



THE MAPLE LEAF

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



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2017 IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

JANUARY 2017

1. **HAPPY NEW YEAR'S DAY 2017**
4. CBWF Meeting 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
4. All Choirs will commence their practice at their usual time.
8. Community Fellowship Committee meeting following worship in the double classroom.
8. **Carry-in-luncheon Celebrating Birthdays and Introducing New Members of Year 2016.**
9. Music/Worship Committee meeting 7:00 PM.
10. Ministerial Committee meeting 6:15 PM
10. Church Board Committee meeting 7:00 PM
12. Bible Study at Agape Acres Apartment at 3:30 PM
15. Youth Meeting at 5:00 – 7:00 PM; Officers will meet at 4:30 PM
22. Hearts of Joy will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 AM
26. Bible Study at Agape Acres Apartment at 3:30 PM
28. Community Fellowship Free Meal 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
29. Youth Carnival Event (Time TBD)

FEBRUARY 2017

1. CBWF Meeting 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
9. Bible Study at Agape Acres Apartment at 3:30 PM
11. Cantata Choir Party in Fellowship Hall
More information will be available later.
12. Sweetheart Banquet following worship.
19. Youth Meeting at 5:00 – 7:00 PM; Officers will meet at 4:30 PM
23. Bible Study at Agape Acres Apartment at 3:30 PM

25. Community Fellowship Free Meal 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

26. Hearts of Joy will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30 AM

(Please note that some of the dates could be changed. Be sure to watch your Sunday Bulletins.)

COMMUNITY MEALS

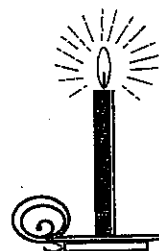
Community Fellowship Free Meals continue to be available the fourth Saturday of the month. If there is a change in the date of the meals, a notice will be published. If you have not attended before, this is your invitation to come January 28th, which will be our next meal. Hope to see you there.

SWEETHEART BANQUET

On February 12th we will have a carry-in-luncheon honoring our new Sweetheart for the Year 2017. Brenda Ross, the 2016 Sweetheart, will have the honors of crowning the new sweetheart. Come and see who will be the new Sweetheart of 2017. Could it be YOU?

CROP HUNGER WALK

This is the final CROP Hunger Walk numbers just received. Totals from this year's Ashland County CROP Hunger Walk: 14 Congregations participated with 92 walkers. \$7,703.60 was the total raised. \$1,925.90 will stay in Ashland County and be divided equally among 4 local hunger ministries (\$481.48).



ASSOCIATED CHARITIES
ASHLAND COUNTY FOOD BANK

We have a final count for Thanksgiving: 370 families received a turkey certificate to Hawkins and we provided a bag of food to make a traditional Thanksgiving meal. As you can see, this is the time of year we really appreciate your donations.

NON PERISHABLE NEEDS:

Fresh or boxed potatoes, Boxed pudding and jello, Cream of Mushroom/Chicken soup, Cans of Fruit, Brownie Mix/cake mix and frosting, Spaghetti and Sauce, Canned Tuna or Chicken, Crackers and or cookies, Egg Noodles, Spaghetti-0's and Ravioli, Pancake Mix and Syrup, Ketchup, Mustard and Mayo, Vegetable Oil and Sugar.

NON FOOD ITEMS:

Shampoo and Conditioner, Toilet Paper (always a need), Paper Towels and Kleenex, Laundry Soap and Dish Soap, Bath Soap, Feminine Products.

32 New Families were helped in November for a total of 634 people served in the month of November.

Merry Christmas to all!
Rosemarie Donley, Director

SHOE BOX MINISTRY

Shoe Box Ministry was prepared and sent to our College Students in the month of December. The next Box will be ready for their surprise in February. Thanks to Erin Beebe for making sure these boxes are ready for the mailing. It would be appreciated if you want to contribute snacks for the boxes or give Erin money for the cost of mailing. Thanks for helping with this mission.

NEW BIRTH

Tyler and Jessica Furrow of Covington announce the birth of a son, Oliver Wynn Furrow, born Nov. 19, 2016, at Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton. Oliver weighed 8 pounds, 14 ounces.

Grandparents are Kurt and Karen Wynn of Ashland and Jon and Sherry Furrow of Covington.

MISSION AND SERVICE
COMMITTEE

The Mission and Service Committee discussed possibilities of using the monies from the District to each church (\$2,000.00) for missions. The last couple of Brethren *Newslines* messages (November 26 and December 3) have had a gift catalogue for "Giving Tuesday" for Brethren Disaster Ministries and Children's Disaster Services. There were twelve items listed from \$10.00 each item to \$1,000.00 each item. We discussed and chose to try to serve "away from home" mission work. Since the Nigerian women's choir had come to Maple Grove and we served food to them before their concert and sent monies to help rebuild after the damage done by Boko Haram, we chose that which we thought meant the most to people here. We chose the \$1,000.00 "build a home in Nigeria" option. So, with \$2,000.00 we will be contributing to building two homes there.

