MAPLE GROVE MENNONITE CHURCH

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 October 30, 2026

Sunday
November 1, 2026

Worship the LORD

Message:	Myrrl Byler
Worship Leader:	Michael Yoder
Song Leader:	Ruth Yoder
Offertory:	Julie Yoder
Greeters:	Alta Bates & Arrie Ledsome

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Song — VT #49 *All Who are Thirsty*

Call to Worship & Prayer

Leader: From city to city and day to day, God goes ahead of us.
When we arrive as strangers, we find companions on the road.

People ***We find tables to share, tents to stitch, and hands to work beside us.***
In the rhythms of ordinary life, Christ builds His church.

Leader When the work grows heavy and the voices around us turn harsh,
the Lord speaks gently in the night:
"Do not be afraid; go on speaking, do not be silent, for I am with you."

People ***We hear the promise. We lean on the grace.***
We gather not in our own strength, but in the shelter of God's peace.

Leader: Open our hearts, Lord, to Your Word, our hands to Your service,
and our lives to Your gospel of reconciliation.

All: ***Let us worship the God who stays with us, day after day, in every place we dwell.***

PRAISING

Praise Songs — *Shout to the North*
Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

Offering – General Fund

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading — Acts 18:1-18 (CEB)

Message — ***Engaging Paul: Eighteen Months in Corinth***

RESPONDING

Song of Response — STJ #13 *My Soul is Filled with Joy*

Congregational Sharing/Prayer

SENDING

Sending Song — VT #810 *Go, My Friends, in Grace*

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 dealing with cancer: Jade Liechty's mom Renee, Matthew Manchester, Paul & Lois Bontrager's son-in-law; Mike Kress, Sr.; and Nancy Beachy's friend's grandson Peter.*

✞ *Pray for those with ongoing health concerns: Lura Bowin; Twila Miller; Miriam Miller; Mary Hilmer's brother Harold Yoder; Alta Bates with a shoulder injury and her sisters Katie & Leona and her nephew Ray Alan Miller & his wife Jolene; Harold & Nancy Beachy's daughter Kim with heart issues; Arrie Ledsome's son Larry; Cathy Arble's niece Stephanie and Dave Smucker recovering from transplants; and Joe Weaver's father-in-law Joe Krakowski.*

✞ *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.*

✞ *Pray for those affected by natural disasters around the world, and those involved with the relief & recovery efforts.*

Thank you to the Food Committee ladies, Kami Sommers, Ruth Hills & Vee Miller, and all of those who helped with our Wednesday night fellowship meals. We appreciate having this fellowship time together. The Ministry of Congregational Care

Throughout the month of October, many of you expressed your love and care for Ruthie and me. We want to thank you for your kindness and let you know we have a great appreciation of you as a congregation and consider it a gift from God to serve in this church community.

Blessings, Myrrl & Ruthie

Worship Schedule

Nov. 8 Mission History Focus on Ireland – Multi-Voices (St. Patrick's Breastplate Prayer)
Nov. 15 Myrrl – "Engaging Paul: Confrontations in Ephesus" (Acts 18:8-10)
Nov. 22 Myrrl – "Engaging Paul: Letters from Prison"
Nov. 29 Myrrl – First Sunday of Advent

- Sun. – Nov. 1 - Daylight Saving Time ends (Fall Back)
  - Christmas Choir Practice – 5pm @ the Church
- Wed. – Nov. 4 - Balance, Breathing & Blessings Class – 9am
  - Ladies' Sewing & Comforter Knotting
- Thurs. – Nov. 12 - Maple Grove's night to Volunteer @ Thrift Shoppe – 6-8 pm
- Sat. – Nov. 14 - Men's Breakfast @ the Hartville Kitchen – 8am
- Sun. – Nov. 22 - Last Sunday to collect for FISH Thanksgiving Outreach Project
- Sun. – Nov. 29 - Last Sunday to collect gift cards for Lake Community Christmas
- Mon. – Nov. 30 - Return gifts for Lighthouse Ministries' Affordable Christmas Program

Welcome Ladies! Balance, Breathing and Blessings class every Wednesday morning at 9:00.
Focus is on improving movement and balance for older bodies. Breads and coffee time afterwards! Contact Ruthie Byler if you have any questions.

Attention all singers! Please join us to practice some Christmas songs that will be performed during the Advent Season and Christmas Eve. Our next practice will take place on Sunday, November 1, from 5-5:45pm at the church. If you have any questions, please reach out to Lois Bontrager or Ruth Yoder.

The ladies' sewing group will meet on Wednesday, November 4 – 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.

Men's Breakfast - November 14
Meet us on Saturday, November 14th, at 8am at the Hartville Kitchen to get together for food and conversation. Lee Yoder will share this month. The plan is to meet once a month. Contact Perry Miller if you have any questions.

