



THE MAPLE LEAF

The Maple Grove Church of the Brethren Newsletter

continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2019

NEWSLETTER

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

JANUARY 2019

1. **New Year's Day**
2. CBWF Meeting 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
3. Worship Committee meeting 6:30 PM
7. Pain/Grief Support Group 6:00 PM at Denny's – Date changed for this night only.
8. Ministerial Committee Meeting 6:30 PM; Church Board Meeting 7:00 PM
10. Bible Study at Agape Acres Apartments 3:00 – 4:30 PM
13. Celebrating New Members of 2018 and also Birthdays with a carry-in-luncheon following worship. Worship Service at Brethren Care Village Wellness Community Center Chapel at 2:00 PM
14. Constitution Committee meeting 7:00 PM
20. Communion will be held in church pews during worship
24. Bible Study at Agape Acres Apartments 3:00 – 4:30 PM
26. Community Fellowship Free Meal 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM; Men Group will be making Kettle Pop Corn 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon
27. Hymn Sing (watch the bulletin for more information).
28. Meeting for all Sunday School and Vacation Bible School Teachers and helpers 7:00 PM. Vacation Bible School will be one of the topics for this meeting.

FEBRUARY 2019

5. Pain/Grief Support Group 6:00 PM
6. CBWF Meeting 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
7. Worship Committee meeting 6:30 PM
10. Sweetheart Banquet with a carry-in-luncheon following worship. Naomi Coble, Sweetheart of 2018, will present her crown to the new Sweetheart for the Year 2019.

12. Ministerial Committee meeting 7:00 PM
14. Bible Study at Agape Acres Apartments 3:00 – 4:30 PM.
17. If you have items for the March/April newsletter, please give it to Annabelle Kettering. Thank You!
23. Community Fellowship Free Meal 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
28. Bible Study at Agape Acres Apartments 3:00 – 4:30 PM

ASHLAND COUNTY CROP HUNGER WALK

Totals are in from this year's CROP Hunger Walk. 12 Congregations participated with 83 walkers. \$8,138.94 was the total raised, surpassing the \$7,000 goal. \$2,034.73 will remain here in Ashland County and be divided equally among 4 local hunger ministries (\$508.68).

BAD WEATHER ??

When bad weather appears, Trustees have established a policy that when the County declares a Level 2 Emergency Warning, Church Service would be canceled because we are not to be on the roads. Listen to Radio/TV (WRGM 1440AM, WVNO 106.1FM, WMFD-TV, or WEWS-TV Channel 5). Care Givers will try to call, and look at the church website.

LOST EXTERNAL DRIVE

An external drive for computer has been lost. It was stored in the locked file cabinet that Jim Barr got to store history documents in. Hundreds of hours of transcribing from the old legal books which had faded badly were recorded on this external drive along with other old document information. If anyone knows where this is, please let Marilyn Badger know. Thank you. MCKB

ASSOCIATED CHARITIES

The many beautiful items were removed from the Mitten and Gift Trees and taken into Associated Charities. In this way, many children could receive a special gift plus many beautiful scarves, hats and gloves which would help keep them warm. You can still bring more of these items and they will be taken in later with groceries and Peanut Butter. The Peanut Butter Tree is still up and getting higher. We will keep this Tree growing until the end of December or first of January. Thanks to all who graciously contributed.

PASTOR STEVE KEIB CALLED FOR OUR NEW PASTOR

On Sunday, November 25, Maple Grove Church of the Brethren called Pastor Steve Keib to be our new pastor. He comes to us from the Bangor Baptist Church / Crosspoint Church in Bangor, Maine. Pastor Steve is a Master Teacher in the Child Evangelism Fellowship Training Program and has his Master's Degree in Religion & Biblical Studies and Ministry, along with other educational degrees. He was ordained at the Gospel Baptist Church, licensed in the state of Ohio in 2002, and has over 20 years of experience in the ministry. Steve and his wife Sarah have three children--Austin, Brianna, and Evan. Steve grew up in Galion, Ohio. Pastor Steve's first Sunday at Maple Grove will be Sunday, March 3, 2019 when he will be installed and ordained for Maple Grove. Steve and Sarah's current address is 24 Pleasant Road, Glenburn, ME 04401, for anyone wishing to send holiday greetings their way. Please continue to be in prayer as we all make this transition.

