



 **MOHAWK**  
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# THE MESSENGER

*September 2023*

*[From Our Pastor]*

## WHEN THINGS SHIFT

*“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.” -- Isaiah 43:18-19 (TNIV)*

Myra Williams and Lynne and I recently attended a district event. The keynote speaker talked about how the world has drastically shifted in the last decade, especially since the pandemic. Sounds about right, doesn't it?

He then talked about how our human tendency is to try to go back to what “normal” was. The problem, he said, is that we can't. The world shifted, and it simply cannot go back to what was once normal. A few things might get close to how they were, but overall, many important things will not and cannot go back. Too much has shifted from where it was.

It's the same in church. For instance, we used to only receive offerings in the offering plates or by mail. When the pandemic hit, we added the option of using the Givelify app. Though we're now well past the pandemic period, we still receive a sizeable amount of money through Givelify, but I've had people suggest we go back to “normal” and stop using Givelify.

If you think about the many incredible stories in the Bible, one thing in common was that God worked when things shifted. God had big plans that took the Israelites through an unknown, uncomfortable wilderness to a much better place. Some Israelites wanted to go back to Egypt, as horrible as it was, just because it was familiar and comfortable! The Exodus could only have happened because the Pharaoh's heart, and in effect society, shifted.

Friends, now's the time to try new things because our world shifted again. We will likely face the unknown, uncomfortable, and unfamiliar, but that's when God works! We get stuck in the past by holding on to what's known, comfortable, and familiar. We can't move forward looking backward.

What does God want for Mohawk UMC? First and foremost, to trust Him! Second, to dare to loosen our grip on what's safe, secure, familiar, and known. It's only then that we can embrace God's future and grow as the Lord wills it. “O for grace, to trust Him more” as that wonderful hymn of faith says. It “'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus.” Help us, Lord, to trust You!

His,

Pastor Kerry

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

**Children's Church** Thank you to those people who volunteer for Children's Church after the children's message on Sundays during worship. Susan Edwards, Chris Gray, Kelly Paugh, Gail Stanley, Rhonda Beeker, and Lynne O'Brien have all taken turns this summer.



We would love for others to join the group. At present, volunteers either find their own materials, or they can ask to have them provided. During Children's Church, there is a bible story or verse to learn. Then, options can include (but are not limited to) a craft, a short video, a game, a song, acting out a skit, etc. There are approximately 30 minutes of time (20 minutes on Communion Sundays, as the children go up to celebrate Communion with their families).

Lynne O'Brien has been our Children's Ministries Chair for two years, however she realizes she hasn't done a good job of recruiting members to her team. If you feel called to help in this important part of our church, let her know. If she asks you to join the team, please say "YES!". Lynne needs help in planning things like Children's Church, Sunday School, the Christmas pageant, and VBS. We want children to know about God, and your participation in planning and/or leading is needed.

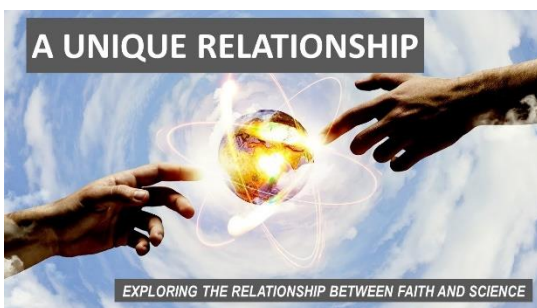
## WORSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

### **OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE & GROW IN SEPTEMBER**

Can you be a Greeter, Song Leader, Liturgist, Sound-room tech (you will be trained!), or can you facilitate Children's Church? September has many openings. Click the link to sign up: [Mohawk United Methodist Church: MUMC Worship Opportunities To Serve \(signupgenius.com\)](http://www.mohawkmethodistchurch.org/signupgenius.com) or contact the church office.



### **NEXT SERMON SERIES**



On Sunday, September 10, Pastor Kerry will begin his new five-week sermon series, "A Unique Relationship". The series will explore the relationship between faith and science. You won't want to miss it!

### **PASTOR KERRY'S VACATION**

Pastor Kerry and Lynne will be on vacation from Monday, October 2 through Sunday, October 15. On the two Sundays they are gone, Dan Bauer and Bryon Hartzog will be bringing the message. Make sure to come to church and support them!



## OUTREACH COMMITTEE NEWS



The **Greatway Pizza Fundraiser** is set for Saturday, October 21 at 9 AM. Church volunteers are needed to assemble Greatway's delicious pizzas! The outreach team will be taking orders in the fellowship hall Sunday, September 3 through Sunday, October 15.

## COLLEGE BOXES

We will have 3 boxes to fill in Fellowship Hall on September 10 & 17. Right now, we know of Grace Gray, Grant Gray, and we'll also send one to Jonathan Lovins. If you know of anyone missed or overlooked, please contact Rhonda Beeker.



Want to work part time??



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- knows Word & PowerPoint?
- is highly organized?
- works well with others?
- can multi-task?

**APPLY TODAY**

More Info:  
317-326-2460  
mgbricker@yahoo.com  
www.mohawkumc.com

## STAFF PARISH COMMITTEE NEWS

We are still looking for a permanent administrative assistant. If you or someone you know would be interested, please contact the church, or Michelle Bricker.

## **T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE**

On the coat rack in Fellowship Hall, there are some “vintage” Mohawk UMC t-shirts. Please feel free to take them. The yellow and light pink are XL. The dark pink is XXL.







10 Becky Holman  
 11 Pat Steele  
 17 Amanda Williams  
 18 Allison Bandy  
 Laura Phares  
 Sam Williams  
 Mike Schenck

21 Chuck Dix  
 22 Jeff Addison  
 Bob Lane

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

***NOTE:*** If you see anyone missing from our birthday or anniversary list, or inaccurate dates listed, please contact Lynne at [mohawkumc@gmail.com](mailto:mohawkumc@gmail.com) or at 317-326-2460.

## **GUYS GOLFING FOR GOD**



On **Saturday, September 16**, our men's group will have a golf outing. Guys, before you say you're not good enough to play in an outing, understand that it's a *best ball scramble*. Everyone hits, the best shot is where everyone starts their next shot. So, mark the date down and **SIGN UP** in the Fellowship Hall or contact the office by Sunday, September 10. Cost is \$50/golfer, payable at the course. Tee off is 1pm at Arrowhead Golf Course, so please arrive at 12:30pm. Prizes will be awarded afterwards. It's going to be a great afternoon, so come on out and invite other guys to join us!

## **FALL PARTY**

Fall, Fellowship, and Fun! Mark your calendars for the annual church fall party at the Edwards' home on Saturday, October 14 at 5:30 PM. Hotdogs, drinks, and desserts will be provided, along with a warm open fire and mini hayride. All you need to bring is a side dish and lawn chair. Invite your friends to join the fun!

