

# THE MESSENGER



*A Mohawk United Methodist Church Publication*

*[From Our Pastor]*

## THE MERRY, MERRY MONTH OF MAY

There’s a corny old joke that asks, If April showers bring May flowers, what do Mayflowers bring? Answer: Pilgrims!

I told you it was corny.

We’re now in May already. Can it be that summer is just around the corner? This is the month of Mother’s Day, Memorial Day, Race Day, and all our committee meetings. It is also time for a week’s vacation for yours truly.

Like most everyone else, the last year-plus has been taxing on me. I am proud of all we together have done to keep *being* The Church through it all -- to keep connected, to keep worshipping together, etc. It has been grand...but tiring.

Although I intend to take my “main” vacation/adventure over the summer, this is a get-away Lynne, and I were invited to by a cousin of mine. There will be at least two of my cousins and spouses there along with an aunt and uncle. It will be a time to rest, recharge, and reconnect with some family.

A sage wit observed that, “*If we don’t come apart for a while, we’ll come apart after a while.*” I’ve found that to be true. I need regular time to rest, to pray, to renew, to take time apart from my usual routine and

be refreshed. This week away will hopefully allow me to do that.

Christ knew the value of coming apart to rest and renew, too. Many times, in the Gospels, Jesus goes off to pray, and urges others to set apart time for prayer and rest. In Mark 6:31, Jesus says, “*Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.*” Fifteen verses later, Mark 6:46 says, “*After leaving them, He went up on a mountainside to pray.*”

I love and care about you, though of course Jesus loves and cares for you infinitely more. Please watch both your spiritual and physical health. It’s not only a good thing to set aside time to rest and pray, Jesus practiced it Himself, and He urged His followers to do the same. God literally knows you need it.

So, take care and be well -- really and truly!

His,

Pastor Kerry

PS - I’m excited that a good young pastor I’m mentoring will lead our worship service May 30, while I’m on vacation. Be sure you make time to warmly welcome the Reverend Mindie Moore, a very gifted and capable pastor. I’ve been bragging to her about how great you all are, so show her I wasn’t lying. lol!



## WORSHIP OPTIONS AS OF APRIL 8

Our Administrative Council voted April 8 to keep our reopening status at level YELLOW, which coincides with our Hancock County COVID-19 level moving up from Blue to Yellow. Even though we live-stream worship services on our *Viral Church Channel* on YouTube, you may choose to come in person to worship if you feel safe and have no COVID-19 symptoms. Our current sanctuary limit is 45 people seated at social distances, and our Fellowship Hall is the overflow area for worshipers over our 45-person limit. Sunday School classes, Children's Church, and our Nursery resumed as well, also with attendance limits.

We still require everyone in the building to wear masks and keep socially distanced at all times and urge you to do the same even when not at church. And please, keep praying that we will soon be past the pandemic *completely*.

## DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Now that we've reopened our building, you have more opportunities to serve Jesus in your church. Song leaders and/or Liturgists, Sound room techs, Greeters, Nursery assistants, and Children's Church Facilitators are needed each week. Not sure how to do it? Let Pastor Kerry know you need to get trained, and he will arrange that right away. 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/4090d4cab-a923a0fe3-mumc](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090d4cab-a923a0fe3-mumc)

You can grow in your discipleship, and your church needs your discipleship on Sundays. It's a win-win, if you just say "Yes" -- and sign up!



## YOU ASKED FOR IT

Pastor Kerry wants YOUR ideas, questions, and topic suggestions as he plans out our summer sermon series. Our upcoming “You Asked For It” series will use those questions, topics, and ideas to form the basis of each sermon preached over the summer. Do YOU have an idea, a topic, or a question you would like addressed in a sermon this summer? Here’s your chance to make that happen. Be sure to email ([kerry.obrien@inumc.org](mailto:kerry.obrien@inumc.org)) or call or text (574-780-5788) Pastor Kerry right away so he can plan and use your input for an upcoming sermon.



