

Broken and Blessed Discipleship Course Schedule

You are invited to participate in a discipleship course titled, *Broken and Blessed*, scheduled to be held at the Allensville Mennonite Church for six Monday evenings starting January 8, from 7:00-8:30 PM. See the schedule below for topics and speakers.

January 8 - *Our Source of Brokenness* (Sherman Stoltzfus)

January 15 - *How God Uses Pain for Good* (Roger Kauffman)

January 22 - *Value in Embracing our Brokenness* (Bob & Ethel Zook)

January 29 - *Stories of Brokenness and Blessing* (Sherman & Heather Stoltzfus)

February 5 - *God at Work: Restoration in Process* (Nelson Roth)

February 12 - *What will Heaven be like?* (Gerald Peachey)

	This Week	Next Week
Nursery – SS	Josh & Morgan Detwiler	Sarah Yoder & Amber Penepacker
Nursery-Worship	Kay Peachey & Veru Farrell	Josh & Morgan Detwiler
Sound Technician	John Baker	Kurt Rheam
Ministerial Team Greeters	Foyer: Sandy Tussey South Door: Kurt Rheam	Foyer: Lavern Yutzy South Door: Ray Yoder

“Gathered to know Jesus, sent to make Jesus known”

Welcome to Maple Grove Mennonite Church

*December 24, 2017
Fourth Sunday of Advent*

Maple Grove Mennonite Church is a community of persons committed to Jesus Christ and His teachings. We live to share the good news of God’s love by word and deed with our neighbors, community and the world, promoting peace, justice and mercy for all. We express our faith through worship, nurture, fellowship and service.



“Let it be Now”



Maple Grove Mennonite Church
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**Maple Grove Mennonite Church
December 24, 2017**

9:30 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Worship Service

*If you are new to our church and want additional information about Maple Grove,
please see Alan for a visitor packet after the service.*

Nursery care is provided during SS and the worship service for infants through age 3.

Prelude		Worship Team
Focus Statement		Jason Yoder
Candle Lighting		Ed & Carol Yoder
Welcome & Opening		Jason Yoder
Worship in Song		Worship Team
Visitors & Church Announcements		
Prayer & Offering		
Children's Lesson		Nancy Kauffman
Sharing & Prayer		
Scripture Text	Luke 1:26-38	
Sermon	"Theotokos?"	Alan Kauffman
Response Song		
Wisdom & Wonder, Act 4		Alan Kauffman & Wyatt Kauffman
Final Blessing		
Sending Song		

Tonight: 7:00 Our Christmas Eve Service will include songs by a men's group, a women's group, and the choir, readings, congregational singing and the traditional candle lighting. The offering will go to MDS for their disaster efforts.

December 17, 2017			
Offering	Mission	Building Fund	Attendance
\$2,606.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	SS:77 WS:99

This Week:

Monday, Dec. 25 – Jeff Byler family Christmas dinner in FH

Tuesday, Dec. 26, 4:-9:00 PM – Cornerstones SS Class party in FH

Wednesday, Dec. 27, 7:00 PM – Prayer Meeting

Friday, Dec. 29, 5-8:00 PM – Ray & Dar Yoder reception in FH

Next Week's Text: Jeremiah 29: 4-14

Looking Ahead:

December 31 - Keith Weaver, Lancaster Conf. Moderator, here

January 21 - Pulpit Exchange (Sherman Stoltzfus here)

February 11 - Ministerial Team Retreat at John Rheams at 4:00

February 25 - Music Sunday

Prayer Concerns:

- ◆ Our two church families to be praying for this week: Rod, Sue, Veru & Regan Farrell and John & Dorothy Yoder

Senior Birthdays This Week

Earl Yoder December 27

Nancy Byler December 30

Thank You: The bookmark in your mailbox is a very small token of our appreciation to you for the love and concern and support you have shown us this past year. There is one per family and for any young adults living in the same household. There are a few extra under the mailboxes if you want/need another one. God bless you with His love and presence at Christmas and in the coming year.

Our love and prayers – Alan & Nancy Kauffman

We want to **thank** everyone for the prayers and support that has been given to us over the last few months. The love and support has been positively overwhelming. Thank you again and God bless each and every one of you.

Richard & Pat Byler

Thank you to all of you for the generous gifts you provided in 2017 to purchase inspirational books for Congolese children and youth attending Mennonite schools in the Democratic Republic of Congo. We deeply appreciate your willingness to provide these spiritually encouraging books to these young people, many of whom live in difficult circumstances. We trust that these gifts will cause many to grow in Christian faith and practice. Thanks so much for your support! As you bless others, may the Lord bless you all during this Christmas season.

Rod Hollinger-Janzen, AIMM Executive Coordinator

A copy of Alan's revised **covenant** was distributed in mailboxes last Sunday. The congregation will take action on it next Sunday, December 31 during the worship service. Absentee ballots are available in the office.

Meals on Wheels – Maple Grove will be responsible for MOW January 9 & 11 and January 16 & 18.

Reminders:

- Large print bulletins are available upon request from the office.
- Hearing devices are provided for the hearing impaired from the ushers.
- Usher assistance is provided at the elevator each Sunday for those having difficulty with steps.
- Handicap parking spaces are provided at the entrance to the foyer.

Ray and Dar Yoder invite you to their walk-in **wedding reception** on Friday, Dec. 29, in the fellowship hall from 5-8 PM. No gifts requested.

A new **prayer ministry** is starting at Maple Grove in 2 weeks. Beginning on January 7, after the worship service, there will be 2 people available at the front of the auditorium, if you would like to share a prayer request and be prayed for. Our prayer space will be the front, right of the auditorium. The 2 pray-ers for each week will be listed in the bulletin. Initially, this group of pray-ers will primarily be members of the Ministerial Team; but we hope to expand this group as time goes on. If you would like to participate as a pray-er, let Alan Kauffman know. Your requests for prayer do not have to be “big” requests. You do not even have to name your request if you are not ready to do so. You can simply ask for prayer for something in your life you are not yet ready to share. The pray-ers will not share what you share with anybody else, unless you request that they do. We are hopeful this will provide a greater opportunity for attenders at Maple Grove to leave worship, having been cared and prayed for.

2018 Church Birthday/Anniversary calendars are available under the mailboxes. Help yourself!

It's that time of year again for **library book/video reminders**. Please fill out the paper in your mailbox if you got one and let me know if you still have the book/video by Jan. 14. Thank you!

Amber Penepacker

Calling all **quilters** from beginner to expert! Quilting for the annual BMS Auction will be held Jan. 22-26 & Jan. 29-February 2, 8 am - 3 pm, at Oakwood Centre at Valley View. If you have a quilt top to donate for quilting, please contact Juli Sunderland ([814-667-2511](tel:814-667-2511)), Jewel Peachey ([717-667-9308](tel:717-667-9308)) or Michelle Byler ([717-935-5485](tel:717-935-5485)).

Next Sunday is the last day to donate **mittens and gloves** for our tree in the foyer. They will be donated to Shelter Services.