



THE MAPLE LEAF

The Maple Grove Church of the Brethren Newsletter
Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together



NOVEMBER/DECEMBER IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

NOVEMBER 2016

1. Church Board Meeting 7:00 PM
1. Pain/Grief Meeting 6:00 PM at Buehler's
2. CBWF Meeting 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
6. Ministerial Committee Meeting 12 Noon
6. Deacons are welcome to Erin Beebe's home for a get together at 6:00 PM. Bring a snack to share.
10. Bible Study at Agape Acres Apartments at 3:30 PM
10. Deacon Committee meeting 7:00 PM
13. Council Meeting following a carry-in-luncheon following morning worship.
13. Youth Meeting at 5:00 PM
19. Trustees Work Day planned for cleaning around the church at 8:00 AM.
19. Community Fellowship Free Meal 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. (Please note that this is the third Saturday).
20. Combined Thanksgiving Service/Dinner with Mohican Church and Ashland First at Maple Grove 4 pm, dinner to follow.
22. Music/Worship Committee Meeting 7:00 PM
23. Ashland City CoB Ladies are inviting our CBWF to a meeting which will be held at 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM.
24. **Thanksgiving**
26. Hanging of the Greens 9 AM – which is preparing our church to celebrate the birth of our Lord. If you would like to help hang some of the greenery, here is your opportunity.
27. Advent Offering will be received December 4th – Vision for new hope. An insert will be in your bulletin on Nov. 27th.

DECEMBER 2016

3. Deacons meeting 9:00 AM
4. Advent Offering reflects our commitment to speak peace on earth and goodwill to all people. Envelopes for this special offering will be provided in your bulletin this Sunday.
7. CBWF Meeting 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
8. Bible Study at Agape Acres Apartment at 3:30 PM
11. Lunch will be provided for the children following worship so we can practice for their Christmas Program which will be held during worship service Dec. 18th.
13. Ministerial Committee Meeting 7:00 PM
- 16-17. Youth will be making their Christmas Cookies
18. Children's Christmas Program will be presented during worship service.
18. Pick up your cookies you order from the Youth following worship in the Fellowship Hall.
18. Chancel Choir will be presenting a Cantata at 4:00 PM
18. Youth Meeting 5:00 PM
18. Please give news items to Annabelle Kettering for the Jan/Feb 2017 Newsletter.
22. Bible Study at Agape Acres Apartments at 3:30 PM
24. Christmas Eve Service 7:00 PM
24. Please note there will not be a Community Fellowship Meal this month. See you all in January 2017. Happy New Year!!
25. **Merry Christmas** – Come and celebrate Christmas with us as we worship our Lord and Savior.
27. Music/Worship Committee Meeting 7:00 PM
28. Ashland City CoB Ladies are inviting our CBWF to a meeting which will be held at 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM.
31. **Happy New Year's Eve!!**

❄️ *Wishing you a...*
Merry Christmas
 ❄️ ❄️ *...and a great New Year!*

CROP HUNGER WALK

Our CROP Hunger Walk numbers: 15 people raised money and 11 walked on Oct 2nd. We raised \$920.00 towards the total goal of \$8,000. 25% (\$230) will stay here in Ashland County and be divided equally among 4 local hunger ministries (\$57.50). Thank you to all for helping with this important outreach to help those in our community and around the world.

ASSOCIATED CHARITIES ASHLAND COUNTY FOOD BANK

What a blessing it is to be in our new facility where we can serve all that are in need of our services in Ashland County. New address is: 240 Cleveland Ave.

CURRENT NEEDS:

NON PERISHABLE NEEDS:

Macaroni and Cheese, Granola/Breakfast bars, Ketchup, Mustard and Mayo, Egg Noodles, Cans of Fruit, Vegetable Oil and/or Sugar, Spaghetti and Sauce, Tea bags, hot chocolate or coffee, Saltine or Graham Crackers, Spaghetti-o's and Ravioli, Cereal-boxed, and Manwich

NON FOOD ITEMS:

Toilet paper, Paper towels, Kleenex, Deodorant (male and female), Toothpaste and Toothbrushes (adult and children), Dish Soap, Laundry Soap, Feminine Products (always need these).

