



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
July 24, 2026

**Sunday
July 26, 2026**



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

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Song

VT #9 Come Away from Rush and Hurry

Call to Worship & Prayer

PRAISING

Praise Songs

*VT #76 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty
VT #86 You Are Exalted*

Offering – General Fund

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading

Galatians 1:10-23 (CEB)

Message

Engaging Paul: The Silent Years

RESPONDING

Song of Response

VT #155 Lord I Need You

Congregational Sharing/Prayer

SENDING

Sending Song

VT #832 The Lord Lift You Up

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-Voces 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 Paul & Lois Bontrager and Myrri & Ruthie Byler who are traveling to Bluffton University to attend the Annual Conference Assembly of Ohio Mennonite Conference on July 31-Aug. 1.

✝ Pray for Lee Yoder who is recovering from a medical procedure.

✝ Pray for others with health concerns: Twila Miller; Miriam Miller; Mary Hilmer's brother Harold Yoder; Alta Bates' sisters Katie and Leona; Harold & Nancy Beachy's daughter Kim who has heart issues and Nancy's friend's grandson Peter with cancer; Holly Miller's sister Heather Smith with cancer; and Cathy Arble's niece Stephanie recovering from a liver transplant.

✝ 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.



Worship Schedule

August 2	"A Celebration of Music: Herm and Vince" @ Kevin Graber's	
August 9	"Engaging Paul: The Controversial Leader Emerges in Antioch"	Galatians 2:1-14
August 16	"Engaging Paul: A Man on the Move"	Acts 13:1-12
August 23	"Engaging Paul: Herald of the King"	Acts 13:26-39
August 30	"Celebrating the Outdoors" – Wingfoot Lake State Park	
Sept. 6	"Engaging Paul: Confronting Jerusalem"	Galatians 2:11-21

- Myrri will be out of the office on Friday attending the Annual Conference Assembly at Bluffton University on July 31 & August 1. He is reachable via his cell phone.
- Cindy will be out of the office Mon.-Wed., July 27-29, and working Thurs. & Fri., July 30-31.



- Sat. – Aug. 1 - Acme Cashback Program begins
- August 1 & 2 - A Celebration of Music: Herm and Vince @ Kevin Graber's house
 - ▶ Saturday: Dinner @ 5:30pm / Concert @ 6:30pm
 - ▶ Sunday: Fellowship @ 9:30am / Music @ 10:30am
 - Potluck Lunch @ noon
- Wed. – Aug. 5 - Ladies' Sewing & Comforter Knotting – Pack a lunch!
- Thurs. – Aug. 13 - Maple Grove's night to Volunteer @ Thrift Shoppe – 6-8 pm
- August 16 - Deadline for collecting items for MCC School Kits
 - Return Ministry Ballots to church
- Sun. – Aug. 23 - Assemble MCC School Kits during Sunday School
- Sun. – Aug. 30 - Church Sunday Out – Wingfoot Lake State Park

(PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE)

Welcome Ladies! Breathing, Balance and Blessing class every Wednesday morning at 9:00.

Focus is on improving movement and balance for older bodies. Breads and coffee time afterwards! Feel free to invite friends. Please see Ruthie Byler if you have any questions.



Celebration of Music with Herm & Vince – Next Weekend, August 1-2

We have a weekend scheduled with Herm and Vince, Saturday evening and Sunday morning, August 1-2. Kevin Graber is hosting both events, although the church will be a backup in case of rain on Sunday morning. Please bring a lawn chair to both events.

- Saturday evening begins with dinner at 5:30pm (ribs, hamburgers, hot dogs and hopefully sweet corn will be provided). Please bring a side dish and any special drinks you might want. Concert begins at 6:30pm.
- Sunday morning come for coffee and conversation between 9:30 and 10:30am. Herm and Vince will begin playing at 10:30. A freewill offering will be taken. Noon meal will be a potluck, so bring a dish or two - bring serving utensils too. Remember there will not be refrigeration or electricity for the food you bring that morning.

Church Sunday Out – August 30th at Wingfoot Lake State Park: “Celebrating the Outdoors.”

This date has changed from what was in previous newsletters. Please mark your calendars – more details will follow. Any questions, please see a member of Ministry of Congregational Care.



Church News

The ladies' sewing group will meet on Wednesday, August 5 – pack a lunch & bring a friend!



Everyone is welcome to join us for a day of fellowship while we knot comforters and quilt in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a lunch and spend the day, or come for just a bit. We enjoy each other's friendship while we work! Please contact Margaret Miller, Sylvia Miller or Sheryl Weaver if you have any questions.

Nominees for Maple Grove Ministries – Ballots are due back to the church by August 16.

