

Maple Leaves

April 2026

Maple Grove Community Church of New Paris
20430 County Road 46
New Paris, IN 46553
574-831-4421

Website: www.maplegrovechurch.net



Maundy Thursday

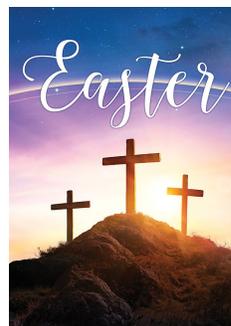
On Thursday, April 2nd at 6:30 pm we will have Love Feast, Communion and Feet Washing here at Maple Grove. It is truly a special night of



remembering what Jesus Christ sacrificed for us and told us to do in remembrance of Him. If you have never experienced this service, please come. If you are afraid of the feet washing, just come and watch. Childcare will be provided.

Let us pray for:

Maple Grove Community Church
Pastor Dwayne and Karen Runkle
Assoc. Pastor Brent and Erin Berkeypile
Karen Dickison
Stan & Nancy Godfrey
Jim & Phyllis Kirkdorffer
Mike Overpeck
Julie Yoder
Steve Yoder
Wayne Yoder
Those that have lost a spouse
Our Youth & Children
Andy Smith & Gavin Erb (serving our country)
Fairfield Food Pantry
Camp Mack (Staff & Volunteers)
Kid's Alive Ministry (Orphans)
Missionaries:
Erica Simone (SonSet Solutions)
Mike & Tara Overpeck (Elkhart Co.)
Chris & Stefanie Hohm (Tanzania)
Dave Farris (Brazil)
World Missionary Press
Destiny Rescue



Sunrise Service

You are invited to attend the Sunrise Service at Bethany Community Church at 7:00 am Easter morning. Come and celebrate the Risen Lord together. (Breakfast will be served after the service.)

Easter Egg Hunt

On Easter Sunday we will release Sunday School at about 9:45 am so the children can do their annual Easter Egg Hunt!

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 AM
SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:00 AM

Pastor Dwayne Runkle

Cell Phone: 574-238-1505

Email: dwaynerunkle@gmail.com

“Happy Easter”

Easter is early April this year. April 5th to be exact. As I personally think of Easter, the memories come flooding in. Early on in my childhood, I knew the story of what Easter was all about, but to be honest, I really didn't understand it all. For me, it was more about the Easter Bunny and the candy. I enjoyed getting presents like we did at Christmas, not as many though. On Easter morning we would go to church, even though we didn't do much throughout the year. Mom would always dress us up in a nice outfit, and a little hat to go with it.

By the time I reached my early teens, I started to understand more about Easter and its real meaning. Before that I had the head knowledge, but didn't put my faith in the resurrected Christ. It wasn't until around 16 or 17 years of age until I put my trust and faith in Jesus, my Lord and Savior. I now know the resurrection was real.

Billy Graham once said this; “If I were an enemy of Christianity, I would aim right at the resurrection, because that's the heart of Christianity.” If we don't believe that Jesus arose from the grave, then our faith is void. Without the resurrection we have no hope! We're dead in our sins.

The resurrection is why you're reading this Newsletter. Your reading it because you're a regular attendee or member of our church. That means you more than likely believe in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. You know that the grave is not the end for you. Actually it is just the beginning of our eternal life. We can believe all this because of the resurrection.

Scripture assures us that we're going home (Heaven) someday. We're going to meet our resurrected Savior (Jesus) face to face. Not only Jesus, but all our loved ones that confessed Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Once we arrive at the gates of Heaven, our sin record will be sealed and stamped, “Paid in full.” Why? Because of the resurrection. We know the winner was revealed on that resurrection morning, what we all call Easter.

I don't know about you, but when I watch a game where my favorite team is playing, I get nervous and am on edge so to speak. But when I watch that same game, knowing that my team won, I can just sit back and relax because I know the outcome.