32 New Families were helped in September for a total of 570 people served in the month of September.

Thank you for your continued faithful support of our ministry!

May God Bless you and yours!

Rosemarie Donley

SHOE BOX MINISTRY

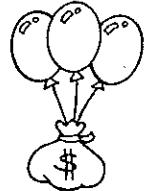
Shoe Box Ministry was prepared and sent to our College Students in the month of October. The next Box will be ready for their surprise in December. We want to thank Erin Beebe for seeing that your

student receives their package. If they do not receive their package, please contact Erin Beebe with a corrected address.

COOKIES, COOKIES, COOKIES

It is the time of year for present shopping, holiday parties, and Christmas Cookies. Once again the CBYF will be taking orders for cookies. All cookies (chocolate chip, snicker-doodles, and sugar cut outs with and without frosting) will be \$5.00 a dozen. Please see one of the Youth to place your order. Cookies will be ready for pick-up on Sunday, December 18th following worship in the Fellowship Hall.

FUND RAISER



INSPIRATION HILLS CAMP 2017 SUMMER CAMP DATES

UPCOMING WINTER CAMPS

If you loved summer camp then you will REALLY love winter camp! Roaring fires, snowball fights, snowman tournaments and more. **Junior High Weekend blowout** February 10-12, **Junior Winter Camp** February 17-19, 2017. Save the date, more details to come!

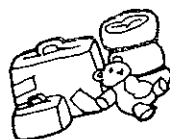
NEXT SUMMER:

BRANCHING OUT, CONNECTING THROUGH CHRIST

Join us in 2017 for a new journey as we explore what it means to spread the gospel and grow in our faith as we connect with people everywhere we go, even camp! The Bible stories in *Branching Out* remind campers that they are connected to one another and to God by Christ and encourage campers to use prayer, relationships, family, and more to stay connected throughout their lives. Save the date now for a life changing experience!

2017 SUMMER CAMP DATES

Mom & Me Camp #1	June 5-6	Parent (s) and campers ages 3-7
Grand Camp	June 7-9	Grandparents & grandchildren ages 3-8
Senior High Camp	June 11-16	Going into grades 9-12 (minimum age, 14)
Junior High Camp	June 18-23	Going into grades 6-8 (minimum age, 11)
Annual Conference	June 28-July 2	Grand Rapids, MI
Junior Camp	July 2-7	Going into grades 3-5 (minimum age, 8)
Bike Camp (PA)	July 2-7	Going into grades 8-12 (minimum age, 13)
3 Day Camp	July 9-12	Going into grades 1-3 (minimum age, 6)
Mom & Me Camp #2	July 13-14	Parent (s) and campers ages 3-7
Survivor Camp	July 16-21	Going into grades 8-12 (minimum age, 13)
Worship Arts Camp	July 23-28	Going into grades 4-12 (minimum age, 9)
Mountain Adventure (NC)	July 23-28	Going into grades 8-12 (minimum age, 13)
Family Camp	August 4-6	All Ages, minors must be accompanied by an adult at all times.



WWW.INSPIRATIONHILLSCAMP.ORG

IN REMEMBRANCE

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

Anne Oberholtzer	Date of Death August 22, 2016
David L. Mumaw	Date of Death September 5, 2016
Gwendolyn Brindle	Date of Death September 20, 2016
Mary Beebe	Date of Death October 19, 2016

We pray that God will continue to be their help in this time of grief and sorrow.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The play that has been chosen for the children for Christmas this year is "The Greatest Gift of All" by Carolyn R. Scheidies.

This play will be presented during worship hour on December 18th.