Sunshine is delicious, rain is refreshing, wind braces us up, snow is exhilarating; there is really no such thing as bad weather, only different kinds of good weather. -John Ruskin

CAN YOU HELP?

Do you like to share your ideas with others? Do you like to encourage others? Then we need your help! Each week there is an opportunity to share a scripture and devotion on the Church's website. You can try it once, write something monthly, or whatever works for you. Please contact Travis Kettering (travis.kettering@yahoo.com) if interested.

SYMPATHY

Our deepest sympathy goes to these families and friends on the loss of their loved one. We pray that God will continue to be their help in this time of grief and sorrow.

Floyd Culler	Date of Death November 2, 2018
Roger A. Crossen	Date of Death November 7, 2018
Bonnie B. Keener	Date of Death November 15, 2018
Sharon Anderson	Date of Death November 26, 2018

THANK YOU

Maple Grove Church,
God be with everybody. The weather is nice.
Maggie Keener

Maple Grove Church family,
Merry Christmas, Love, **Pat Zellner**
(Please take a look at the letter on the bulletin board from Pat)

Maple Grove Church of the Brethren also received Greetings from **Church World Service and S & P Alliance, Inc.**

Maple Grove Church,
The Family of Hazel Motter thanks you for your kind expression of sympathy, your prayers and support. **Sherry Edwards**

THANK YOU (continued)

Maple Grove Church,
I would like to thank the Maple Grove Church for the lovely planter and prayers, in memory of my brother. Also thanks for the fruit and cookie tray. I really appreciated it!

Rose Allen

Dear Maple Grove Church family,
Thank you so much for your love and support in the passing of Roger's Mother. Your cards, kind thoughts, prayers and the beautiful mums are all greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Roger & Patty Carpenter

Maple Grove Church of the Brethren,
Want to thank Pastor John for coming to the hospital when we had our heart Cath's and thank our church family for the prayers and the cards. They were very much appreciated. And thank you for the lovely Poinsettia we got for Christmas. The Youth did a very nice job on their Christmas cookies. Thank You!

Liz & Dwaine Clinker

Maple Grove Church,
I would like to thank you for the very nice planter. And thank Pastor John for all the times he spent helping us and the time he spent with Bonnie. I also would like to thank the ladies and men that did the lunch for all of us. It was really nice of all of you.

Love, **Della Fisher**

Maple Grove Church of the Brethren,
Thank you so much for all the many prayers for me during and since my eye surgery. It took the second procedure to get the job done. Thankfully, it has been over a month now, and I am doing fine. My sight still isn't where I hope it will be, but much better than before surgery. Praise the Lord! God bless you all!

Kay Morehouse
(Susan Benner's Mother)

Maple Grove Staff & Congregation,
Our good neighbor and friend, Annabelle, brought us such wonderful gifts from your church this past Saturday – a beautiful poinsettia, a plate of wonderful fruits, cookies, snacks, candy, and even a little loaf of banana nut bread. And a beautiful Christmas card with money inside!

Chuck and I are so honored and appreciative to be remembered by your church as we travel this long, complicated, and uncertain health journey. You have shown God's love in many ways. Thank you so much for keeping us on your prayer list.

Love,

Linda & Chuck McCarty

The Maple Grove Church family,
Thank you for the meal after Arlene's funeral and Pastor John's beautiful words. Also all the sympathy cards and caring words, You all the greatest!

Mary Rogers and the rest of the family

Dear Church Family,
Thank you so much for your prayers and kind thoughts, and the beautiful mums. We are truly blessed by having you in our lives. It was appreciated more than words can say.

Mark, Bev, Marissa & Mallory Slocum

Maple Grove Church,
Thank you, Maple Grove Church, for the Delicious Fruit Basket.

Clyde, Lynda, & Samantha Benner

Maple Grove Family,
Thank you for the fruit plate and the visit. Bless you all. **Shirley Benner**

Dear Maple Grove Members,
We wanted to thank you all so much for caring and sharing your love and concern. We appreciated the good fruit basket so much.

