

THE JOURNEY TO
PENTECOST

May 3, 2026



Message: Myrrl Byler
Worship Leader: Scott Hyland
Song Leader: Ruth Yoder
Greeters: Alta Bates & Arrie Ledsome

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Song

VT #178 *God of Wonders*

Call to Worship & Prayer

Leader: For the wild, natural spaces in Your creation and their place on the earth,

People: We praise You, God.

Leader: For the gift of plants with all that they contribute to our life,

People: We thank You, God.

Leader: As trees are rooted in the earth, reach for Your light, and bear abundant fruit,

People: So may we be in our life with You, God.

Leader: That we as stewards may care for green spaces and all of Your creation,

All: Fill us with Your Spirit, God.

PRAISING

Praise Songs

VT #551 *Beautiful Things*
How Great Thou Art

Offering – General Fund

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

Psalm 104 (CEB)

Message

The Song of the Lark: A Celebration of Spring

RESPONDING

Song of Response

HWB #614 *In the Bulb there Is a Flower*

Congregational Sharing/Prayer

SENDING

Sending Song
Benediction/Blessing
Postlude

HWB #89 *For the Beauty of the Earth*

Songs used with permission: CCLI 465314
HWB- Hymnal Worship Book (blue) STJ-Sing the Journey (green spiral)
TMH – The Mennonite Hymnal (red) STS-Sing the Story (purple spiral)
VT-Voices Together (purple)

Several people have asked for printed copies of sermons. Myrrl will place copies on a table at the rear of the sanctuary that you can pick up after the service.



✝ We celebrate with Bob Downerd who received his prosthetic leg this week. Pray for his adjustment to this welcome and new reality in his life. We look forward to seeing how fast he can run!

- ✝ Marty Miller's brother David Borntrager passed away earlier this week. Prayers for his wife Marilyn and the family.
- ✝ Pray for those with health concerns: Twila Miller; Miriam Miller; Mary Hilmer's brother Harold Yoder; Alta Bates' sisters Katie and Leona; Nancy Beachy's friend's grandson, Peter, with cancer and her sister Hazel on hospice; Harry Arble's sister Meg in a memory care unit and nephew Dean Burton recovering from a heart attack.
- ✝ 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 those whose lives and faith are deeply affected by violence, by oppression, by poverty, by prejudice and by opposition from political leaders and governments.

Journey to Pentecost

April 12	"The Thesis Statement"	John 20:19-31
April 19	"Meeting Us Where We Are"	John 21:15-19
April 26	"Commissioned to Make Disciples"	Matthew 28:16-20
May 3	"The Song of the Lark: A Celebration of Spring"	Psalms 104
May 10	"A Mother's Day Celebration"	Multi-Voice Sermon
May 17	"Why are you standing here, looking toward heaven?"	Acts 1:1-14
May 24	"And Where are You From?"	Acts 2:1-21

➔ **Ministry of Worship is inviting you to submit pictures for the worship service on Mother's Day.**

These can be pictures of your own mother or of any mother figures in your life. They will be used in a looping reel that morning. Please send them electronically to Cindy in the church office by Mon., May 4th.



- Wed. – May 6 - Ladies Sewing & Comforter Knotting – Lunch provided/bring a friend!
- Wed. – May 13 - Spring Cleaning & Outside Work Night @ Church – 6pm
- Thurs. – May 14 - Maple Grove's night to volunteer @ Thrift Shoppe – 6-8pm
- Fri. – May 22 - Youth/Mentor Activity - 6pm in the Fellowship Hall
- Sun. – May 24 - Pentecost Sunday
- Mon. – May 25 - Memorial Day (Church Office Closed)
- Sun. – May 31 - Quarterly Collection for Lake Township FISH

Please Note: Pastor Myrrl will be out of the office the week of May 3rd. Although he won't be in the office, he is reachable via his cell phone.

The ladies' sewing group will meet on Wednesday, May 6 – lunch provided & bring a friend!

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 Margaret Miller, Sylvia Miller or Sheryl Weaver.

Spring Cleaning & Outside Work Night at Church – May 13 @ 6:00 p.m.



The Building & Grounds Committee is planning a spring cleaning & outside work night at the church on Wednesday, May 13, beginning at 6:00 p.m. We'll need everyone's help to be able to clean the entire church as well as spruce up the outside in one evening. So bring your buckets, rags, ladders, wheelbarrows and shovels, and join us for an evening of work and fellowship. If you have any questions, please see a member of the Building & Grounds Committee:

Larry Hills, Jordan Miller & Marty Miller

Youth/Mentor Activity – May 22

On Friday, May 22, at 6pm there will be a Youth/Mentor activity in the church fellowship hall. A light supper and snacks will be served, along with a fun painting activity that will be sure to bring some excitement. All Youth and Mentors, please mark your calendars for May 22. If you have any questions, please see Ruth Yoder or Kim Weaver.