As Christians, we know the outcome! We know that we win in the end. Death has been defeated once and for all. This is the best news ever! When Mary Magdalene found this out and told the apostles. *“It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles”* (Luke 24:10). Jesus commands us to do the same thing. *“Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit”* (Matthew 28:19). The early church did this well. In the Book of Acts it says this; *“Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Christ.”* (Acts 5:42).

You see, Resurrection Sunday, what we call Easter, changed everything. Who will you share this Good News with?

Happy Easter to you all!

Pastor Dwayne

Associate Pastor
Brent Berkeypile

Cell Phone: 574-529-1775

Email: bberkeypile@maplegrovechurch.net

The Cross Foretold: Psalm 22 and the Crucifixion

As we approach Easter, we are reminded that the cross of Jesus Christ was not an accident—it was foretold long before it happened. One of the clearest places we see this is in Psalm 22.

Psalm 22 begins with the anguished cry, “My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?”—the very words Jesus spoke on the cross (Matthew 27:46). As the psalm continues, the details become unmistakable: mocking onlookers, pierced hands and feet, and soldiers casting lots for clothing (see John 19:23–24).

Written by David in deep anguish and sorrow, this psalm begins in suffering—yet it does not stay there. It ends in confidence, praise, and victory, declaring that all nations will turn to the Lord. In the same way, what seemed like defeat at the cross became the means of salvation for the world.

This connection ^{strengthens} our faith: God keeps His Word, and His plan was unfolding all along. As you read Psalm 22 this season, reflect on both the depth of suffering and the certainty of victory found in Christ.

I challenge you to dig into Psalm 22 and study the amazing vision David had about the coming Messiah.

Psalm 22

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning? ²O my God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer, by night, and am not silent.

³Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One; you are the praise of Israel. ⁴In you our fathers put their trust; they trusted and you delivered them.

⁵They cried to you and were saved; in you they trusted and were not disappointed.

⁶But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by men and despised by the people. ⁷All who see

me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads: ⁸He trusts in the Lord; let the Lord rescue him. Let him deliver him, since he delights in him.” ⁹Yet you brought me out of the womb; you made me trust in you even at my mother’s breast. ¹⁰From birth I was cast upon you; from my mother’s womb you have been my God. ¹¹Do not be far from me, for trouble is near and there is no one to help.

¹²Many bulls surround me; strong bulls of Bashan encircle me. ¹³Roaring lions tearing their prey open their mouths wide against me. ¹⁴I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint. My heart has turned to wax; it has melted away within me. ¹⁵My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; you lay me in the dust of death. ¹⁶Dogs have surrounded me; a band of evil men has encircled me, they have pierced my hands and my feet. ¹⁷I can count all my bones; people stare and gloat over me. ¹⁸They divide my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing.

¹⁹But you, O Lord, be not far off; O my Strength, come quickly to help me. ²⁰Deliver my life from the sword, my precious life from the power of the dogs. ²¹Rescue me from the mouth of the lions; save me from the horns of the wild oxen.

²²I will declare your name to my brothers; in the congregation I will praise you. ²³You who fear the Lord, praise him! All you descendants of Jacob, honor him! Revere him, all you descendants of Israel! ²⁴For he has not despised or disdained the suffering of the afflicted one; he has not hidden his face from him but has listened to his cry for help.

²⁵From you comes the theme of my praise in the great assembly; before those who fear you will I fulfill my vows. ²⁶The poor will eat and be satisfied; they who seek the Lord will praise him—may your hearts live forever! ²⁷All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations will bow down before him, ²⁸for dominion belongs to the Lord and he rules over the nations.

²⁹All the rich of the earth will feast and worship; all who go down to the dust will kneel before him—those who cannot keep themselves alive.

³⁰Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord. ³¹They will proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn— for he has done it.

Worship Schedule

April 5- EASTER CELEBRATION!!!

April 12- We begin our new series "40 Days after Jesus' Death" with the celebration of baptisms!!!

April 19- The Worship team will sing the beautiful old hymn... "Softly and Tenderly" as we hear a message on "Recognized by His Word."

