



September 2020

Messenger

A PUBLICATION OF Mohawk United Methodist Church

THE MESSENGER — SEPTEMBER 2020

From Our Pastor

FROM THE "ONCE" TO THE FUTURE

What does it mean to be The Church today, during a worldwide pandemic? What will The Church look like after the pandemic dies down?

Those are two very important questions I've been asking myself, my friends, my colleagues, and reading through experts' written work to see if I can find some answers. While it's true that nobody has a good working crystal ball to accurately see the future, we can have some educated speculation about it.

This unique time we're in makes me wonder how we can effectively be The Church today. It also makes me wonder what we will need to become when the world can literally and figuratively breathe easier after the threat of our COVID-19 pandemic passes. While I don't have all the answers, I do have some researched and biblically based thoughts and answers I want to share with you.

Starting September 13, the Sunday after Lynne and I return from vacation, I will begin a new sermon series. Two excellent and powerful books I will draw from are "Canoeing The Mountains" by Tod Bolsinger, and "The Once And Future Church" by Loren Mead. I hope you'll join me for "Canoeing The Future" for four weeks, September 13 through October 4. I believe you will find it to be enlightening and thought provoking.

This is going to be a meaty sermon series, and one I truly hope you will pay attention to. It will be one that's important to our congregation, with a message that's important to our community, and in fact to the entire world.

I don't make this claim lightly or boastfully. The Church, that is, the Christian Church that Jesus Christ founded and who is our Head, has the most important message in the world that God appoints us, The Church, to deliver. Make no mistake: God's message of salvation through Jesus Christ never changes, but the ways we deliver it must change with the times and the people.

Hebrews 13:8 says it quite clearly: "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." Christ doesn't change, but how we tell others, how we BE The Church, must continually change so Christ's message is continually heard.

Please join me in worship for this series. Make the effort to invite your friends and neighbors to worship with you on the Viral Church Channel (and make our YouTube channel actually go viral) or in person.

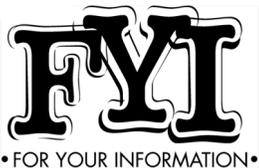
Be well and stay safe. I'll still pray for you all while we're vacationing!

His,

Pastor Kerry



Missions News!



The Missions Team will **NOT** meet in September!

SEND LOVE



HOLD TRUTH

OPEN DOORS

ENCOURAGE

BRING GOSPEL

OFFER HOPE

X CITE KIDS



SHOE BOXES

I have posted a list of items needed on the Mohawk Facebook page with Sign Up Genius. Please check out the items still needed. If you don't have Facebook and need some ideas, please call Leslie Dalton at 317-341-3300. We will need items to the church by November 1st.

CAPS FOR BENCHES

We are still collecting caps. I think we are getting close. Hopefully I will know for sure by the end of September. Thanks to all for collecting!!!



2020 CHARGE CONFERENCE: SAVE THE DATE

Our annual Charge Conference has been set for Monday, November 16, at 6:30pm. It is currently scheduled to be held in person at Trinity Park UMC, though it may change to virtual. All committee/team chairs should plan to attend, and all other folks are welcome to come as well. There will be more information coming as we get closer, but for now, please save the date.

***SORRY*
TEMPORARILY CLOSED**

BUILDING USE THROUGH SEPTEMBER

Our Trustees confirmed that our church building will not be open for any group to meet through September. Trustees will review this decision in the September meeting. This is not an ideal situation, but is being done for everyone's safety.



- Sept 8 Katie Parker
- Sept 11 Pat Steele
- Sept 18 Allison Bandy, Laura Phares, Sam Williams, Mike Schenck
- Sept 21 Chuck Dix
- Sept 22 Ron Boes, Jeff Addison, Bob Lane



- Sept 8 Ethan & Rhnea Edwards
- Sept 10 David & Kelly Wenning
- Sept 12 Bruce & Rhonda Beeker, Lori & Evan Divine
- Sept 22 Jeff & Jenny Musselman
- Sept 30 Christian & Lucinda Blair





OUR 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 ARE WORSHIPING 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.
- Online, 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 9am each Sunday.

COLLEGE CARE BOXES



College has started back and we will once again provide care boxes to the students. Boxed will be available to fill on Sept 13 & 20.

At this time, we only know of three students but if you know someone we may need to add, please let us know. In addition, if you have a college student, please provide a current address where the boxed can be mailed.

Information may be sent to the church office (officemumc@myninestar.net or 317-326-2460) or Rhonda Beeker (brbeeker@yahoo.com or 317-697-0737).

Thank you for your continued support!



OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE AND GROW

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

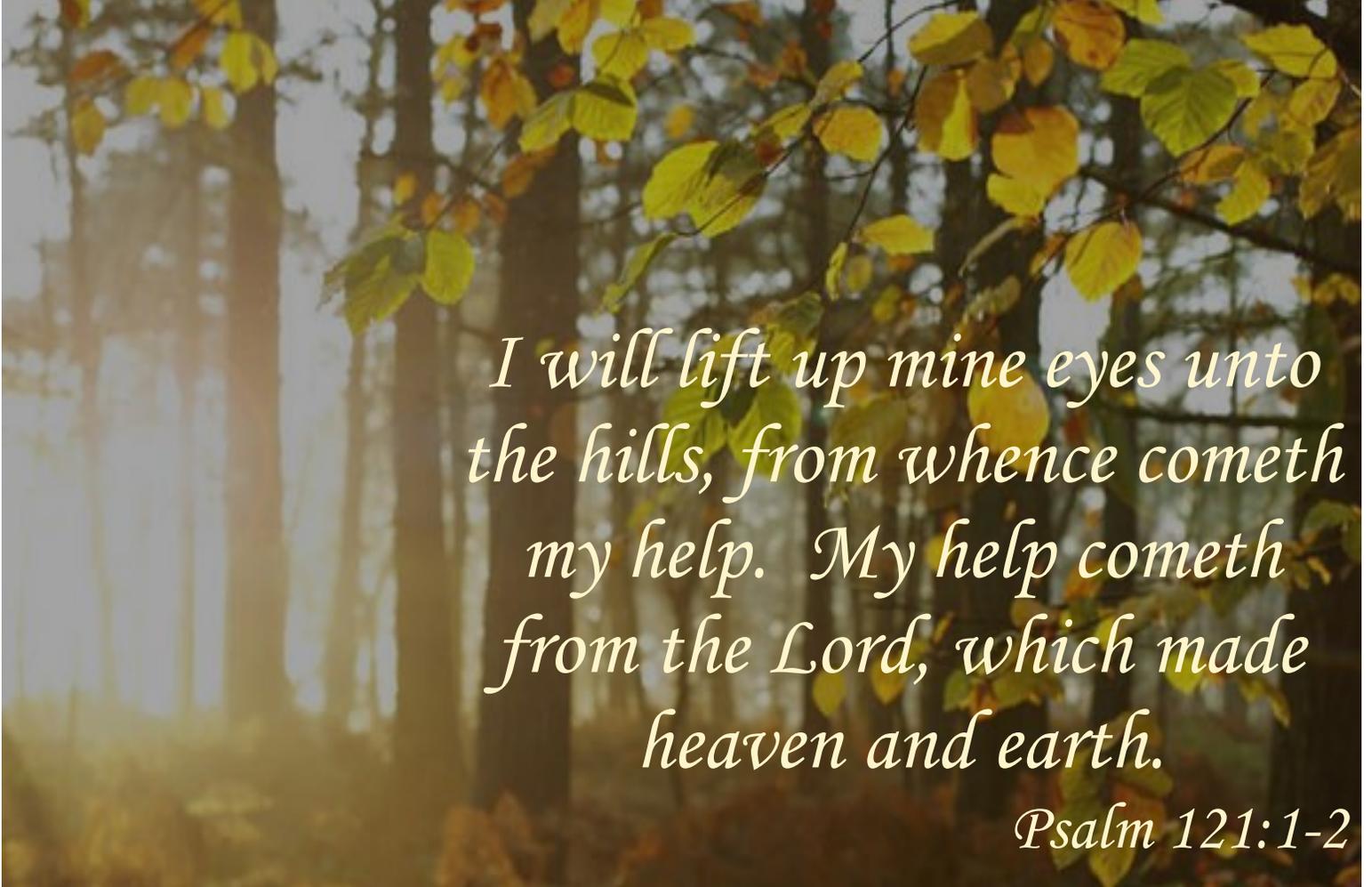
1. Greeters
2. Song Leader/Liturgist/Acolytes
3. Sound Room techs for running either our live-stream or for running slides and the sound board. (You will be trained!)

To step up and serve, contact Ashley Schenck or Pastor Kerry by phone/text or email, or go to our online sign up page, at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090d4caba923a0fe3-mumc>. This is an opportunity to grow in your ability to serve God and our congregation.



Mohawk United Methodist Church

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*I will lift up mine eyes unto
the hills, from whence cometh
my help. My help cometh
from the Lord, which made
heaven and earth.*

Psalm 121:1-2