Offering on Sunday – October 25

General Fund	$ 11,256.00
Education Fund	2,292.00
Charity Fund	50.00
Rivette-Haiti Missions	8,000.00
Total Offering	$ 21,598.00

Attendance: 75

Collection for Lake Township FISH Thanksgiving Outreach – due by Nov. 22

Maple Grove is collecting **boxed stuffing mix** for the Thanksgiving Community Outreach this year. **The goal is to collect 300 boxes of stuffing mix!**

We will also collect $10.00 gift cards to local grocery stores to give to each family to purchase their Thanksgiving meat of choice. Aldi, Marc's, Acme, Giant Eagle, and Sommer's Market are all great options. The collection Sundays are November 8, 15 & 22. You may also make a monetary donation by marking your giving envelope for FISH and Ministry of Outreach will purchase gift cards or stuffing mix as needed to meet our goal.

- The Thanksgiving Outreach will be at FISH headquarters at 13155 Market Ave N. Here is the link to sign up to volunteer on Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 23 & 24: **https://laketownshipfish.volunteerlocal.com**

Any questions, please contact a member of Ministry of Outreach: Sheryl Weaver, Howard Miller, Gene Robinson. *Thank you so much for your support to make this event a success!*

Lake Community Christmas – Donations due by Sunday, November 29

The Lake Community Christmas program is dedicated to providing joyful holiday experiences for families in need in Lake Township. We partner with local churches and organizations, including Lake Township FISH, Love Our Community, and Lake Local Schools to identify families who could use extra support during the holiday season. With your help through volunteering or donations, we can make a difference in the lives of families in our community.

This year's event is being hosted by St. Jacob's Lutheran Church. We will be offering families the opportunity to shop for the children for brand new gifts. Please remember to choose gifts of *quality over quantity* as we aim to provide families with an opportunity to shop for items they would not normally have access to.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Purchase gift cards for $10, $20, $40 or $60 – see the gift tags on the table in the church lobby and take a tag for the amount you would like to spend – gift card ideas are on the back of the tags.
  - **Label gift card(s) with gift amount & return to the church with the tag by Sun, Nov. 29.**
- You can easily shop the online wish lists that are linked on Lake Township Fish's website at **https://laketownship.wixsite.com/communitychristmas**. Options to purchase items from Amazon, Target and Walmart are available. When you purchase through these sites online, the items will be shipped straight to us to make it easier on our donors.

As you shop for the holidays, don't forget to save your Acme grocery receipts.
Acme will give a percentage of the cash back amount printed on the bottom of each receipt to FISH. The program runs through February 15, 2027. A box is available under the mailboxes for the receipts – thanks for your support of this project!

Deck the Halls & Stock the Store

Lighthouse Ministries' Affordable Christmas program is for families in the southeast neighborhood of Canton surrounding the Lighthouse. In purchasing presents for kids, the real gift you are offering is dignity that comes with a parent's ability to provide for their children. The Ministry of Outreach partners with Yoder-Bontrager Insurance Agency on this project.

- The lists of gifts you see on the board in the church lobby were generated by responses to surveys that were distributed to parents and caregivers of the children who use the Lighthouse services.
- The presents you purchase will be sold at an affordable price in a "store" run by the Lighthouse. Affordable means the gifts are marked down to at least 75% off of the purchase price.
- Please make sure that every gift has the purchase price listed somewhere on the packaging.
- Please tape the tag on the gift.
- **All gifts should be returned UNWRAPPED by Monday, November 30.**

Cybersecurity Awareness Month

Protect Yourself from Modern Scams

Scammers are becoming more sophisticated, and they often target older adults—but younger people are increasingly falling victim as well. Cybersecurity experts emphasize one key rule:

Never give personal information to someone who contacts you first.

If *they* call, text, or email you unexpectedly, pause and verify before responding.

Common Scams to Watch For

- **Grandparent Scam:** "I'm in trouble—send money, don't tell anyone."
- **Fake Delivery Notices:** Texts asking you to click a link to "fix" a package issue.
- **Medicare/Social Security Calls:** Threatening to cut off benefits unless you "verify."
- **Charity or Organization Impersonation:** Messages asking for urgent donations or gift cards.
- **Tech Support Pop-Ups:** Screens claiming your computer is infected and urging you to call a number.

Simple Ways to Stay Safe

- **Slow down**—scammers rely on panic.
- **Hang up and call back** using the official number from a statement or website.
- **Never share passwords, codes, or account numbers.**
- **Use strong passwords** (try a phrase like *GraceAndPeace2024!*).
- **Enable two-factor authentication** on important accounts.
- **Keep your phone and computer updated.**
- **Ask someone you trust** before acting on anything suspicious.

Helpful Resources

- **FTC Scam Alerts:** ftc.gov/scams
- **AARP Fraud Watch Network:** aarp.org/fraudwatch
- **IdentityTheft.gov:** Official recovery help

Younger Adults Aren't Immune

Online shopping scams, fake job offers, cryptocurrency schemes, and social media impersonation are increasingly common. Cybersecurity is important for all ages.

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.

To include something in the newsletter, please email Cindy Fleming at secretary@maplegrovemennonoite.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		Children/Youth/Young Adult Classes	
Women's Class	Library	Children's Ministry (up to 6th Grade)	Rooms 7-8
Men's Class	Room 9-Hallway	Youth (Grades 7-12)	Rooms 3-4
Mixed Intergenerational Class	Room 2-Education Side	Post-High/Young Adults	Fellowship Hall
Mixed 30's-50's Class	Basement		