April 26- Madison Keck will sing "Abide" as Pastor Dwayne shares about "Abiding with Us".

Men

Bible in the Barn will be on April 23rd at 6:30 pm, the place will be announced as it gets closer. No Men's breakfast this month, but we plan on having one in May.

A Note from the Librarian

As much as we hate to make this announcement we will be dissolving the church library. All books will be available for church members to take as you please through the end of April. The remaining books will be donated locally.

Evangelism Challenge

For the challenge this month we are doing little gift bags for bus drivers. Please bring small snacks (sweet, salty, gum) and cards of appreciation. There are 83 bus drivers that we are supporting. Please drop off donations by April 19th. We are also sponsoring "A Evening of Worship" on Sun., April 26th at 6:00 pm here at MG. Mark your calendars and come join us.

Outreach Opportunities

Fairfield Food Pantry:

We will be collecting food for the Fairfield Food Pantry on April 5th. They are in need of **dish soap, chicken ramen noodles, and Hamburger Helper**. Please place your donations in the shopping cart as you enter the sanctuary.

Two Cents Worth Offering:

The children will be taking up the Two Cents Worth Offering the first Sunday in April. The money collected goes toward our sponsored children: Mackline Mude from Kenya and Alim Mollah from Bangladesh.

Thanks for giving to those in need!

Worship Nursery Workers:

April 5 Lauren & Reagann Carrick

April 12 Linda & Brian Snider

April 19 Crystal Dunlap & Lana Cripe

April 26 Jeanie Stuckman & Marla Snider

Preschool Children's Church:

April 5 Crystal & Michael Dunlap

April 12 Liv Cripe & Vicki Becker

April 19 Leah Herschberger & Chloe Cripe

April 26 Jessica & Derek Gilreath

Sister's In Christ

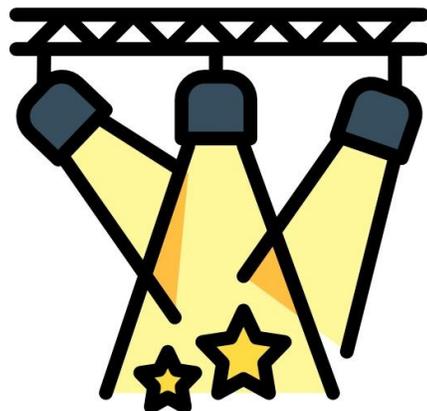
Mark your calendar we are having another Mingo Night on Thursday, April 23rd at 6:30 pm here at Maple Grove. Mingo is music bingo, we play the start of a song and you guess the title, then mark your card. Join us for snacks, prizes and a fun time!

On May 9th, at 10 AM we will have our annual Spring Tea at *The Stables*. The theme is "Fruits and Gifts of the Holy Spirit". Ladies/girls invite your friends and family to this inspiring event. There will be a sign up sheet on the Welcome Center soon.

Birthday's & Anniversary's

3	Paxton Garner
5	Brad Morehouse
5	Mike Morehouse
6	Sadie Rensberger
7	Janelle Herschberger
11	Brent & Tonda Carrick, 1981
13	Derek Cripe
13	Kenny Neff
17	Marilyn Yoder
21	Chloe Cripe
22	Graham Stilwell
23	Landon Russell
24	Erin Berkeypile
24	Jazmyne Houston
26	Dwayne & Karen Runkle, 1980
26	Elise Berkeypile
28	Sophia Gilreath

Maple Grove Spotlight!



