



THE MAPLE LEAF

The Maple Grove Church of the Brethren Newsletter

continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2020

NEWSLETTER

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

JANUARY 2020

1. New Year's Day
2. Worship Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
5. Deacon Meeting following worship in double classroom.
7. Pain/Grief Support Group 6:00 PM
9. Bible Study at Agape Acres Apartments 3:00 – 4:30 PM
12. Celebrating New Members of 2019 and also Birthdays with a carry-in-luncheon following worship.
Worship Service at Brethren Care Village Wellness Community Center Chapel at 2:00 PM (Chancel Choir will be attending this Worship Service).
13. Vacation Bible School meeting 7:00 PM to make plans on Outreach for children and families.
14. Ministerial Board Meeting 6:00 PM
Church Board Meeting 7:00 PM
19. Communion will be held in the church pews during worship
Song Leader Seminar at 12 NOON in the Sanctuary.
23. Bible Study at Agape Acres Apartments 3:00 – 4:30 PM

FEBRUARY 2020

4. Pain/Grief Support Group 6:00 PM
5. CBWF Meeting 1:00 – 3:00 PM
6. Worship Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
9. Choosing the Sweetheart for the Year 2020 with a carry-in-luncheon following worship. Emmie Vance the Sweetheart for the year 2019

9. Worship Service at Brethren Care Village Wellness Community Center Chapel at 2:00 PM
11. Ministerial Board Meeting 7:00 PM
13. Bible Study at Agape Acres Apartments 3:00 – 4:30 PM
15. Chancel Choir Party 6:00 PM
16. Items for the Newsletter for months of March/April should be given to Annabelle.
27. Bible Study at Agape Acres Apartments 3:00 – 4:30 PM

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 27 AND 28

These dates are saved for Spring Fling Garage Sale. We are going back to TWO days for the Sale. Also the time has been changed to Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm.; and Saturday 9:00 am – 2:00 pm. The PMIF committee wants to try this timing and see if it will meet the customers better.

CROP HUNGER WALK

Totals are in from this year's 2019 CROP Hunger Walk. 10 congregations participated with 55 walkers. \$8,178.82 was the total raised, surpassing the \$8,000 goal. \$2,044.71 will remain here in Ashland County and be divided equally among four local hunger ministries (\$511.17).

Welcome in the

NEW YEAR

The Clock of Life

The clock of life is wound but once, and no man has the power; to tell just when the hands will stop, at late or early hour. Now is the only time you own; live, love, toil with a will - Place no faith in "tomorrow," for the clock may then be still."

HAPPY NEW YEAR

ASSOCIATED CHARITIES

ASHLAND COUNTY FOOD BANK

Here is a list of Needs at this time:

Ketchup/Mustard, Applesauce,
Brownie Mix, Jelly/Jam, Sloppy Joe Sauce,
Oatmeal, Noodles, Chicken Noodle Soup,
and Vegetable Soup.

Laundry Soap, Toothbrushes, Bars of
Soap, Shampoo/Conditioner, Toilet Paper,
and Paper Towels. Thanks for your help!

Chris Box, Executive Director

ASSOCIATED CHARITIES

A BIG THANKS goes to everyone that
contributed to the Mitten Tree, Gift Tree and
Peanut Butter Tree.

The Mitten Tree contained the following
items that were delivered to Associated
Charities 12-23-19: 26 scarves, 48 hats, 66
pairs of gloves, 9 pairs of mittens, 28 pairs
of socks, 1 bath towel, 6 hat/scarf/glove sets,
and 4 earmuffs/head bands, a total of 10
bags.

The Gift Tree contained the following
items that were also delivered to Associated
Charities 12-23-19: 2 boxes full, 3 bags full
and 2 strips of cars.

The Peanut Butter Tree will be delivered
at a later date. You still may bring
donations for the Mitten and Gift tree that
will be taken in with the Peanut Butter.
Again, thanks for this great showing of
caring for others by helping children and
adults through the outreach of the
Associated Charities.

NEW YEAR'S MEDITATION

Dear Lord, as I close the door on this old
year, I ponder on the things I've done;
On the things I've said & the joys I've had,
then I wonder, have I lost or won?

Now as I open the door to this New Year
and carefully peep inside;
I wonder what it holds for me,
but I'll throw the door open wide.

IN REMEMBRANCE

Our deepest sympathy goes to these families
and friends on the loss of their loved ones.

Howard Leroy Harris	Date of Death October 30, 2019
Ronda Lynn Renner	Date of Death November 6, 2019
Clifford L. Martin	Date of Death November 11, 2019
William E. "Bill" Ferguson	Date of Death November 26, 2019
Patricia E. Zellner	Date of Death November 30, 2019

We pray that the Lord may be with these
families in their time of grief and sorrow.

