

April 2021

THE MESSENGER

A Mohawk United Methodist Church Publication

[From Our Pastor]

APRIL FOOLS!

Did you know April Fool's Day may have its origin in Christianity? Some scholars think it began when Europeans switched from the Julian Calendar (named after Julius Caesar, as of 46 BC) to the Gregorian Calendar (named after Pope Gregory) in 1582. The new calendar moved New Year's Day from April 1 to January 1. Soon, people called anyone found still celebrating New Year's Day on April 1 an "April Fool." The pranks we now associate with April 1/April Fool's Day developed after that. So, some believe, Pope Gregory indirectly began what we now call April Fool's Day.

Why in the world did I tell you that?!?

Right now, I'm preparing for Holy Week and Easter. To me, Easter is not only our highest holy day as Christians, it is the best April Fool's Day prank ever. God fooled the devil when, on that first Easter morning, Jesus arose from the dead and proclaimed victory over sin and death. April Fools, satan!

As Easter draws near and we continue pursuing ways to do our parts to end the pandemic, I am praying that you will not only stay safe, but that you would be and

feel safe attending worship in person on Easter.

If not, then I pray you will join in online worship. Regardless of the *mode* of worship, we can continue to stay connected *through* worship. Our connection and our hope center in Jesus Christ and through His Church in worship.

The Apostle Paul writes to his contemporaries about our hope in Christ and urges us to continue worshipping together because of it. Hebrews 10:23-25 says, "*Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*"

Before, during, and after this pandemic, Jesus is the source of our hope, a hope we proclaim on Easter and every Sunday morning. Let's foster one another to do good and love one another and encourage one another to stay connected through our worship together, this Easter and always.

His,

Pastor Kerry



YOUR CHURCH, YOUR GIFTS, AND YOU

As we carefully reopen our building, we once again need everyone to pull together, to step up and serve Jesus in a variety of ways. Song leaders and/or Liturgists, Sound room techs, Greeters, Nursery assistants, and Children's Church Facilitators are needed each week. If you aren't sure how to do it, don't let that stop you from volunteering!



WORSHIP OPTIONS AS OF MARCH 18

Our Administrative Council voted March 18 to keep our reopening status at level YELLOW, which means we will continue to follow all applicable CDC guidelines like wearing masks and staying socially distanced. You may watch our live-stream worship services on our Viral Church Channel on YouTube, or you may choose to come in person to worship if you feel safe and have no COVID-19 symptoms. Sunday School classes, Children's Church, and our staffed Nursery are resuming as well. We urge everyone in the building to wear masks and keep social distanced at all times. Keep praying that we will soon be past the pandemic completely.

You can let Pastor Kerry know you need to get trained, and he will arrange that right away. Sign up in person in the Fellowship Hall this Sunday, or go online any time to our Sign-Up Genius web page:

www.signupgenius.com/go/4090d4cab-a923a0fe3-mumc

Your church needs your gifts on Sundays, and you can serve Jesus by volunteering for these important spots. Just say "Yes" -- and sign up!



EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE, BREAKFAST, EGG HUNT PLANS

We plan to hold an Easter Sunrise worship service at 7:00am at the church, led by our Mohawk Youth.



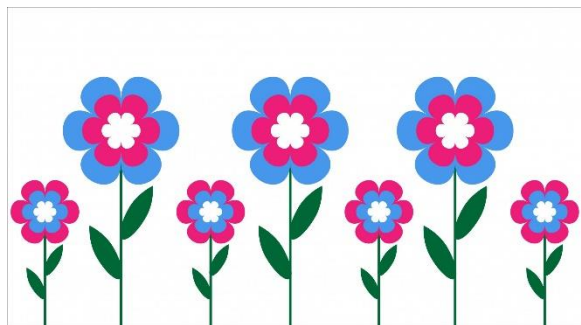
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says it will be worth the two year wait, since we had to cancel last year's plans due to the pandemic. After the sunrise service, a continental breakfast will be



served to all who wish to eat. You can contribute by a free-will offering to

cover costs and to help fund our youth group. At 10:30am, after worship, we will have an Easter Egg Hunt for our younger children. It is going to be a wonderful morning chock full of Easter celebrating!



EASTER FLOWER PICK UP

If you ordered an Easter flower, you can pick it up after our April 4 Easter service. Or you can make other arrangements if you need, by calling the church office.

SPRING MISSION FUNDRAISER

Our Missions Committee is selling a variety of 10" Hanging Baskets for \$21 each, and 4.5" pots of Geraniums in multiple colors for \$3 each. Place your order now through April 25. If you worship in person, visit the table in the Fellowship Hall on Sundays, look through the brochure, and place your order. Otherwise, order online through our Facebook page at our Mohawk UMC page. Pick up dates will be May 7 and 8 at the church.



END OF YEAR COLLEGE BOXES

We have 4 boxes available to fill on April 18th & 25th.

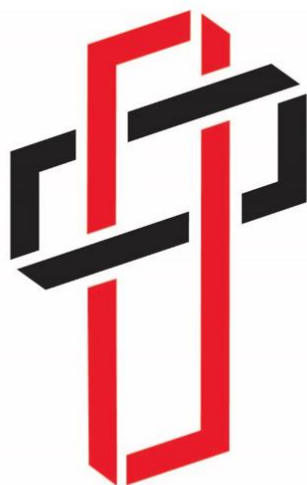


SPECIAL EASTER OFFERING

We will take a special Easter offering this year that will go to the large expenses our Trustees will incur this year.

Replacing/upgrading sound-room equipment, as well as repairs to our shelter, our steeple, and other planned repairs will cost well over \$10,000. We have about half of the funds needed for our sound-room, and we welcome the financial gifts we will receive this Easter so we can complete the other intended repairs. Thank you for your generosity!

~ Mohawk UMC Trustees



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MISSION TRIP

Our Missions committee is planning a mission trip to Midwest Distribution Center the week of **November 28**. We will either leave Sunday and come back Wednesday (Nov 28-Dec 1) or leave Monday and come back Thursday (Nov 29-Dec 2). **Sign up and deposit deadline is April 18**. No refunds will be available after this date. For questions or interest in joining the 3 others already signed up, please contact Leslie Dalton. Future dates may be available if full occupancy has not been met.



TRUSTEE WORKDAY SIGN-UP

APRIL 10 @ 8 AM

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050e4baaa729a7fa7-20211>

MOWING SCHEDULE SIGN-UP

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