

JUNE 2019

The MESSENGER

A publication of Mohawk United Methodist Church

"I thank God every time I remember you..."

FINAL Words Through Woody

I've never really been good at saying, "Good-bye." "Good-bye," seems so final and as brothers and sisters in Christ, we will never be disconnected. We are a family in Christ no matter where we call home. So, as my last "Words," I simply want to thank you for the opportunity to serve with you in the name of Jesus Christ. Thank you for your support and friendship. Thank you for all the love and caring you have expressed to me and Mary Jo. We will always pray for Mohawk United Methodist Church, and I hope you will continue to pray for us in our new chapter of ministry.

As I ponder these last "Words" as your pastor, I realize that we will have completed 7 years of ministry together. That means through this column I have addressed you once a month for 84 months with what is on my heart. It means that for the 84th time, I pray to offer you some spiritual encouragement for your faith journey. And I pray that God has blessed these words with the love in which they have been intended. It also means that Mohawk is not the same Mohawk United Methodist Church to which I was originally appointed. Nor is Pastor Woody the same pastor today as then, for we have all changed for God's best and have grown closer to the Lord as a result of our ministry together.

I simply want to thank you for our years of ministry together. The Thompson family has

been blessed mightily and I pray you have been blessed as well.

As you go forth in unity with Rev. O'Brien, God will continue to do great things! You are a special congregation and will always have a warm place in our hearts. You will always be welcome in our home, where ever it might be, for we will be blessed to forever call you friends.

Some of you have requested we publish our new address. It is:

Rev. Woody & Mary Jo Thompson
1070 West Jefferson Street
Franklin, IN 46131

As the apostle Paul wrote, *"I thank God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the Gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that He who began good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."* (Philippians 1:3-6)

May God continue to bless Mohawk United Methodist as you serve the living Christ.

*In Christ's love,
Pastor Woody &
Mary Jo*

FINANCE Update

The Finance Team reports that the church budget, through the end of April, is falling short by **\$23,496.00**. This does not include the Easter offering for windows.

17 Weeks

Weekly Offering Average	2,455.79
Weekly Budget Required	<u>3,837.88</u>
Variance	(\$ 1,382.10)
YTD Variance	(\$ 23,496.00)



WHY GIVE?

The motivation for giving is love.

Years ago a widow gave her last two coins as an offering to God. Many still wonder what motivated such a sacrificial gift. Surely she did not expect to have her name engraved on a wall or have the street in front of the Temple named in her honor. She clearly did not anticipate her gift would be lifted up as an example for others to follow centuries later. So what motivated her gift? Maybe she was motivated by a heart-felt desire to declare her life had been blessed by a God who had always met her needs. Blessed by a God who loved her first and always. The widow's sacrificial offering was the very best way she knew to express that she loved God first. She would love God always.

Too often the offering is viewed as a time to pay the bills.

Today, many see the offering, as a way for the church to collect money to pay bills and fund ministries. Yet at its very core, the offering is so much more. The offering is the time we are invited to proclaim, through faith, that we love God first. We love Him more than our jobs, our assets, our possessions, our hobbies, and even our families.

The offering is the time we proclaim our trust in God, above all else, as we move into an unknown future.

It is in giving we stay connected to what is really important in life and not allow materialism to define who we are; and it is in giving that we gain a deeper understanding of the depth of sacrificial love God has for us. It is in giving that we grow in our own personal journey as a follower of Jesus. It is in giving we say to God and to the world those simple, yet life-defining words: "I love you first, and I will love you always."

by Dustin Cooper | May 16, 2019

Graduation Open House

Join us in celebrating the graduation of
Kaitlyn Hartzog and Emily Lovins

Saturday, June 22, 2019
2-6 pm

10604 Stillwood Lane, Indianapolis, IN
46239



- 4 Leslie Dalton
- 5 Mike Stanley
- 5 Dean Thompson
- 6 Rhonda Beeker
- 11 Chris Gray
- 13 Emily Creed
- 14 Brad Westcott
- 15 Kennedy Teverbaugh
- 20 Jacob Gray
- 22 Kaci Gillespie
- 23 Bob Bennett
- 23 Diana Hartzog
- 25 Sam Bricker
- 27 Sandy Plank



- 10 Carl & Renee Creed
- 11 Jeff & Michelle Bricker
- 12 DeWayne & Kelly Paugh
- 25 Jennifer & Nathaniel Peyton



Birthday or anniversary missing?

If you know of a birthday or anniversary that has not been featured, please contact the church office so that it can be included in the future! -Also let us know if one should be removed.

Your help is appreciated!

THANK YOU!

Dear Mohawk UMC Family,

I would like to thank all of you for the thoughts, prayers, cards, meals, and well wishes. The last couple of months have been hard, but I'm hopefully on the right path to getting better! I don't know what I would do without all the love and support of my church family. I'm grateful for each and every one of you! Thank you again and please continue to keep me in your thoughts and prayers!

Lots of Love,
Katie Hooker

We would like to thank our church family for the beautiful Lord's Prayer blanket. We are so grateful for all the prayers, cards, and all who visited with Steve at the sad passing of his mother, Claudine Gray.

Blessing to All,
Steve, Chris, Jake Gray

Community Church Service at the Fair

Come worship with us at the Hancock County Fair on Sunday, June 23. Meet us in the Pioneer Building where our service begins at 10:30am.



Pastor Woody is Retiring!

After seven years with us, we will bid farewell to the Thompson's on Sunday, June 30, 2019.

Join us for a pitch-in lunch at 11:30 am following Sunday School.

Help us give them a proper send-off into retirement. A love offering will also be received to honor their ministry with Mohawk.



Bring Dad to Church!

We will be honoring our father's during the 9am Worship Service, Sunday, June 16, 2019. Let's show Dad how much we appreciate him!



Get Ready for VBS!

Vacation Bible School will take place Monday, July 15 through Thursday, July 18, 5:30 - 8 pm. Many workers are needed to make VBS a success. Please consider volunteering. Remember to invite neighbors and friends to attend!

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Mohawk United Methodist Church
2045 W 400 North
Greenfield IN 46140
www.mohawkumc.com



The MESSENGER



Church at the Fair
Sunday, June 23, 2019
10:30am - Pioneer Building