Love & Blessings,
Wesley & Shirley Canfield

THANK YOU (continued)

Maple Grove Church,
I wish to thank Maple Grove for my Fruit Basket and Flower. The Fruit was very good and appreciated the Poinsettia. Thank you so much! **Naomi Coble**

Maple Grove Church,
A heartfelt thank you to Maple Grove Church for the beautiful Poinsettia and Christmas card. It makes my heart smile each time I look at it! Thank you all!
Verlin Gregory

Dear Church Members,
We would like to thank the Church for the Fruit tray and the Poinsettia and Bread for Janet. Merry Christmas to all!
**Howard & Sally Harris
& Janet Bright**

Maple Grove Church,
Thanks for your thoughtfulness and for the Poinsettia, it is beautiful.
Diana Massie

To the Maple Grove Church Family,
Doug and I would like to take the time to thank you for the fruit basket. We truly were thankful for it. Thank you for keeping us in your prayers.
God Bless All of You!
Doug & Darlene Moore

Dear Maple Grove Friends,
Thank you so much for the fruit and cookies. Everything was so good. I wish you all a Merry Christmas and the best New Year Ever. **Pauline Reynolds**

Maple Grove Church,
Thank you to all my Friends for the lovely Fruit Basket. **Gerald Shank**

Maple Grove Church family,
Thank You for the delicious fruit basket and the other little goodies that were in it. Your thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated.
Arthur Smith & Family

To My Church Family,
Thank you for delicious fruit basket.
God Bless each one.

Barbara Woodring

A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

Our dear God of love and care,
Another year of our lives has passed.
Please take from our hearts the burden
we bear
Of the "luggage" we held so fast.

Resentment, envy, self-pity, and pride,
Help us forget all our fear.
Help us to put away things that abide
To hinder the joys of this year.

May we put behind us all of the old
To make room for the new ahead.
The New Year is filled with days of gold,
If we look for the good instead.

No more of the "luggage" of the past;
A new year beckons us on.
Please help us to make it a better one
Than the old year that is gone.

We pray for Your guidance and care
In all that we undertake.
Please help us to follow You
everywhere
Through this bright New Year,
for Christ's sake.

-Lucile Calhoun Stewart

WINTER PAINTING

Bare trees along the river's edge are full
of charm today,
As I stand in my window here and look
across the way.
They're sort of black and sort of brown,
There are shades of purple, too.
With here and there an evergreen and
white banks showing through.
Although we tire of storms sometimes,
And gray and gloomy skies,
At painting pictures, we'll admit that
Winter takes first prize.

-Lucy Loughton Jewett

Do You Know Your Hymns?

Dentist's Hymn	. . .	Crown Him with Many Crowns.
Weatherman's Hymn	. . .	There Shall Be Showers of Blessings.
Contractor's Hymn	. . .	The Church's One Foundation.
Tailor's Hymn	. . .	Holy, Holy, Holy.
Golfer's Hymn	. . .	There's a Green Hill Far Away.
Politician's Hymn	. . .	Standing on the Promises!
Optometrist's Hymn.	. . .	Open My Eyes That I Might See.
IRS Agent's Hymn	. . .	I Surrender All.
Gossip's Hymn	. . .	Pass It On.
Electrician's Hymn	. . .	Send The Light..
Shopper's Hymn	. . .	Sweet Bye and Bye.
Realtor's Hymn	. . .	I've Got a Mansion, Just Over the Hilltop.
Massage Therapist's Hymn.		He Touched Me.

AND for those who speed on the highway - a few hymns:

55 mph	. . .	God Will Take Care of You
75 mph	. . .	Nearer My God To Thee
85 mph	. . .	This World Is Not My Home
95 mph	. . .	Lord, I'm Coming Home
100 mph	. . .	Precious Memories

Give me a sense of humor, Lord, Give me the grace to see a joke,
To get some humor out of life, And pass it on to other folks.

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 **JANUARY • NEWSLETTER**
2019

 **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



Maple Grove Church of the Brethren

Pastor John Ballinger

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419-651-2573

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Sunday Worship – 10:25 a.m.

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