Thank you Committee!

IN REMEMBRANCE

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

Sandra "Sandi" E. Smith

Date of Death
November 4, 2016

Ronald Shoup

Date of Death
November 19, 2016

May God continue to be with the families and friends in this time of sorrow and grief.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Terry Vaught on being called as pastor of the Paradise Church of the Brethren. In light of his call, Terry has requested that his membership be transferred to the Paradise congregation. May God bless the Paradise congregation and Pastor Terry as they work together for the cause of Christ in their community.

CHURCH BALLOT RESULTS FOR
YEAR 2017

These new members will be on a specific committee starting January 1, 2017.

Church Moderator –

Rev. Paul Bartholomew

Altar and Flower Committee –

Phylis Griggs

Agape Acres Board – David Badger

Joe Steward

John Stutzman

Directory Committee – Susan Benner

Ranita Bates

Finance Committee – Cathy Bishop

Scott Freer

Home Visitation Committee –

Arzonla Laurent

Ministerial Committee – Brian Canfield

Peggy Elchert

Mission and Service – Marilyn Badger

Music and Worship Committee –

Jody Freer

Donna Kettering

Nominating Committee – Carla Steward

Barbara Woodring

Property Maintenance and

Improvement Committee – David Bishop

Karen Wynn

Sunshine and Recognition Committee –

Donna Keener

Trustee Committee – Ryan Barr

Todd Ross

Ushers – Travis Bates

Clyde Benner, Jr.

Garrett Canfield

Jesse Keener

2017 Annual Conference Delegates

June 28 – July 2, Grand Rapids, MI

Sharon Barr

April Ochier

2017 District Conference Delegates

July 28-29, Hartville, OH

David Bishop

Cathy Bishop

Church Board Chair – Scott Freer

Church Board Assistant Chair –

Todd Ross


Thank You


Our Church Family,

Thank you for the Christmas cactus planter, your thoughts and prayers during our time of loss. Your kindness and sympathy were at a time when it was deeply appreciated.

The Ron Shoup Family

To all our brothers and sisters in the Lord, We wish to thank you all for the cards, visits and prayers during our stay at hospital and rehab. Also for Pastor John and others who came to Columbus to visit. God Bless!

Paul and Ruth Bright

Maple Grove Church of the Brethren family,

Thank you so very much for your many prayers, cards, and calls for me when I was in the hospital and at home. I'm especially heartfelt thank you to Pastor John while staying with my family through the surgery and for his visits to the hospital and at home. Thank you so very much.

In Christian Love, **Peggy Elchert**

Dear Maple Grove,

Thank you for the birthday card and wishing for the best in my future. I would also like to thank the Maple Grove Church Family for all the support and blessings and hope all is well. Sincerely, **Jeremy Rohr**

I want to thank the Church family for the lovely fruit basket. God Blessings to all.

Shirley Benner

I received a Fruit Basket from the Church for Christmas. Thank you so much. I really enjoyed the goodies too. I love my Church Family. God Bless You! **Naomi Coble**

Maple Grove,

Thank you for the beautiful basket. I truly appreciate it so much. **Pauline Reynolds**

To My Church Family,

Thank you so much for the delicious fruit basket. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! May God Bless Each One.

Barbara Woodring

Thank You!

Thank you for the basket. It was very delicious. God bless the church.

Charlotte Johns

Thank you for the fruit basket and gift. It was greatly appreciated. **Tammy Crossen**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to our Church family!

Hope everyone is well. Miss you all!

Everyone is in our thoughts and prayers!

Jeff & Gloria McCarty

Merry Christmas and a bright New Year to all at Maple Grove Church,
Thanks so much for the money. It helps out a lot.

Janet Case

Maple Grove Church,
Thank you very much for the basket. I am doing well, just staying inside to prevent from getting sick. Hope everyone has a wonderful holiday. God Bless!

Joan Benner

Maple Grove,
Thank you so much for the lovely fruit basket. It is greatly appreciated.

Rose Allen

Maple Grove Family,
Thank you so much for the wonderful fruit basket. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and knowing that we are loved and cared for! Love,

**Travis, Angie, Parker
& Korbin McKissick**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,
We would like to take a moment to thank you for all of your support and generosity. Wishing you and your family a wonderful holiday season and peace in the New Year. **Cub Scout Pack 513**

Merry Christmas – May all the blessings of the season shine upon you. God be with you all. **Margaret (Maggie) Keener**

Thank you so much for the goodies in my fruit basket. It was so good and kind of you.

Arzonla Laurent

Maple Grove Family,
Thank you so much for all of your prayers, gifts and Fruit Basket from our Church family. We have been so Blessed with thoughts of love shown to us. God Bless,

Walt and Jean Gilmore

Dear Maple Grove Church Family,
Thank you for the great fruit basket. We truly appreciated the fruit. We are blessed to have a great Church family.

