



# Maple Leaves

March 2025

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

Website: [www.maplegrovechurch.net](http://www.maplegrovechurch.net)

## *Let us pray for:*

Maple Grove Church Family  
Pastor Dwayne and Karen Runkle (arm)  
Bayla Baker  
Maynard Hartsough  
Heather Houston  
Josh & Andrea Keck  
Jim & Phyllis Kirkdorffer  
John Kirkdorffer  
Mike Overpeck  
Scott Sanchez family  
Kim Wilfong  
Julie Yoder  
Our Widow Ladies  
Our Youth & Children  
Revival:Gather25  
Andy Smith, Alex Becker & Gavin Erb  
(serving our country)  
Fairfield Food Pantry  
Camp Mack (Staff & Volunteers)  
Kid's Alive Ministry (Orphans)  
Missionaries:  
Erica Simone (SonSet Solutions)  
Alan & Cheri Shea ((Liberia)  
Mike & Tara Overpeck (Elkhart Co.)  
Chris & Stefanie Hohm (Tanzania)

## *Congratulations!*

Henry Stephen is the perfect little tie breaker for the Stillwell family. He was born on January 31st and weighed in at 7 lbs. 14 oz.



Congratulations Quin and Tricia, and Easton, Lola, Graham and Paisley, and Grandma Julie Nankervous as well.

## *Thank You's*

I want to thank each and every one of you for the cards, food, and visits as I recover from my fractured arm. I love you all and your kindness means so much to me!

Karen Runkle

Maple Grove,

Thank you for your generous donation to the Elkhart Country Jail Ministry. I hope you all had a good Christmas & New Year!

Peace,  
Cory

Thank you very much for your continued support of the Fairfield Pantry with your monthly food drives. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Sincerely,

Melissa Yoder  
Pantry Board Chairperson

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:00 AM

WEDNESDAY EVE. ACTIVITIES 6:30 PM

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 6:30 PM

# Pastor Dwayne Runkle

Cell Phone: 574-238-1505

**NEW!** Email: dwaynerunkle@gmail.com

## “Coffee Time”

When I was a child growing up, I remember my parents and grandparents, and to be honest almost all my adult relatives drank coffee. Going to high school football games on a Friday night was not uncommon. Most of the time I would get money from one of my parents and treat myself to a soda (pop here in Indiana). You see it was rare that we got the opportunity to drink soda, so this was a treat for sure. Every now and again I would get a nice warm hot chocolate while the adult with me would drink coffee. I think it was my Uncle Dean (Yeagle) Markel that offered me a drink of his coffee. Being cold at the football games most of the time it was nice to have something warm. My uncle asked me if I would like to take a sip of his coffee. It smelled really good, but back then we were told by all our adult relatives and parents that coffee was not meant to be consumed by children, so naturally I stayed away from it. But trying it for the first time at the football game, I have to be honest, that first taste did not leave a good impression on me. It was the bitterest stuff I'd ever tasted, and it was many, many years before I tried it again. I thought to myself, how could anyone like coffee? The fact of the matter is, it wasn't until I was 29 years old when I started a new job working for a Township. All the guys would drink coffee in the morning at the shop and then we'd stop during the morning break and get some more coffee. I started to like it, and it became the beverage of my choice, especially in the mornings. Since then, I've made up for lost time and now look forward to drinking at least one cup in the morning if not two. As I start my starter fluid so-to-speak, I've often thought about how simple and basic coffee is. Ordinary clear water is completely transformed as it percolates through the grounds and comes out rich, dark, and fully flavored. Although it's still the same water that went in, it has been significantly altered by the experience. Not only does it look different, but its brief time in the filter basket had changed the way it smells and tastes and it will now affect our bodies in ways it could not have before.

Simple percolation changes a virtually free cup of tap water into a \$3.00 morning delight. It's still the same water, yet very different because of its exposure to the fragments of brown beans grown on some faraway hillside.

The process of change is much like our thoughts when we pass them through God's Word. Our minds generate a steady stream of these each day. Most are average run-of-the-mill ideas that aren't worth much by themselves and may even cause bad results.

But when we pass them through the Word of God, however, and they come in contact with His powerful truth, they become richer and fuller and can change the world around us in positive ways.

Like coffee, the more time we spend in God's Word, the greater the impact it will have on us. Daily devotions give us that opportunity to sit in God's filter and allow our thoughts, emotions, dreams ambitions, hurt and desires to all percolate through the Scripture. As they do so, they are radically transformed into something that looks, smells, and tastes much better than before and they then, like coffee, can affect change in those with whom we interact!