Ballots have been placed in the mailboxes of Active Members for affirmation of the nominees for open ministry positions that begin September 1, 2026. **Please pick up your ballots after church on Sunday.** Ballots not picked up on Sunday will be emailed to members or mailed to their homes. Please check a box for each person listed on the ballot and return to the church by Sunday, August 16 (please bring to church on August 9 or 16). A collection box is available at the church by the mailboxes or you may email or return the ballots to Cindy in the church office. Any questions, please contact a member of the Ministry of Gifts Discernment:

Ruth Hills, Charla Sommers, Vernon Sommers, Jr., Michael Yoder.

Nicaragua Donations:

You are invited to contribute funds to Pastor Luis in El Crucero for the completion of the church building that Maple Grove assisted with some years ago in Nicaragua. A total of \$6,400 is needed to complete the bathrooms in the church building. If you would like to help, please mark your giving envelope “Nicaragua-Church Building.”

Also, Moises and Anna will need to move out of the house in which they have been living by August 1. The house they are building is not yet finished, and they do need more funds to see it completed. Mark your envelope “Moises” if you would like to contribute toward their house project.



MCC School Kit Challenge – 30,000 School Kits to Help 30,000 Kids

MCC is having a challenge for 30,000 school kits to be donated during the month of August.

Notebooks and pencils are treasures for families around the world who have been forced to flee their homes or struggle to afford basic school supplies. Whether you assemble 1 or 100 kits through the School Kit Challenge, your generosity will help kids around the world to learn and grow.

The Ministry of Outreach is setting a goal for Maple Grove to make 200 school kits!

We will be collecting items for the school kits through August 16th and will assemble the kits during Sunday School on August 23rd in the Fellowship Hall. If you would like to help with this project, please bring in the requested items by August 16th, or you may donate through the offering and mark your offering envelope “School Kits.”

MCC School Kit Items (new items only):

- 4 spiral or perforated-pages notebooks (8.5 in x 10.5 in and 70 sheets)
- 8 new unsharpened pencils
- 1 ruler (flat, good quality; must indicate 30 cm; inch markings optional)
- 12 colored pencils (in packaging)
- 1 large eraser
- 4 new black or blue ballpoint pens

The pencil sharpeners that are part of the school kits are already purchased.

Help make MCC kit bags – Instructions & fabric available at Maple Grove.

MCC is in need of volunteers to sew the simple cloth kit bags. If you would like to make some kit bags, instructions and fabric are available on a table at the church as well as samples of the kit bags. More information and sewing instructions are also at: mcc.org/kits/bags. Please contact Sheryl Weaver if you have any questions.

Our Daily Bread devotionals for September-November are now available on the literature rack at the church.

There are also copies of the large print devotionals for the months July-September. Please help yourself!

Please Note: The copy machine in the music office is no longer working.



For those who need to make copies on Sunday mornings, please use the copier in the church office. Cindy's office will be unlocked.



Offering on Sunday – July 19, 2026-Education Sunday

Attendance: 58

General Fund	\$ 2,650.00
Education Fund	125.00
Nicaragua Church Building	1,500.00
Total Offering	\$ 4,275.00

Acme Community Cash Back Program dates are August 1, 2026, to February 15, 2027.



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*



Hartville Migrant Ministry School Supplies Drive

We are collecting school supplies for the migrant children and for the children of patients who attend our free clinic. Thanks to your generosity, last year we were able to give away a bag of supplies to 120+ needy students. Supplies can be dropped off in August on Tuesdays from 5-8pm and Thursdays from 12-8pm at the Hartville Ministry, 3980 Swamp St., Hartville. Please contact us at 330-877-2983 or hmcvolunteercoord@gmail.com if you have any questions. Please review the available slots at [Hartville Migrant Ministry: School Supplies Drive](#) and click on the button to sign up.

Men of Impact Cookout & Fellowship Event to benefit Love our Community – August 5

Men 14 years and older are invited to join Bethany Mennonite Church for their kick off event to gather, grow and give back. The event features Master Teague III, a devoted follower of Christ, former NFL running back, author and speaker. 100% of donations will go to Love Our Community. The event is at Wagler Farms (10666 Hoover Ave NW in Uniontown) on Friday, August 5th, from 6:30-9pm. Tickets can be purchased at [Men of Impact Cookout & Fellowship Event | Bethany Church](#). Make sure to bring a lawn chair!

MCC webinar Welcoming the Stranger: Stories of Faith, Immigration, and Hope – Tuesday, July 28 at 2 p.m.

In this webinar, we will share stories from three churches and leaders like you who are putting faith into action — welcoming and supporting immigrants, facing challenges in their communities, and building congregations that respond with compassion and courage. Speaking from a variety of perspectives across Anabaptist traditions, we'll talk about themes like faith in action, ministry with immigrant communities, lessons learned, and practical ways churches can respond to the reality's immigrant families are facing today. Pastors, church leaders, and congregants looking for inspiration and practical ways to get involved are invited to attend. Register today for this free event at mcc.org/welcoming-stranger or contact abrahamdiazalonso@mcc.org with any questions.

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)

Myrri Byler: Pastor (myrri.byler@gmail.com)

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

**Myrri 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 for July & August

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