



Maple Leaves

November 2025

Maple Grove Community Church of New Paris
20430 County Road 46
New Paris, IN 46553
574-831-4421
Website: www.maplegrovechurch.net

Let us pray for:

Maple Grove Church Family
Pastor Dwayne and Karen Runkle
Annette Berkey
Jim Kirkdorffer
Mike Overpeck
Troy Runkle
Betty Stutsman
Jerry Stutzman
Julie Yoder
Steve Yoder
Those that have lost a spouse
Our Widow Ladies
Our Youth & Children
Andy Smith & Gavin Erb (serving our country)
Our New Sunday School Class
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)
World Missionary Press
Destiny Rescue

New Member

Olivia Cripe became a member of Maple Grove Community Church on October 5th. We are glad that Liv decided to become a part of the family!

Associate Pastor



On October 12th, Brent Berkepile was voted in as our Associate Pastor here at Maple Grove Community Church. This position will take affect the first of January. Brent will work part time with Pastor

Dwayne, learning the different roles of a pastor and will eventually become full time. Congratulations Brent, we are excited to see what God has planned for your future at Maple Grove.

Council Meeting

On November 9th we will have our Maple Grove annual Council Meeting following worship. If you are a member, please plan to attend.

Pastor Dwayne Runkle

Cell Phone: 574-238-1505

Email: dwaynerunkle@gmail.com

"My Journey"

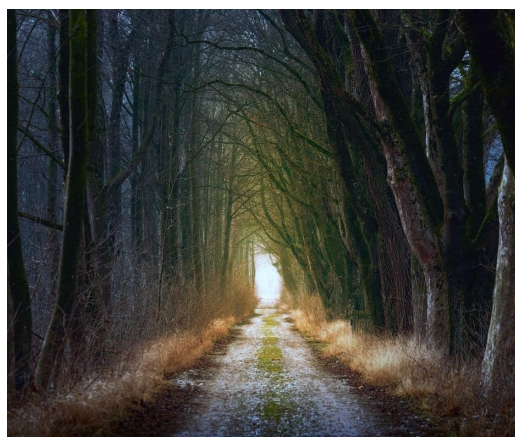
We all have a journey in life. We all have taken different roads to get to where we are now. I'll give you a little picture of my journey after graduation from High school. The year was 1978 as I went right into the workforce. I started out working for an industrial flooring company for about nine months and then left to work at a small cabinetry shop for about three months. The pay was not the best there so I took a job at the York Casket Company for ten years. After leaving the Casket Company I went to work for a Township. I basically started as a ditch digger repairing sewer lines. I bid on a job from within after a year and worked as a lab technician for a while. Then was promoted to a Pretreatment technician to eventually ending up being the Plant Superintendent. I was there at the Township for fourteen years, all the while I was taking classes for my job and for ministry.

The year was 1995, as I was "called" to the ministry at Pleasant View Church of the Brethren. In other words, my ministerial portfolio began. This "call" added to my prior portfolio of life. I was licensed to the ministry shortly after this "calling" and ordained three years later after completing the required ministerial classes for ordination. The last seven years that I was at the Township, I was pastoring part time at Pleasant View. After much prayer and conversations with my wife Karen we felt "called" to go full time into ministry. We just finished a Pastor's conference in Gettysburg, PA. As we were driving home, Karen asked me what I thought of going into full-time ministry. Again, we prayed and discerned and felt this is what God wanted us to do. So we started the journey by doing all the paperwork required to make this happen. Our profile literally went throughout all the districts of the Church of the Brethren, which included most of the United States. We were willing to go where God took us. I had done four interviews, all four were intentional, just to make sure we were going where God wanted us to go. All four ended up asking us to be their next pastor. The first one was in Virginia real close to my daughter Angie's college. Understand that she was a Freshman at the time and played on the volleyball team at

Bridgewater College. She was a starter and the church was only a half hour away. We could have made most of her games. Wow, we thought this was the one. The other two churches were in PA. One was an hour away from our home, but we knew after the interview that this was not a good fit for us. The other one in PA was two and a half hours away but really felt good. Most of you know that I like to hunt deer. The church board chair told me that the former pastor would hunt from the deck of the parsonage and got many deer. A stream flowed right behind the parsonage as it sat at the base of the mountain. Wow, life was good, I love to hunt and do ministry and it was all there for me to do. Wow, was this the one? We thought for sure it was. Our last interview was set up to come to Maple Grove. To be honest with you, we both thought we were wasting our time coming. After all, we already knew where we were going to land. But I'm a man of my word and I said we would come to do the interview. After the interview with Maple Grove, we were really confused. It went really well. So we had a decision to make. On the way home from this interview, Karen wrote a list of pro's and con's for each place. After about ten minutes she crumbled up the paper and threw it on the floor and said, "that did no good." Understand, we had until Wednesday of that week to decide because both churches needed an answer. Again, after much prayer and discernment, we felt God clearly calling us to Maple Grove and we have never looked back. For twenty-two years plus we have been truly blessed here at Maple Grove.

Looking back I can see how God orchestrated my journey. Sometimes I didn't understand and the picture was not always clear, but I trusted in the Lord to take the next steps so-to-speak. And I'll trust Him in the next chapter of my life.

Pastor Dwayne



Worship Schedule

November 2 We will continue our MGCC Portfolio Series with a message on "Helping Each Other" and the Young Girl's Group will sing "Hey Girl!"

November 9 Jessie Kreider will sing "In Jesus Name" as we take a look at "Looking for God" from Acts 4.

November 16 "A Great Future" is the title of this week's message and the Kirkdorffer Quartet will sing "I Love You This Much".

November 23 Thanksgiving Celebration!