*Come unto me, all ye that
labour and are heavy laden
and I will give you rest.*

Matthew 11:28

THANKS

Maple Grove Family and Friends,
Thank you very much for the beautiful
Angel light.

It was wonderful seeing many members of
our family and church friends last Saturday.

The Family of Patricia Zellner -

Kris Gregor & Pat Nunes

Dear Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for the beautiful meal you
prepared for my family. Danita speaks
highly of you and it is easy to see you are
grace filled.

Thank you again. I'm told it was
delicious and plentiful.
God's riches to you - **Rev. Delaine McGhee**

Thank you Maple Grove and Church Family
for all the cards, prayers, visits, phone calls
and gifts received for our family this past
year. Blessings to you and Love through
Jesus our Lord. **Walt and Jean Gilmore**

Maple Grove Church,

Thanks to everyone who helped to make Howard Harris funeral a memory of real servant hood, postponing the Fall Fling and all the work involved was truly God's love showing through His Church.

The meal and service was wonderful! God Bless everyone involved.

In Christ's Love,

Darl & Evelyn (Sister) Swinehart, Brad, Sharon, Andrew & Anna Kelley and Michael & Maria Tomlin

Maple Grove Family, Thank you so much for the fruit basket received. Also thanks for the cards, the dinner provided, Pastor Steve's service, prayers, calls, visits during Howard's sickness and his passing. Blessing to all and Merry Christmas.

Sally Harris & family

Thanks to everyone that helped with the service and meal for the Howard Harris family on Saturday, November 2. It was a sad but beautiful day to honor Howard and serve his family. THANK YOU!

Maple Grove Church family,
Thank you all so much for the beautiful throw, the many cards, Pastor Steve's service and for the wonderful meal that was served to our family and friends after the funeral for my husband, Bill Ferguson. It all meant a great deal to all of us and greatly appreciated. Love and Blessings to all –

Wilma Ferguson & family

Maple Grove Church family,

Thank you all so much for your prayers, cards, calls and texts during my recent illness. Love, **Carla Steward**

Maple Grove Church,

Thank you for the fruit basket and cards.
God Bless! **Shirley Benner**

Dear Maple Grove Church,

Thanks to my friends, here at Maple Grove for all the prayers, cards and visits received during my recent illness. My health is better but not back to full strength. Thanks for remembering me. **Naomi Coble**

Thank you all so much for always helping with snacks for our students here at Mapleton Elementary! We appreciate all you do for us. **Mapleton Elementary**

The Maple Grove Church – Thank you for the fruit basket and visit. Hope everyone has a beautiful season and a safe healthy New Year. Thanks Again! God Bless!

Mary Rogers

Maple Grove Church,

Thank you for the Poinsettia. Your thoughtfulness is really appreciated. I am really blessed to have a loving Church Family. **Naomi Coble**

Maple Grove Church,

Thank you for the fruit and goodies. Your thoughtfulness is really appreciated. God Bless! **Janice Duncan**

Dear Maple Grove Family,

Thank you so much for the wonderful fruit and snack tray and for all the calls, cards and prayers for Mark. He is doing great. Thanks again for keeping us in your thoughts and prayers.

Mark & Gale Andress

Maple Grove Church,

Thank you very much for the delicious fruit basket that we received for Christmas. It was appreciated very much.

Deb Gorman & Mike Young

GREAT IS THE LORD, AND GREATLY TO BE PRAISED. PSALM 145:3

To Maple Grove Church Friends,
Thank you so much for the beautiful
poinsettia that Annabelle and George
brought to us. Also thank you all for caring
and all your prayers. Love and Blessings,
Wesley & Shirley Canfield

Thank you for the platter of fresh fruit and
snack. It was all very tasty. I appreciated
your thoughtfulness. Sincerely,
Wilma Ferguson

Thanks to my Deacons for the fruit basket.
God Bless! **Charlotte Johns**

I would like to thank Maple Grove for the
beautiful poinsettia.
Christmas blessings to all! **Diana Massie**

I would like to Thank the Maple Grove
Church for the fruit basket they gave me and
for the prayers and kindnesses, they have
shown me this past year since my beloved
Betty passed away. **Delbert Kettering**

To My Church Family,
Thank you so much for the delicious
fruit platter and goodies.
God Bless Each One! **Barbara Woodring**

Merry Christmas Maple Grove Church,
Thank you so much for the gift that I
received. Love, **Gloria Harry**

Maple Grove Church,
Thank you for the wonderful fruit and
delicious goodies.
Gerald Shank & Marlene Shoup

