



May 17, 2026



Message: Myrrl Byler
Worship Leader: Myron Weaver
Song Leader: Lois Bontrager
Greeters: Alta Bates & Arrie Ledsome

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Song

VT #6 *Let's Walk Together*

Call to Worship & Prayer

Leader: In the days after His resurrection, Jesus gathered His disciples, teaching them and calling them to wait upon the promise of the Father.

People: *We come as they did—waiting, watching, and trusting in God's promise.*

Leader: He said, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses to the ends of the earth."

People: *We come to be renewed by that same Spirit, that we might live as faithful witnesses in our time.*

Leader: After He spoke these words, He was lifted up, and though hidden from their sight, His presence did not leave them.

People: *We gather in faith, knowing Christ is with us still, guiding, strengthening, and calling us forward.*

Leader: Together, the early believers devoted themselves to prayer, united in hope and purpose.

People: *So we gather in unity—with one heart, one mind, and one Spirit.*

Leader: Let us worship the risen and ascended Christ, who calls us to wait, to pray, and to go.

All: *We come to worship God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.*

PRAISING

Praise Songs

VT #365 *Lord I Lift Your Name on High*
VT #412 *My Soul Cries Out*

Offering – Education Sunday (non-designated funds go to Education Fund)

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

Acts 1:1-14 (CEB)

Message

Why are you standing here, looking toward heaven?

RESPONDING

Song of Response

VT #386 *One is the Body*

Congregational Sharing/Prayer

SENDING

Sending Song

VT #838 *The Peace of the Earth Be with You*

Benediction/Blessing

Postlude

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)	

Printed copies of the sermon are available on a table at the rear of the sanctuary that you can pick up after the service.



✝ 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; Isaiah Wade's brother-in-law.

✝ 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.



Building & Grounds Committee would like to thank all who helped spruce up the outside and clean the inside at the church on Wednesday. We appreciate your hard work!

Thank you to Julie Yoder for coordinating the service on Mother's Day and to all those who helped with the service. And a big thank you to Sam Miller for the delicious chocolates!

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"	Psalm 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



- Wed. – May 20 - Youth/Mentor Activity - 6pm in the Fellowship Hall
- Sun. – May 24 - Pentecost Sunday
- Mon. – May 25 - Memorial Day (Church Office Closed)
- Sun. – May 31 - Collections for Lake Township FISH & Soap for MCC ends



Youth/Mentor Activity – May 20

On Wednesday, May 20, 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 20 . If you have any questions, please see Ruth Yoder or Kim 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!

Breathing-Balance-Blessing: Ruthie Byler is beginning a class for older women in the church basement on Wednesday mornings at 9am. Breathing-Balance-Blessing will focus on mobility, stretching muscles and improving balance. Most of the class will be done from a chair or standing beside a chair, so it is not strenuous. Coffee and breads afterwards. Feel free to invite friends. First class on May 20. Questions call Ruthie at 540-578-3814.



Offering on Sunday – May 10

General Fund	\$ 2,363.50
Education Fund	1,235.00
Total Offering	\$ 3,598.50

Attendance: 77

FISH Collection: The Ministry of Outreach is holding a collection for Lake Township FISH. Brown bags with a list of needed items are available at the church – please return by May 31st . You may also give through the offering by marking your envelope for FISH. Needed items are:



- Breakfast Items (cereal, oatmeal, pancake mix, Pop-Tarts, granola bars, etc.)
- Meals in a Box (mac & cheese, Spaghetti O's, canned meats, etc.)
- Baking Items (flour, Bisquick, sugar, brown sugar, etc.)
- Pasta Sauce
- Crackers

Give soap full of hope - Help MCC (Mennonite Central Committee) collect bars of soap through 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**.
- Even when in school, children may face low-quality teaching and irrelevant curriculum, causing many to finish primary school without basic skills.
- A chronic shortage of teachers is worsened by low pay and poor training.

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).



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 is on Wednesday, July 1st, at 6:35pm. Deadline to purchase tickets is June 1st. Tickets can be purchased at [Lake Township FISH - 2026 Fundraiser](#).

Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale Run 4 Relief 1K & 5K Race – Saturday, July 11

Make your plans to participate in the 2026 Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale Run 4 Relief on July 11. The 1K & 5K Run & Walk races will start at the Mount Hope Event Center. The 1K will start at 7:30am followed by the 5K kicking off at 8:00am. All proceeds will be given to MCC to assist in purchasing pigs to increase income for families. To sign up or for more information, go to: [Ohio Mennonite Central Committee Run 4 Relief 1k & 5k Race](#). So start your running soon and get in shape to run the Ohio MCC Run 4 Relief!

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