In Christian Love,

Doug and Darlene Moore

Maple Grove Church,
Thank you for the beautiful fruit basket. Koreena and I enjoyed all of it. It was delicious.

Shirley and Koreena Anderson

Maple Grove Family,
Thank you for the beautiful Poinsettia. **Arthur E. Smith, Jr.**

Maple Grove Church,
What a wonderful time of year to wish you the best of Holidays and a bright New Year. Merry Christmas!

Sugarbush Branch

Wayne Savings Community Bank

Thank you for everyone that had a part in our morning service and the Cantata at 4:00 PM on December 18th. The children and with the help of the youth did a play entitled *The Greatest Gift Of All*. The Cantata, *Night of Alleluias*, was well attended even though the weather was not the greatest. This was a very busy day but a blessing to be in the house of the Lord.

(Thank You continued)

THANKS THANKS/
THANKS THANKS
THANKS THANKS
THANKS A HEAP!

To Maple Grove Church family,
Remembering you this Christmas
and praying your celebration brings a heart
full of joy as you remember God's amazing
love shown through His Son, *Jesus*.
Thanks for the fruit basket, it was
beautiful and enjoying. Also thanks to Scott
and Jody for bringing it and their visit.

Happy Holidays to all!
God Bless,
Mary Rogers

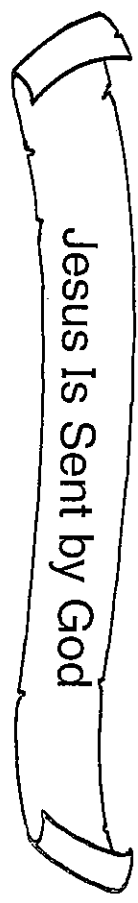
ANNOUNCEMENT:

FROM MUSIC AND WORSHIP COMMITTEE

The church is purchasing new hymnals for the
Sanctuary. They are "Celebration Hymnal" and the
Church of the Brethren's "Hymnal: A Worship Book".
If you would like to donate \$15.00 per copy in memory
and/or honor of family members or friends more
information will follow in the next few weeks. Name
plates honoring those individuals will be placed in
books you donate to.

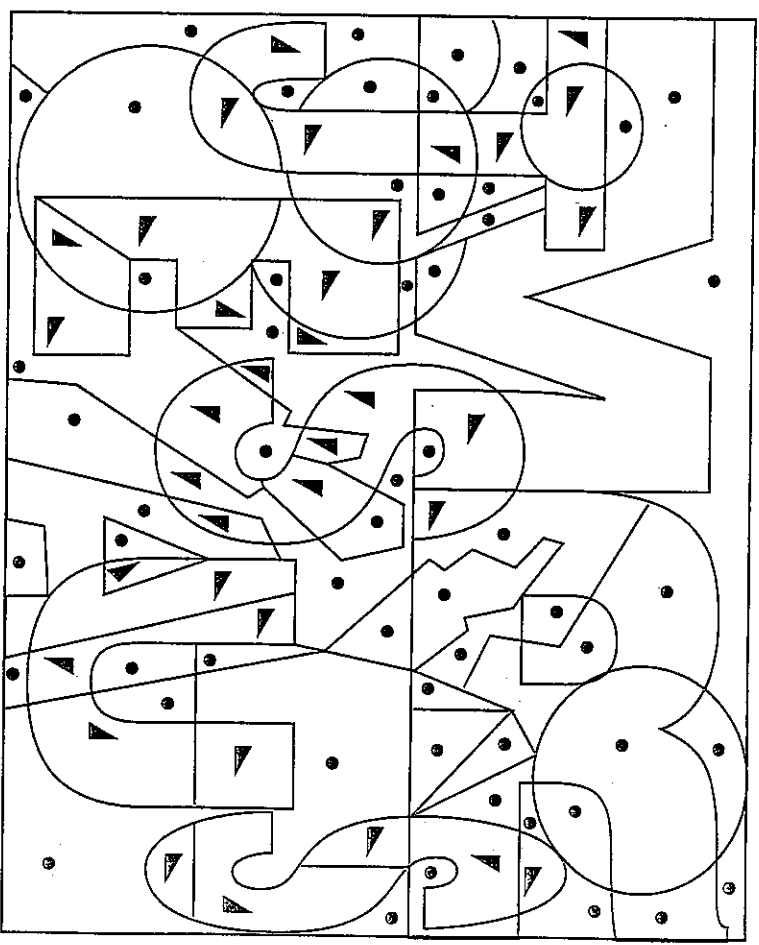
Children's Worship
Bulletin™

Ages 3-6
January 2017
John 1:(1-9), 10-18



God sent His only Son to the world.

Shade in the shapes with a ▲ .



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JANUARY • NEWSLETTER

2017

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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