

The Messenger



JULY 2021

From Our Pastor

SOMETHING BIG IS COMING

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? - Isaiah 43:19a

God is up to something at Mohawk Church.

Although I do not yet know exactly what it is, my spiritual senses are telling me God has been preparing us to do something significant. (Spider Man has his spider sense tingle, and my spiritual senses are tingling, though I'm certainly no superhero!) It could be a big thing or a little thing with big ramifications, or maybe even a series of special things. Whatever will happen, we have to be listening and discerning and preparing and readying for what is to come.

What I do know is that this fall will mark a new "season" for our congregation in both a literal and figurative way. The pandemic has kept many people away from the vital personal connection that Christ's church offers. God has put it upon me to lead us in welcoming people back to church, both in person and online. We need to call one another back to join God's people, to invite those who are already part of Mohawk Church we've been missing as well as those who are not yet part of the family of God at Mohawk.

"Expect great things from God. Attempt great things for God." - William Carey

How are we going to do that? I only know a couple pieces so far. First, we will have some sort of event - maybe the Fall Party, or something else, or maybe even a *few* something else's. Second, I've been moved to scrap my planned fall sermon series for one that calls us back to being a full and complete worshipping community that will be even better than before. So "Coming Back Stronger" will now be our sermon series this September.

Let's all be praying diligently, asking that Jesus will continue to reveal His plans for His church at Mohawk! Let's talk, discern, and plan together, so that we hold events and opportunities to call people to come back to church and to God's presence so that we will become even better than we were before the pandemic. It will need to include both our online worshipers as well as in-person worshipers.

Most importantly in all of this, we need to be obedient to God's call. What God is calling us to, we must respond with the strength and abilities God has already given to us. God is doing God's part; will we do ours? I pray we will be obedient!

"Be prepared" may be the Scout motto, but it's also how we need to be now.

Pastor Kerry



MUMC ADVISORY LEVEL: MODIFIED BLUE

Our Administrative Council voted in May to move to a modified **BLUE** level, so wearing masks and social distancing is now *optional*. Other restrictions were lifted as well. We encourage people who are able to get vaccinated to do so, and ask those who won't be comfortable in the sanctuary with these new guidelines to worship socially distanced in the Fellowship Hall or to worship online. We value you as a worshipping member of Mohawk Church!

Please respect each other's choices for vaccination, mask wearing, and social

distancing. Extend grace to those whose choices may differ from yours. Remember there can be many reasons for each one's choices.

Children entering the Nursery will still be scanned for temperature. (Children with temperatures below 100.4 degrees will be welcome to stay until their parent picks them up.) And we will keep using only the east and west entrances, too.

Let's pray we will soon be past the pandemic. Until then, be safe.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2021

We are having VBS this year! It will be shorter than in the past as we slowly move towards a more "normal" life. We are planning on two mornings, Wednesday and Thursday, July 14 and 15. Plans are to start at 9:00AM and end about 11:00AM. We are using Group Publishing's "Anchored"

curriculum, which is designed to be used in this shorter time frame.

Watch for sign-up sheets, and SIGN UP where you're able. Let's all pull together and make this a great success!



CURRENT OFFICE HOURS

Our new office arrangement has Carri Alexander working remotely from San Antonio, TX, and Carolyn Swinford doing in person what cannot be done remotely. As a rule, Carolyn will be in the office on Thursdays from around 1:30 until about 5:00pm, though there may be a week when it will be another day. (We *highly* recommend you call before coming, 317-326-2460!) Send emails to Carri and Carolyn at officemumc@myninestar.net as always.

If there is a time when you need to get into the building, please call first to make arrangements.

Pastor Kerry will be in the office on Thursday afternoons as well. You can always contact him and set up a time to meet at other times if the need arises.

Thank you for your gracious understanding as we take small steps forward.



SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

There are more opportunities to serve Jesus now that we are worshipping in person. Song leaders and/or Liturgists, Sound room techs, Nursery assistants, and Children’s Church Facilitators are needed each week. Not sure how to do it? Let Pastor Kerry know you need training and he will make arrangements. Sign up in person in the Fellowship Hall on Sundays, or go online any time to our Sign-Up

Genius web page: www.signupgenius.com/go/4090d4caba923a0fe3-mumc
Your church needs your help on Sundays!



BENCH PROJECT COMPLETED

Our final two park benches are here, joining the two already in place. One is by the east entrance and the other one by the west entrance. Thank you to all who donated money and plastic caps for this project. Thanks especially to Leslie Dalton and the Missions Committee for seeing this project through to completion.

NEW SOUND SYSTEM ALMOST DONE

The new sound system is nearly all in. As of this writing, the old system’s main components have already been replaced, and the sound throughout the building is already noticeably better. There is still some more to be done, but the project is very close to completion. Thanks to our Trustees for bringing about this much needed improvement, and especially Mike Schenck for all his hard work researching, sourcing, purchasing, and installing it. Thanks also to the many generous people who gave so we could make this upgrade. Together, we can do big things!

SPRC JULY MEETING RESCHEDULED

Due to Pastor Kerry’s vacation schedule, the SPRC meeting for July has been postponed until August 9. Please mark your calendars!





CHARGE CONFERENCE INFO

Our 2021 Charge Conference (the annual meeting where all the official business of our congregation is done) will be on Saturday, November 13, at 10:00AM at Trinity Park UMC in Greenfield. Committee chairs and church leadership should attend, and all are welcome to come. Be sure to save the date!



- 1 Ryan Cain, Aileen Lewis
- 2 Betsy Bandy
- 3 Kelly Beeker
- 5 Blake Thompson
- 7 Madison Hartzog, Willow Addison
- 10 Brody Cain
- 14 Tim Cain
- 16 Kelly Paugh
- 18 Tammy Bearhope
- 19 Sherry Apple
- 22 Ava Westcott
- 23 Renee Street-Creed
- 25 Nell Mitten
- 30 Lillian Kissel, Josh Musselman

- 16 Caleb & Emily Paugh
- 19 Mike & Ashley Schenck
- 21 Gerald & Michele Phares
- 26 Greg & Melissa Cain