Here is where we need your help! We will have Junior Church starting November 13th through December 11th every Sunday, so we need your children. Some of the Youth have expressed an interest in helping with this play, which is great. On December 11th a light lunch will be provided for the children and all that are helping. We will start practice in the Sanctuary when we are able to enter. Our aim is to be through with practice by 1:00 PM so parents may come for their children. You are welcome to stay for the practice with your child/children. If your child is unable to stay for practice, please come back to the Fellowship Hall to get them after the close of worship.

Letters will be sent home with children with a reminder of our Christmas Season activities on November 13th.

CHRISTMAS TREES

The question is: Why do we have so many Christmas Trees? The Christmas Season is coming very soon. The trees will adorn our Gathering Room with their own special need.

PEANUT BUTTER TREE

This season, help feed your neighbors and needy families across Ashland County by bringing in some peanut butter which will support Associated Charities and its clients. There are many hungry children in this area; let's do our part to help those in need by donating to this worthy cause!

From December 1st through the rest of the month, bring in any size jar of peanut butter and help build our annual Peanut Butter Tree.

THE MITTEN TREE

This Mitten Tree, with its beautiful lights, will be waiting to be trimmed with items for babies up through 18. We suggest bringing mittens, scarves, and socks for this tree. Let's see how many different kinds of items we can get on The Mitten Tree. It becomes a beautiful tree with the many colors.

THE GIFT TREE

This tree will be very special since it will hold presents here for all ages of children, up through age 18. Use your imagination when buying these gifts. What would children really enjoy? Ask your child, maybe toy cars/farm equipment, a doll, puzzles, and even a Gift Card. The older children will really enjoy purchasing their own surprise. Please do not wrap the gifts.

All of the above donations will be taken to the Associated Charities. We really want to thank the Congregation in helping children and parents to enjoy this beautiful season, the season of the Birth of our Lord and Savior.

**CHANCEL CHOIR CHRISTMAS
CANTATA**

The Nankin Community Choir will be joining Maple Grove Choir in presenting **Night of Alleluias!** – A Christmas Musical for choir and orchestra. This musical was created by Dave Clark & Mark Harris, narration by Tim Green, and arranged and orchestrated by Bradley Knight.

The performance of this Cantata will be presented December 18th at 4:00 PM at Maple Grove Church with a time of fellowship and refreshment following the performance in the Fellowship Hall.

If you would like to take part in this Cantata please come to Maple Grove on Wednesday evenings at 8:00 PM. If you enjoy singing, please take an hour or so and join with us. If you cannot join in the singing, please mark your calendar to attend the celebration of this Christmas season with awe and wonder of these songs.

IN MEMORY

In Memory of Jim Barr, 1947-2015 - Jim loved his Maple Grove Family and wanted a play-set for the kids to be kids and the adults to pretend to be kids.

So Jim's wishes have been provided in his name by his family, a play-set for the children and tables and seats for adults. We want to thank the family for this gift of Love.

THANK YOU

Maple Grove Family,

Thank you for thinking of my family and me in our time of need.

The Case Family

I want to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, phone calls and visits during my last operation. My health is much better. Thank you!
Betty Kettering

Our Family at Maple Grove,

Thank you all so much for the lovely planter, the cards and the thoughts and prayers during our passing of our brother, father, grandpa and great grandpa. A Special Thank You to Pastor John who was our rock to lean on. Bless all of you!

Mary Rogers Family

Gale Andress Family

Mike West Family

David West Family

Dear Pastor John & Maple Grove Family,

Thank you to Pastor John for coming to the hospital, day of surgery and home visits when I got home. Thank you to church family that has kept me in your prayers and phone calls, and cards sent for a speedy recovery. God has blessed us all. Thank You! In Christian Love,

Dick and Helen Wesner

Dear Church Family,

Thank you all for the cards and calls. Thanks for the newsletter every month. I enjoy reading, miss everybody there but it is real pretty here and warm. My hands cause my writing not to do so good because of arthritis. God be with everybody.

