale Quilt Committee:

There is a lot of fine quilting on your reversible quilt! Thank you for your lovely quilt and for your support of the Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale.

A picture of the quilt is posted on the bulletin board in the church lobby; the quilt sold for \$1,400!



- Sun. – Aug. 17      - Education Sunday (non-designated funds go to Education Fund)
- Sun. – Aug. 24      - Assemble MCC School Kits during Sunday School – Fellowship Hall
- Sun. – Aug. 31      - Church Sunday Out @ Lake Mohawk – 10:30am
- Mon. – Sept. 1      - Moises Arauz will bring the message
- Mon. – Sept. 1      - Labor Day (Church Office Closed)

**PLEASE NOTE:** Cindy will be out of the office on Monday, August 18, and work Tues., Thurs. & Fri.

**This Sunday is the assembling of the MCC School Kits in the Fellowship Hall instead of Sunday School classes.** Thank you to all those who donated items or made donations toward the MMC School Kits. Please plan to help with this project – we'll need many hands to assemble the kits! Any questions, please see a member of Ministry of Outreach: Sheryl Weaver, Howard Miller, or Savanah Hofstetter Ressler.



#### **Church Sunday Out @ Lake Mohawk – August 24, 10:30am**

Next Sunday, our worship service along with lunch and fun activities in the afternoon will be at the pavilion at Lake Mohawk in Malvern.

- The service will begin at 10:30am with lunch at noon.  
(There will not be coffee and donuts before the service.)
- Drinks and food will be provided.
- Bring lawn chairs, bathing suit & towel as needed.

Please contact a member of Ministry of Congregational Care if you have any questions.

#### **As part of our series on "Revisit, Reframe, Reclaim," on our Sunday out at Lake Mohawk we invite you as a congregation to come with a verse or verses that you would like to share.**

These can be a particularly meaningful or favorite Scripture, a passage that has recently become more important for you, or an understanding of a Scripture that has changed from when you first heard it. Along with reading the Scripture, add a few words of your own on why it is meaningful or how it has changed how you think or act.



## Revisit Reframe Reclaim:

### Worship Schedule

### Scriptures which have been misused by or against us

We will look at familiar Scriptures that may be taken out of context to prove a point or fulfill an agenda, or Scriptures that have a negative association in our minds. The goal is to present an interpretation that has credibility, is more true to the context, leading to greater understanding and appreciation. Each Sunday we will share a story of a current Anabaptist congregation or group to highlight ministries in various parts of the world (taken from *Faith in Full Color: A Tapestry of Anabaptist Stories* (compiled and written by Jeanne Zimmerly Jantzi).

July 6	Philippians 4:13	"No, You Can't Do ALL Things..."	(Nathanael)
July 13	Romans 12:1-2	"Anabaptist Flaws"	(Myrrl)
July 20	Jeremiah 29:11	"A Strange Prosperity"	(Nathanael)
July 27	James 2:19-27	"Just Follow the Rules"	(Myrrl)
August 3		Congregational Visit to Behalt	
August 10		Music with Herm and Vince (Kevin Graber Farm)	
August 17	2 Thessalonians 3:6-13	"Will Work for Food"	(Nathanael)
August 24	Church Sunday Out at Lake Mohawk	Group Sharing on Most Meaningful Scripture	
August 31	Moises & Ana Arauz from Nicaragua	Sharing about Metanoia Missions	
Sept. 7	Romans 8:26-30	"Minimal Pain--Maximum Delight--Magnificent Outcomes"	(Myrrl)
Sept. 14	Jeanne Zimmerly Jantzi	"Faith in Full Color: A Tapestry of Anabaptist Stories"	

### On Sunday, August 31<sup>st</sup>, Moises & Ana Arauz and their family will be at Maple Grove.

Moises and Ana are from Nicaragua and are the International Directors of Metanoia Missions International, one of Maple Grove's mission partners. Moises will bring the message. Metanoia Missions International is a non-profit organization committed to bring hope and transformation within Nicaragua's vulnerable communities, encompassing children, elders, the disabled, and those facing despair. Their foundation rests upon the fundamental belief that every child deserves the opportunity to thrive, every elder and widow deserves care, and every person with disabilities should move forward with dignity. More information can be found at their website: [www.metanoiamissions.org](http://www.metanoiamissions.org).

**Our Daily Bread devotionals for September-November 2025 are now available on the literature rack at the church.** Please help yourself!



### Offering last Sunday, August 10

General Fund	\$ 1,810.00
Special Designation	\$ 290.00
Total Offering	\$ 2,100.00

Attendance: 70



## **Acme Community Cash Back Program – August 1-February 15, 2026**

Acme Stores' Community Cash Back Program began August 1 this year and will run through February 15, 2026. If you shop at Acme, save your receipts and bring them 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. This is a great way to donate to FISH just by doing your regular grocery shopping! Thanks for your support of this project! - *Ministry of Outreach*

## **Lake Township FISH Annual Benefit Dinner & Silent Auction – September 9**

The annual fundraiser for FISH is Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, at the Hartville Kitchen. Doors open at 5pm, dinner at 6pm and the program begins at 7pm. This is FISH's main fundraiser and we hope to have a full house for an evening of great food and entertainment. The entertainment this year will be The Cleveland Keys "Dueling Pianos." This will be a unique entertainment experience as well as an additional fundraiser for the evening. Anyone can make a donation to be able to put in requests for songs. Larger donations bump your song to the top of the play list while other guests can make donations to make your song STOP playing! This year, there is an offer of matching funds up to \$15,000 by The Christ Foundation, an Impact Partner of FISH. Tickets are \$30 and digital tickets to the stream at \$15. For more information and to purchase tickets, go to [www.laketownshipfish.org/banquet](http://www.laketownshipfish.org/banquet).

## **Join us for the Lighthouse Ministries' Open House and Fundraiser on Saturday, September 13 from 11:00 am–2:00 pm at 1931 3rd St SE, Canton, OH.**

Discover how Lighthouse is walking alongside youth in Southeast Canton to nurture growth, spark creativity, and build lasting community. Guests will experience guided tours led by board members and volunteers, interactive enrichment stations led by students, and optional bus tours that highlight the history and heart of our neighborhood. This event is part of our fall campaign to raise \$50,000 in support of Lighthouse's mission, and we'd love for you to be part of it. Let us know you're coming by registering at [cantonlighthouse.org/openhouse](http://cantonlighthouse.org/openhouse). If you can't attend but still want to invest in the lives of our students, give your gift today at [cantonlighthouse.org/give](http://cantonlighthouse.org/give).

**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](http://hartvillethriftshoppe.org). The more volunteers we have, the more we can give!

## 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. 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](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))

**Monday 9am-1pm; Tuesday thru Thursday 8am-12pm**

Myrrl Byler: Associate Pastor ([myrrl.byler@gmail.com](mailto:myrrl.byler@gmail.com))

**Friday 8am-2pm**

Cindy Fleming: Church Secretary ([Secretary@maplegrovemennonite.org](mailto:Secretary@maplegrovemennonite.org))

**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	