Eva Miller

Eva grew up on Georgia Road in Goshen in a one bedroom house with no running water and an outside bathroom. She had one sister, and three brothers. Eva and Delbert have one daughter and three sons, seven grandchildren, fourteen great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

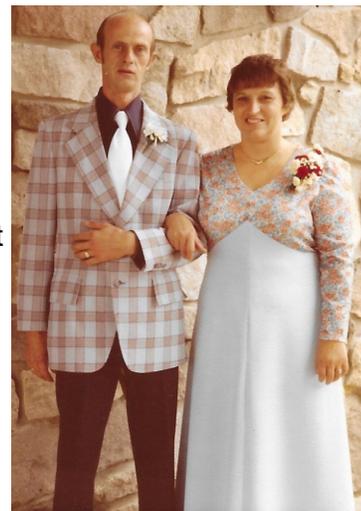
Eva worked at Pringles Processing Plant, Pringles Veterinary, AW Root Beer Stand (as car hop), National Food Store, Krogers, Greencroft (housekeeping), Burger Dairy (cleaning offices and helped in the ice cream dept.) then at Goshen Community Schools for 23 years as a cook.

Eva attended Model School for 8 years and 4 years at Goshen High School. She played softball for three years. She also raced cars at the New Paris Race Track



The Evangelism Committee has decided to put a spotlight on someone in our congregation each month in hopes to get to know our congregation better. So here we go!

Delbert & Eva 1977



with Delbert. We loved the outdoors. We went camping at Grandview Bend in Howe, IN. We also loved to go mushroom hunting. Delbert loved to go hunting, watch racing, football and basketball. I also like to read my Bible and listen to music on the radio.

I love Maple Grove Church because we believe the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. I love the fellowship, Bible Study, prayer, music, worship, outreach, children's activities and helping one another. I've been attending Maple Grove for 69 years.

The Stoner's

Cory is married to Richele and they have four kids: Luke, age 10, Sam, age 8, Cole, age 7 and Caroline, age 3.

Cory works as a teacher and coach at Fairfield High School. He teaches US and World History and coaches the Fairfield Football team. We love to relax on the beach in Florida as a family. We also enjoy being outdoors, exploring and playing sports. Our ministry as a family is loving and supporting Fairfield students and athletes.

Our favorite part about Maple Grove is the friendly people and can clearly see everyone living out Christ in their lives.



April 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Worship Greeters: Kyle & Lauren Carrick			1 Pastor Dwayne on vacation	2 6:30 pm Love Feast & Communion Pastor Dwayne on vacation	3 Good Friday Pastor Dwayne on vacation	4
5 Easter 7 am Sunrise Service @ Bethany Comm. Church 9:45 am Egg Hunt Two Cents Worth Offering Food Pantry Collection	6	7	8 9:30 am JTMA Mtg. at Bethany	9	10	11
12 Baptism's & Receiving New Members	13 9:30 am Children's Ministry Mtg.	14	15	16	17	18
19 Bring bus driver gifts Gideon's will share during worship HS Youth Progressive Supper	20 Newsletter Articles Due	21	22	23 6:30 pm Sister's In Christ 6:30 pm Bible in the Barn	24	25
26 6:00 pm An Evening of Worship	27	28	29	30		

Summer Camp Scholarships

Children's Ministry sets aside money for Christian summer camp scholarships for children. We have a list of preapproved camps on the Welcome Center and applications that can be turned in to Tonda or Tricia by April 31st. Let us know if you have any questions.

The Passion

Presented by 3:16 Community Theatre will perform at Mt. Tabor Church of God March 27, 28, 29, Apr. 3 & 4
See poster on Welcome Center for more details.

Thank You!!!

We really appreciate all the volunteers we had for *Rooted* this last year. We couldn't have done it without YOU! Our prayer is that the kids we serve are getting ROOTED in the love of Christ. Ask the kids what they've seen, tasted, heard, felt, smelled that reminds them of the Easter story.

Ephesians 3:17-18 I pray that you, being *Rooted* and established in love, may have power to grasp how wide and long and how high and deep is the love of Christ.



Our vision at the Maple Grove Community Church is to train an equip believers to reach the unsaved by sharing the Gospel with children, youth and young adults in our church, community and the world; to mentor and train them by using multiple generations; to make disciples and enable them to disciple others; and to baptize them and teach them to obey the commands of Christ in their daily lives.



20430 CR 46
New Paris, IN 46553

The Mission of Maple Grove Church:
"To nurture the spiritual growth of our congregation,
empowering us to share with others the hope of Jesus Christ."