Margaret (Maggie) Keener

Thanks to Sharon Barr and her family for the annual Church Hayride that was enjoyed by many. Also the food and fellowship was great. It was a cool evening but the warm fire to do hot dogs felt very cozy. Thank You!!

To our brothers and sisters at Maple Grove,

Thank you for hosting the Northern Ohio District Conference this year. Words cannot express our appreciation for all the planning, coordinating, cooking, serving, setting up, and cleaning up you did on our behalf. Your spirit of hospitality was apparent in all you did, and your teal colored T-shirts let us know that assistance was always available. Thank you for service in such a gracious and Holy Way!

Central Committee

Northern Ohio District

Make your own Christmas Ornament

1. Color the angel.
2. Cut it out with scissors.
3. Punch a hole in the top.
4. Tie a piece of yarn or ribbon through the hole
5. Hang it on your Christmas tree.



Magi-Wise Men from the east followed the star to Bethlehem. They went to worship the "King of the Jews" ... Jesus.

"Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh."

Matthew 2:11

The magi gave the best they had as gifts to Jesus. What can you give to Him?

Find the letters in each pile that are not covered by another. Unscramble them to find something to give to Jesus. Check your answers in your Bible.

NUA
VPI
OSI
HZTK

Psalm 100:4

LPQ
SZE
VTO

John 13:34

LOSWA
EPBA
KRZE

Exodus 15:2

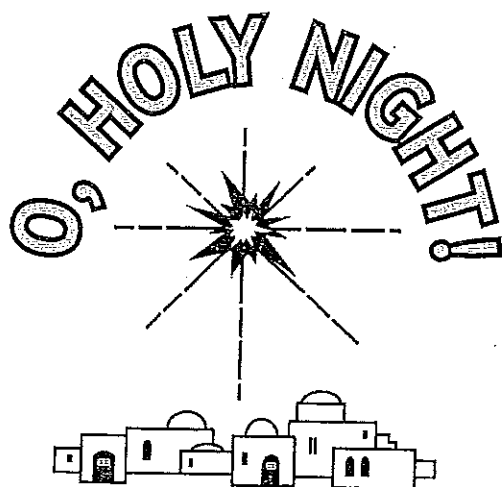
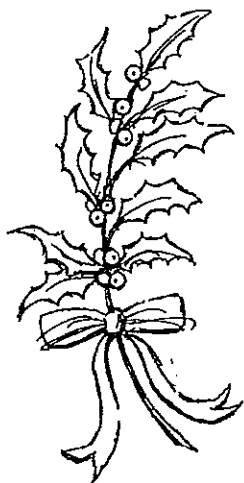
Answers:

Psalm 100:4 THANKS; John 13:34 LOVE; Exodus 15:2 PRAISE.

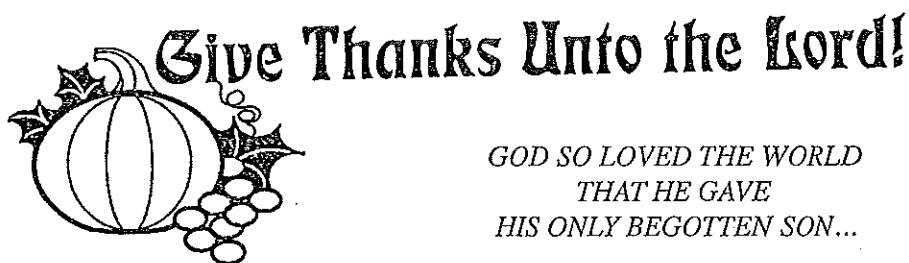
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NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER
2016
DECEMBER NEWSLETTER



*GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD
THAT HE GAVE
HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON...*



The Greatest Gift

Maple Grove Church of the Brethren

Pastor John Ballinger
567-215-3552
E-mail: johnb1417@yahoo.com

Sunday School – 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship – 10:25 a.m.
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Phone: (419) 289-9341