I'd like to thank the church for the nice plate
of fruit and goodies and the deacons for
putting all of them together and delivering
them. I'll think of my wonderful church
family every time I eat something off of it.
Sharon Barr

**TAKE
TIME** for GOD!

Dear Maple Grove Family,
Thank you for the fruit basket. We
are very bless to have a loving family.
God Bless You All!
Doug & Darlene Moore

Maple Grove Church,
Thank you for the wonderful fruit
and for thinking of me. I appreciate it. Have
a Wonderful Holiday. **Pauline Reynolds**

Maple Grove Family,
Thank you for the Christmas
Blessings you have given us. Our church is
a wonderful Family. Love,
Joe & Carla Steward

Our Church Family,
Just wanted to let our Church family
know that we miss all of you. God has been
good to us and we are doing great. Keep us
in your thoughts and prayers.
Jeff & Gloria McCarty

A Special Thanks to all the singers that
participated in the Chancel Choir Christmas
Cantata "Unspeakable JOY". Following
the Cantata, there was a lot of food prepared
to share with each other. We want to thank
all those who helped prepare the food, those
who brought food, and the clean up after.

To Maple Grove Church,
Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a
magnificent New Year! God Bless all of
you. **Dwaine & Liz Clinker**

Dear Church Family,
May you enjoy blessings, joy and peace this
Christmas! God Bless you all!!
Terry & Danita Rickett & Family



Modifying our traditions

We can communicate the true meaning of Christmas by modifying our traditions. What would a child learn about Christmas if there were fewer material gifts for "each other" under the tree and more gifts for others, like a box of clothes for the clothing bank or some toys for needy children?

—Mark L. Yackel-Juleen,
First Lutheran Church
Dundee, MN

Embracing a calling

Joy is peace for having done that which we ought to have done ... To have something to do, to do it, and then rejoice in having done it, to embrace a calling, to perform the duties of that calling, to joy and rest in the peaceful testimony of having done so; this is Christianly done, Christ did it; angelically done, angels do it; Godly done, God does it.

—John Donne

The better choice

My grandfather once told me that there are two kinds of people: those who do the work and those who take the credit. He told me to try to be in the first group; there was less competition there.

—Indira Gandhi

The sufficient Lord

In a Sunday School in Soquel, CA, children were encouraged to restate Scripture in their own words. A boy, age 7, chose the Twenty-Third Psalm. His version went: "The Lord is my shepherd; I don't want nuthin' else."

—Dan Hagmaier,
Champion Presbyterian Church,
Warren, OH

Room for all

A 7-year-old was drawing the Nativity scene in class. Her drawing was complete with Jesus, Mary and Joseph. But in the corner was a short, fat man who didn't fit in. When asked to explain, the child said, "That's Round John Virgin."

It is not easy

To apologize,
To begin over,
To be unselfish,
To take advice,
To admit error,
To face a sneer,
To be charitable,
To keep on trying,
To be considerate,
To avoid mistakes,
To endure success,
To profit by mistakes,
To forgive and forget,
To think and then act,
To keep out of the rut,
To make the best of little,
To subdue an unruly temper,
To maintain a high standard,
To shoulder a deserved blame,
To recognize the silver lining,
But it always pays: try it.

—Anonymous

Christmas in reverse

There was a man that was always a terrible grouch on Christmas Day. He was disagreeable about almost everything. The irony was that on each of the other 364 days of the year, he was the exact opposite. Usually he was kind, gentle and thoughtful.

People wanted to know why he acted so horribly on Christmas Day, the one day that there was supposed to be "peace on earth, goodwill to men." The man's response was that he acted nasty on Christmas Day to show the cheerful people how they acted the other 364 days of the year. He observed that people are cheerful and kind on Christmas but he could not figure out why they were not thoughtful, decent and sweet all year long.

—Charles E. Ferrell

A test of commitment

A long time ago a preacher observed that the only way you can get 500 people to LIE at the same time is to get them to sing the hymn "Take my silver and my gold, Not one mite would I withhold." Then pass the offering plate.

—Homiletics

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 **JANUARY • NEWSLETTER**

2020

 **FEBRUARY • NEWSLETTER**

 **Happy New Year** *Let God be your Guide
in the days ahead...*



Heavenly Father, help me be
More like You, and less like me!
Not my will, but Thine be done,
From dawn's first light to setting sun.
At eventide, then may I rest
Assured that I have done my best.

Within my heart, sow seeds of love,
And bring the harvest from above,
That all I meet may truly know
My Lord and Savior where I go.
Heavenly Father, help me be
More like You, and less like me!

—Clay Harrison



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