Prayer Chain Update: Maple Grove's prayer chain is being updated. The purpose of the Prayer Chain is to bring before God the needs, concerns and praises of our congregation, families and community. These requests may come from anyone within the congregation and given to Kami Sommers or Cindy in the church office to be shared. The Prayer Chain is distributed through an email distribution list and a phone messaging system. An invitation to join or update your name on this list has either been emailed out to you or placed in your mailbox. Please reply back to Cindy in the church office to be added to the prayer chain or to make any changes to this list. Extra copies of the form are available on the literature rack at the church. You do not need to reply if there are no changes to the list. If you have any questions, please contact Kami Sommers, Prayer Chain Coordinator.



Offering on Sunday – April 26

Attendance: 70

General Fund	\$ 4,481.00
My Coins Count	487.00
Migrant Center Welcome Bags	250.00
Total Offering	\$ 5,218.00

Our Daily Bread devotionals for June-July-August are now available on the literature rack at the church. Please help yourself!



The Ministry of Outreach would like to thank those who participated in the collection of items for the Migrant Center Welcome Bags. Ten bags were donated and a total of \$800 was donated for purchasing items for the welcome bags. We appreciate your generosity!

Give soap full of hope - Help MCC (Mennonite Central Committee) collect bars of soap in April & May

MCC provides soap to hospitals, orphanages and refugee camps in countries where soap is expensive or difficult to source. There is a need for soap beyond what is supplied in kits. MCC Great Lakes invites you to take part in a special collection of bath soap and laundry soap. The Ministry of Outreach is asking for your help with this collection – place in the box in the church lobby. The soap specifications are:

Bath soap specifications: NEW bars of soap

- 3 oz. or larger
- Please leave in wrapper.
- Please keep in mind that hotel soaps are too small.

Laundry soap specifications: NEW bars of laundry soap

- Brands such as Fels Naptha®, Sunlight® or Zote®
- Please leave in wrapper.
- Homemade laundry soap blocks 5 oz. or larger are acceptable



My Coins Count offering will go to MCC (Mennonite Central Committee) at the Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale & Auction on July 10-11 held at the Mt. Hope Event Center.

Each year, coins and bills collected by children, families and churches along with matching funds adds up to more than \$600,000 toward MCC's work around the world. **Your coins count!**

- My Coins Count raises money for **education**.
- UNESCO reports that if all students in low-income countries had just basic reading skills, an estimated 171 million people could escape the cycle of poverty.
- And if all adults completed their secondary education, we could cut the global poverty rate by more than half.

We can make a difference in the world! The Ministry of Outreach encourages you to:

- Mark your offering envelope "My Coins Count"
- Drop your money in the coin vortex at the church.
- Take a mission bank home & start collecting your change (banks are on a table at the church).



Lake Township FISH 4th Annual Golf Classic – May 15

You can support Lake Township FISH and their efforts to serve the Lake Township community while enjoying a beautiful day of golf at Sable Creek Golf Course on Friday, May 15. The outing provides funding for Lake Township FISH. For every \$1 donated, FISH can provide 3 meals to people in need in our community. For more information and to register, go to [2026 Golf Outing | Lake Township FISH](#).

Hartville Migrant Center Workday – May 23

Terry Smith, the Property Manager at the Migrant Center, has scheduled a workday for Saturday, May 23rd, from 9am-12pm. You can stay for part of the time or for the entire 3 hours. Children are welcome to work alongside their parents. Please call or text Terry if you are interested at 330-354-6419 or email micmat6767@gmail.com. We really appreciate your help in getting our building and property summer-ready!

Lake Township FISH Baseball Night – July 1

Join us at Canal Park for a fun night of baseball & Plinko to raise funds for our organization! FISH earns a portion of every ticket sale PLUS 25% back on all Plinko games. The Akron RubberDucks vs. Erie SeaWolves on Wednesday, July 1st, at 6:35pm. Deadline to purchase tickets is June 1st. Tickets can be purchased at [Lake Township FISH - 2026 Fundraiser](#).

Help make MCC kit bags: School kits and hygiene kits provide important supplies to children and families around the world. These supplies are packed in a useful, double-drawstring cloth bag, but we are running short on bags. MCC is in need of volunteers to sew these simple cloth bags. Fabric and drawstrings are available at the MCC Material Resources Center (4080 Kidron Road in Kidron), or you can use your own sturdy cotton fabric. More information and sewing instructions at: mcc.org/kits/bags. Finished bags should be dropped off at the Material Resources Center. For questions, contact GLOhio@mcc.org or (234) 415-1036.

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 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 Jill Liechty or Julie Yoder)

Myrrl Byler: Pastor (myrrl.byler@gmail.com)

- **Office Hours:** **Monday-Friday 8am-noon**

**Myrrl can be contacted at any time during the week by text, phone or email.*

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

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

Ministry of Congregational Care: Paul Bontrager, Harold Beachy, Jill Liechty, Myron Weaver

Prayer Chain: Kami Sommers

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES AVAILABLE

Adult Classes

Women's Class	Library
Men's Class	Room 9-Hallway
Mixed Intergenerational Class	Room 2-Education Side
Mixed 30's-50's Class	Basement

Children/Youth/Young Adult Classes

Children's Ministry (up to 6 th Grade)	Rooms 7-8
Youth (Grades 7-12)	Rooms 3-4
Post-High/Young Adults	Fellowship Hall