In Psalms 34:8, David invites us to, "Taste and see that the Lord is good."

Pastor Dwayne

*Would you like to be baptized or become a member of Maple Grove Community Church?*

Please see or contact Pastor Dwayne if you are interested. We will be having a baptism service in the next month.

## *Worship Schedule*

March 2- We will be continuing our GATHER 25 for the morning worship service!!

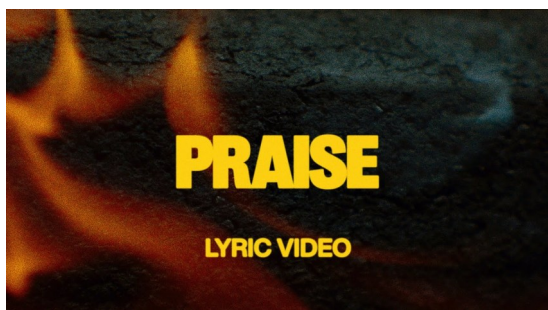
March 9- LENT SERIES- Begins today with a message entitled "God's Desire for Pure Worship" along with our Maple Grove Homecoming Singing.

March 16- Erica Simone will be our Guest Speaker of the day and the Maple Leaves will be helping lead worship and introducing our new song of the month- "PRAISE"!!!

March 23- Evan Byler will share the song "Cornerstone" as we take a look at "The Question of Authority" from Luke 20.

March 30- YOUTH SUNDAY with the youth groups leading our service!!

## *New Song of the Month*



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=raFnjGVkHe8>

## *Outreach Opportunities*

### **Fairfield Food Pantry:**

We will be collecting food for the Fairfield Food Pantry on March 2. They are in need of **cereal and corn!** 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 March. The money collected goes toward our sponsored children: Mackline from Kenya and Alim Mollah from Bangladesh.

Thanks for giving to those in need!

## *Worship Nursery Workers:*

- Mar. 2 Lauren Carrick & Leah Herschberger
- Mar. 9 Brian & Linda Snider
- Mar. 16 Crystal Dunlap & Julie Nankervis
- Mar. 23 Jeanie Stuckman & Marla Snider
- Mar. 30 Brian & Linda Snider

## *Kid's Stuff Volunteers:*

- Mar. 2 Crystal & Michael Dunlap
- Mar. 9 Krista Runkle & Madison Keck
- Mar. 16 Tricia Stilwell & Vicki Becker
- Mar. 23 Jessica & Derek Gilreath
- Mar. 30 Jessie Kreider & Tonda Carrick

## *Sister's In Christ*

Join us on March 27th at 6:30 pm at Maple Grove for a night of MINGO! We will be playing music bingo, with music (songs) instead of numbers. We will have fun, fellowship, food and prizes!

## *Men's Bible in the Barn*

We will have our *Bible in the Barn* on Thursday, March 20 at 6:30 pm at Jason Becker's shop down on US 6 in Ligonier. Bring your Bible and a lawn chair.

## *Evangelism Challenge*

This month we are getting around a Sunshine Box for Bayla Baker. We will also be collecting items for a couple of families through the food pantry. More details will be coming.

## *Evening of Worship*

Come join us for a night of worshipping together on Sunday, March 30th at 6:00 pm. There is a box on the Welcome Center for you to put song requests in for us to sing that evening or on Sunday mornings.

## *MG Board Minutes*

If you would like a copy of the church board minutes, they are available upon request. Please see Krista Runkle.

## *Birthday's & Anniversary's*

- 1 Marla Snider
- 3 Adam Herschberger
- 8 Nancy Yoder
- 9 Jason and Vicki Becker, 1996
- 11 Steve Yoder
- 15 Cristina Keck
- 16 Tyler Runkle
- 20 Charlee Herschberger
- 22 Tonda Carrick
- 22 Jackson Keck
- 26 Andy & Kristen Smith, 2022
- 27 Paisley Stilwell
- 27 Sue Wilfong
- 28 Ross Anderson
- 31 Derek & Heather Cripe, 2005

## *From the Librarian*

Title: The Sin Bearer

Authors: Tom Taylor

I liked this book the minute I opened the pages. The pages are yellowed around the edges. And I immediately wanted a fire place and a cup of coffee.

The author knows about ships of Paul's time and what it takes to sail them on the Mediterranean Sea. He knows enough that I felt I was there with the characters. I was tossed and splashed by every wave.

