

October 2020

MESSENGER

MOHAWK UMC MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

FROM OUR PASTOR

RIGHT WHERE GOD WANTS US

Living near Chicago all my younger life, I became a Chicago sports fan. I was there when the Bulls won all six of their world championships. It was an incredible run, with Michael Jordan leading the charge.

A significant moment I'll never forget came at halftime, when Coach Phil Jackson spoke to the team. They were behind, and not even close, when they went to the locker room. Coach Jackson looked the team members in the eyes, every one of them an elite and seasoned

professional athlete, and said to them, "We've got them right where we want them!!"

What?!? Coach, you must be crazy!

Yeah, crazy like a fox.

The Chicago Bulls went on to come from

behind. They won the game and they won the world championship.

In our pandemic times, some of us may be wondering what God is doing with Mohawk UMC. What does God want us to do today? What is God preparing us to do tomorrow?

Since I can't see the future any better than anyone else, I need direction and understanding to answer those questions. In Matthew 17:20-21, Jesus says, "*Truly I tell you, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.*"

From those verses, I see that Jesus tells us to remain faithful as we move into the future, and then we - The Church - can face what would otherwise be impossible. He doesn't say this or that will happen. Instead of telling us WHAT will happen, he tells us HOW to face whatever comes: Be faithful. That's a lesson for us all, especially during this pandemic, when everything is so uncertain. It will keep us right where God wants us.

Let's move with God into God's future together by being a faithful church, by being faithful in every situation and need we will face. Together, faithfully, we will make a difference for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus.

Be well and stay safe. God loves you, and so do I.

His,

Pastor Kerry

"Nothing will be impossible for you"

"Be Faithful"

CURRENT GUIDELINES FOR WORSHIP

(To love and care for one another.)

If you are in one or more of the CDC high-risk categories, are or might be ill, or are just not ready to worship in person, you are encouraged to worship online from home at YouTube's *Viral Church Channel* or at our *Drive-In Church* (see below).

IF YOU WORSHIP IN PERSON:

- Masks must be worn at all times in the building.
- Our entire building is appropriately disinfected/cleaned thoroughly each week.
- Our sanctuary, restrooms, and Fellowship Hall are the only rooms open on Sundays. Everything else is closed.
- Sanctuary seating will be from the front to the rear, and dismissal will be from the rear to the front.
- Our Fellowship Hall is an additional worship area. Chairs are six (6) feet apart, though families may pull chairs closer to sit together.
- Our Administrative Council meets every two weeks to review our situation.
- Guideline changes will be made by a vote of the Administrative Council. The changes will be made known by email, Facebook, and announced in worship.

ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO WORSHIP

- “Drive-In Church” (99.9 on FM radio) and live stream of worship (Viral Church Channel) are two alternatives instead of in-person worship.
- For live stream, go to YouTube and find our Viral Church Channel. Look for Live Stream to find current worship services. We typically start streaming live 5-10 minutes before our 9:00am service starts every Sunday.

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BUILDING USAGE CHANGE

Our Trustees took a cautious step forward toward fully reopening. Any Mohawk UMC standing committee or team has the option of holding regularly scheduled meetings by Zoom or in person. If committees choose to meet in person, all persons in the building must wear masks and social distance, as well as follow all other applicable CDC guidelines. We want people to be safe while meeting.

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WILL YOU SERVE... AND GROW?

Will you help work together to keep offering great worship services? We have three specific needs:

- Greeters,
- Song Leader/Liturgist/Acolytes,
- Sound Room techs who will run either our *livestream* or the *sanctuary slides and the sound board*. (You will be trained!) To serve, contact Ashley Schenck or Pastor Kerry, or sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090d4caba923a0fe3-mumc>



2020 CHARGE CONFERENCE: A NEW WAY

Our annual Charge Conference will be held in a new way due to COVID-19 restrictions. Mohawk UMC will be represented in a 3-5 minute video we will put together and submit, showing how we continue to be a missional church this year. Only Pastor Kerry will go in person to submit all of our Charge Conference paperwork. We will upload the video once it is done so all can see it.

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MISSION NEWS

Time to make the pizzas—or at least order pizzas



Missions will be selling pizzas the month of October and be making them

November 7. If you have any questions or want to place an order, please contact Leslie Dalton (317-341-3300). If you need your order delivered, we will provide delivery service. Right now, we will be making them at the church, but a backup location is in place. Please contact Leslie Dalton if you would like to help assemble the pizzas.

Greatway Pizzas has COVID 19 measures in place for those helping. The first \$175 profit will go to funding the third playground bench (see below).

Playground Benches

Good news! We have nearly enough plastic caps for our three benches, but we are still a little short of money needed for the third bench. (Hopefully, we will sell enough pizzas to fill that gap.) So, if you have any caps at home you have been saving, bring them to the church **by the end of October. We will stop collecting caps on November 1.** *Thanks for making this project a success. We only planned on two benches but collected enough for THREE. (WAY TO GO!)*



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SHOEBOXES: We are short a few items on our list for shoebox items. If you have questions about items, call Leslie Dalton (317-341-3300). If you would like to donate instead of shopping, we will be glad to do the shopping for you. Packing party will be **Saturday, November 14th**, so mark your calendars.

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OUR NURSERY IS NOW OPEN

As of October 4, we have reopened our nursery to children through three years old. Since only two adults are allowed in the nursery, parents may bring their children to the nursery

door off the Fellowship Hall. If our scanning thermometer shows their temperature as 100.4o or less, they will be allowed in. Parents can pick up their own children after the service is over. All toys and the whole room will be sanitized weekly.

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VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER

Greeters



10/04/20 Kari Sisk

10/11/20 ?

10/18/20 ?

10/25/20 ?

Song Leader/Liturgist & Acolyte



10/04/20 Myra Williams

10/11/20 Leanne Dix

10/18/20 Myra Williams

10/25/20 ?

AV Room

10/04/20 Mike Stanley & Gail Stanley

10/11/20 ?

10/18/20 Holly Plank & ?

10/25/20 Holly Plank & Myra Williams

Nursery

10/04/20 Ashley Schenck

10/11/20 ?

10/18/20 ?

10/25/20 Leslie Dalton



- 10/1 Carson Bearhope
10/3 Ashley Thompson
10/4 Rick Edwards, Brandon Steeno
10/5 Amy Lovins
10/6 Ann Friar
10/8 Jonathan Lovins, Brenton Plank
10/9 Shiloh McFarland
10/13 Marge Credille
10/15 Channing Bearhope, Aaron Jackson
10/26 Jim Lovins



- 10/14 Mike & Gail Stanley

***NOTE:** If you see anyone missing from either our birthday list or anniversary list, please let Ginger know at officemumc@my9inestart.net or at 317-326-2460. Likewise, if dates are not correct on either list, please tell Ginger. Thank you!*