## FLOWER PICK-UP SCHEDULE

If you ordered spring flowers from our Missions Committee, you can pick your flowers up Friday, **May 7** from 5 to 7 pm and Saturday, **May 8** from 9 am to Noon.

## BENCHES BY JUNE

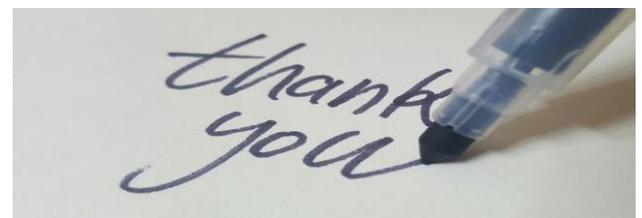
Congratulations! We’ve raised enough funds and collected enough plastic caps for all four park benches. Leslie Dalton reports we are fully funded for the last two benches that will join the two already here. Thanks to all that donated caps and cash along the way. The last two benches will be in place sometime in June.



## SPECIAL OFFERING REPORT

Thanks! Our special “second mile” Easter offering, that will go to the large expenses our Trustees will incur this year, collected over \$2455. That money will go towards replacing/upgrading sound-room equipment, repairing our shelter, our steeple, and other planned repairs. Couple that with our special Christmas offering, and we have over \$5700 already collected to help fund our projects. THANK YOU for your generosity!

~ Mohawk UMC Trustees



## PRAY BEFORE WORSHIP

You are welcome to pray before Sunday worship services for our congregation, the pastor, and our acolytes.

We meet five minutes before the service begins by

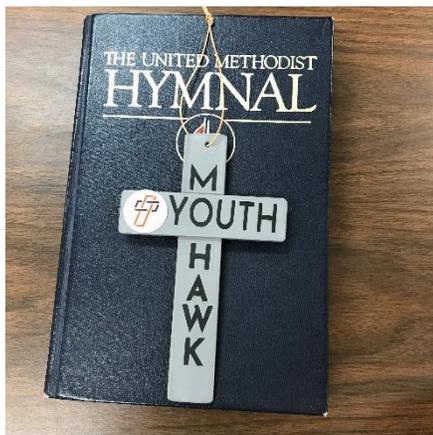


the north sanctuary entrance. If you would like to bless our congregation, pastor, and our acolytes, please join in this brief time of prayer and blessing.



## YOUTH CROSSES FOR SALE

Our Mohawk youth will continue to sell their hand made crosses in the Fellowship Hall after services for \$15 per cross. The money will go to help the youth with future service projects and outings. Thanks in advance for your support.



## MOWERS NEEDED - B.Y.O.M.



Sign up (*Bring Your Own Mower*) to mow from May through September 25. You can sign up in our Fellowship Hall on Sundays or follow the link below to choose a date and to see additional instructions.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050e4baaa729a7fa7-2021>

05/01/2021 (Sat.)	Mowing	AA Armin Apple
05/08/2021 (Sat.)	Mowing	Sign Up <input type="checkbox"/>
05/15/2021 (Sat.)	Mowing	Sign Up <input type="checkbox"/>
05/22/2021 (Sat.)	Mowing	Sign Up <input type="checkbox"/>
05/29/2021 (Sat.)	Mowing	Sign Up <input type="checkbox"/>





- 5/1 Luke Edwards**
- 5/4 Wyatt Schenck**
- 5/5 Kerry O'Brien**
- 5/10 Jan Webb**
- 5/11 Justin Hartzog**
- 5/15 Gail Stanley**
- 5/17 Lincoln McFarland, Nikki Ward**
- 5/19 Jake Musselman, Holly Plank**
- 5/20 Ethan Edwards**
- 5/22 Josh Phares**
- 5/24 John Friar, Ben Wilson**



- 5/21 Tim & Sandy Plank**

NOTE: If you don't see your birthday or anniversary on the list, please let us know so we can celebrate with you next year. officemumc@my ninestart.net or 317-326-2460.