November 30 The Youth will help out with morning worship as we begin the Advent Season with a look at "The Virgin Birth".

Song of the Month

"Trust in God" by Elevation Worship



<https://youtu.be/OaiJVCeAX-4?si=ZZCPNeHuNn9VRzf7>

Outreach Opportunities

Fairfield Food Pantry:

We will be collecting food for the Fairfield Food Pantry on Nov. 2nd. They are in need of **spaghetti sauce, pancake mix and tuna**. 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 November. The money collected goes toward our sponsored children: Mackline Mude from Kenya and Alim Mollah from Bangladesh.

Worship Nursery Workers:

Nov. 2 Lauren & Reagann Carrick

Nov. 9 Andrea & Libby Byler

Nov. 16 Crystal Dunlap & Lana Cripe

Nov. 23 Jeanie Stuckman & Marla Snider

Nov. 30 Lauren & Reagann Carrick

Preschool Children's Church:

Nov. 2 Crystal & Michael Dunlap

Nov. 9 Liv Cripe & Vicki Becker

Nov. 16 Leah Herschberger & Chloe Cripe

Nov. 23 Jessica & Derek Gilreath

Nov. 30 Jessie Kreider & Tonda Carrick

Men

November 1st the men will meet at Tiffany's in Topeka for their monthly breakfast at 7:30 am. Please sign up on the Welcome Center if you plan to attend.

"Bible in the Barn" will be November 20th at 6:30 pm at Mike Morehouse's.

Sister's In Christ

This month we will be doing our annual service project at Starfish Project in Goshen on Sat., Nov. 29th. Starfish Project employs formerly trafficked women so they can experience freedom, and develop careers through their jewelry. We will go to their warehouse to get jewelry boxed up from their Thanksgiving sales. You will also be able to shop for jewelry while you are there. The location is in the Industrial Park at 1010 Eisenhower Dr. S. It will be from 9:00 am to Noon. Please sign up at the Welcome Center if you can come.

Gifts

We would like to collect some gifts to give away during Christmas Trivia as people wait to go through the "Journey through Bethlehem". If you are willing to donate something, please get it to Pam Kirkdorffer. Thanks!

Evangelism

We are planning to serve breakfast to the New Paris Elementary teachers in November. More details will come soon.

Decorating for Christmas

Anyone that is able to help put up Christmas decorations on Tuesday morning, November 25th, would be appreciated. We will meet at 9:00 am.

Reminder, Nov. 2nd



Birthday's & Anniversary's

- 1 Kathy Dallas
- 1 Randy Sizemore
- 4 Shelby Cripe
- 5 Bennett Berkeypile
- 11 Tyler Rensberger
- 11 Brian Snider
- 14 Garry & Melodee Bowlby, 1993
- 15 Heather Cripe
- 16 Ron Cripe
- 16 Steve & Marilyn Yoder, 1958
- 17 Brad & Mia Baker, 2012
- 18 Larry Keck
- 19 Abby Anderson
- 21 Andrea Keck
- 23 Megan Hunter
- 23 Susan Neff
- 30 Macy Morehouse

Breakfast with the Chaplain

You are invited to come learn about the Jail Ministry and hear from one of their friends incarcerated in the Elkhart County Jail. This month it will be on Thursday, November 13th. No cost to attend, and it's not a fundraiser. Please RSVP by contacting Cory at cmartin@ecjailministry.org or call 574-849-1494. Arrive by 8:15 am and you're done at 9:30 am.

December Newsletter Articles

Please have your articles turned into Tonda by November 24th. You may email articles to carrick@bnin.net or text them to 574-596-6657. Thanks!

Next Month...

Dec. 14 6 pm Children's Christmas Program
and Journey through Bethlehem

November 2025

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Worship Greeters: Rich and Julia Brookins	9					1 7:30 am Men's Breakfast at Tiffany's in Topeka
2Two Cents Worth Food Pantry Collection Kek's Small Group meets after worship	3	4	5 6:30-7:30 pm Bible Study 6:30-8:00 pm Rooted Youth to Feed my Starving Children	6	7	8 4:30-6:30 pm Beef & Noodle Supper and Pie Auction
9 Council Mtg. after Wor- ship	10	11	12 9:30 am JTMA Mtg. at MG 6:30-7:30 pm Bible Study 6:30-8:00 pm Rooted	13 Breakfast with the EC Jail Chaplain	14	15
16	17 Pastor Dwayne working from home	18 Pastor Dwayne working from home	19 Pastor Dwayne working @ home 6:30-7:30 pm Bible Study 6:30-8:00 pm Rooted	20 6:30 pm Men's Bible in the Barn Pastor Dwayne working from home	21	22
23	24 Newsletter articles due Pastor Dwayne on vacation	25 9 am Decorate the church for Christmas Pastor Dwayne on vacation	26 Pastor Dwayne on vacation	27 <i>Thanksgiving</i>	28 Pastor Dwayne on vacation	29 Sister's in Christ 9am @ Starfish Project
30 Youth Sunday						



Sr. High will be serving at “Feed My Starving Children” on November 5th at Nappanee Missionary Church.

The Youth will help with the morning worship on November 30th.

The children are wrapping up our “At the Fair” theme with Joseph this month. We have learned that Joseph had many ups and downs, but in the end God gave him a sweet reward. When we put our trust in God, He will help us through whatever we might face in life.

Nov. 5 Roller Coaster, Gen. 44:1-45:15
Joseph Makes Himself Known

Nov. 12 Take Me to Your Leader, Matt. 14:22-33
Jesus and Peter Walk on Water

Nov. 19 Let's Give Thanks, Acts 27:27-36
Paul is Shipwrecked

Nov. 26 No Rooted this week (Thanksgiving week)

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.

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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.”