The story was a telling of "what if". What it might have been like on the ship that carried the apostle Paul to Rome. And "what if" as the ship was wrecking with Paul confined below deck. I could feel the ship rolling in the storm and braking apart.

I also experienced what the relationship between a Jewish Captain and a Roman Centurion would be like. The Centurion was aboard to guard Paul. He didn't like sailing and he hated Jews.

The story was as exciting as any action movie. I only have one bone to pick with the author. The ending is hokey, the captain got the girl. The redeeming quality is that Paul converted the captain, his girl and the Centurion to believe in "Jesus Christos".

Linda Myers

Friends and Family,

Paul reminds us in 1 Cor. 13:13, "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."

As we look back over the past year, we are being careful not to dwell on the disappointments. We are choosing to see the work of God in our lives and our ministry.

Paul's words ring true for us when we take the time to reflect and appreciate. As our faith was being stretched again, we were able to encourage those we were ministering to. We reminded them we all need to trust God more for the challenges we face.

Throughout the year as we were holding on to hope in our darkest times with one hand, we were trying to share hope with our other hand.

We have received such an outpouring of love from you all. God's timing continues to be perfect; just when we need love the most one of you sends a note, a card or a text. Your love and support encourages us to keep going. Because we have felt loved, we were able to share love with others.

Most days we feel God's love right here with us which gives us the courage to say yes to the ministry He has called us to. As far as faith and hope, never have we been in greater need than we are right now. We ask God daily for more of both.

Thank you for your love and support. Keep praying for a miracle.

Mike and Tara Overpeck

One Community

## *Looking ahead*

April 18 Good Friday

April 20 Easter

## *April Newsletter Articles*

Please have your articles turned into Tonda by March 24th. You may email articles to [carrick@bnin.net](mailto:carrick@bnin.net) or text them to 574-596-6657. Thanks!



# Gather<sup>TM</sup> 25

February 28-March 2 at Maple Grove Community Church

Friday, February 28

6 - 7:30 PM All Church Carry-in dinner

8 PM- 12AM: United States (childcare provided)

Saturday, March 1

12 AM - 3 AM: New Zealand

5 AM- 8 AM: Malaysia

Breakfast available

8 AM – 11 AM: Romania

Lunch available

11 AM – 2 PM: Rwanda

2 PM – 5 PM: United Kingdom (childcare provided)

All church catered dinner

6 PM – 9 PM: Peru

Sunday, March 2

Pastor Dwayne/During Worship

\*Persecuted church: TBD

# March 2025

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

							1 Revival Gather 25 (see attached schedule)
2 Revival—during worship Two Cents Worth Offering Food Pantry Collection	3	4	5 6:30-7:30 Bible Study 6:30-8:00 Wed Eve Activities	6	7	8	
9 Time Change	10	11	12 9:30 JTMA Mtg at MG 6:30-7:30 Bible Study 6:30-8:00 Wed Eve Activities	13	14	15 Pastor Dwayne on vacation	
16 Guest Speaker Pastor Dwayne on vacation	17	18 Pastor Dwayne on vacation	19 Pastor Dwayne on vaca 6:30-7:30 Bible Study 6:30-8:00 Wed Eve Activities	20 6:30 pm Men's Bible in the Barn at Jason Becker's shop	21 Pastor Dwayne on vacation	22 Pastor Dwayne on vacation	
23 5 pm Sr. High Youth Group "Red Carpet Evening"	24	25	26 Pastor's Breakfast 6:30-7:30 Bible Study 6:30-8:00 Wed Eve Activities	27 6:30 pm Sister's in Christ	28	29	
30 6 pm "Evening or Worship"	31						

# *Wednesday Evening Children's Activities*

We are wrapping up our Soar series and finishing up our Wednesday Evening Activities with the Upside Down series. Our Wednesday Evening Activities will be done the end of March and we will start back up in September.

Mar. 5	Fear of Flying (Sea of Galilee)	Luke 8:22-25, Jesus Calms the Storm
Mar. 12	Safe Landing (Golgotha)	Mark 15:20-39, The Death of Jesus
Mar. 19	The Least Gives the Most	Luke 21:1-4, The Widow's Offering
Mar. 26	Lose to Save	Mark 8:34-38, The Way of the Cross

Reminder: If Fairfield Schools close on a Wednesday because of bad weather, we will cancel our Wednesday Evening Activities for the night.

Our vision at the Maple Grove Community Church is to train and 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.

Maple Grove Community Church of New Paris  
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."