



*January 2024*

**MOHAWK**  
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# THE MESSENGER

FROM OUR PASTOR

## RESOLUTIONS AND RESOLVE

*As the time approached for Him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem.*  
– Luke 9:51 (TNIV)

The other day, I was thinking about how the start of a new year for many folks means making New Years resolutions. We make them with good intentions of doing some things better. Often, though, we don't follow through on them.

There's a big difference between *resolution* and *resolve*. We can make all the resolutions we want, but if we don't have the resolve to see them through, they're nothing more than empty promises. It takes resolve to make resolutions work!

Reread Luke 9:51, above. Jesus didn't seem to want to go to Jerusalem, but He resolved to do what He needed to do. Resolve makes good intentions work.

If you've made resolutions in the past and been not fulfilled them, that can change. It takes resolve: resolve to first think through what is necessary to achieve a resolution, and then resolve to follow through all the way to success.

For example, let's say a resolution is "*Attend worship more often.*" First, decide what that means: If I'm going once a month, my goal could be to go at least three times a month. Second, in order to go 3+ times a month, what has to change? It might mean going to bed earlier Saturday night, or doing things like showering or picking out my clothes the night before. You get the idea. You had the resolve to take the first step and list what's needed to make the resolution work.

Second, you need the resolve to take those specific steps. When you do, when you follow those steps, you'll actually fulfill your resolution. Success!

What resolutions will you make for 2024? Will yours include things that will make you a more faithful follower of Jesus Christ? Our United Methodist vows of membership lists five ways to do so: through our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness. Will you also have the resolve to be a more faithful Jesus follower in any of those five ways? My prayer for you, and for us all, in this new year is that we become even more faithful disciples of our Savior Jesus Christ.

May God continue to richly bless you. Happy New Year!

His,

Pastor Kerry

## **TWO DATES TO SAVE**

Whip out your calendar - there are two dates you'll want to put on it! First, Scott Swan, Indianapolis' WTHR newscaster, will bring his remarkable story/testimony to us during morning worship on February 4. Then, at noon on February 18, our annual auction will begin, following a delicious carry-in lunch. You'll want to be here for both of these, so be sure to put them on your calendar now. Remember to invite friends, family, and neighbors to join you!

## **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS**

Everybody loved the Children's Christmas Pageant!  
All went well, and it was delightful!



## **WORSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS**

### **SERVE & GROW**

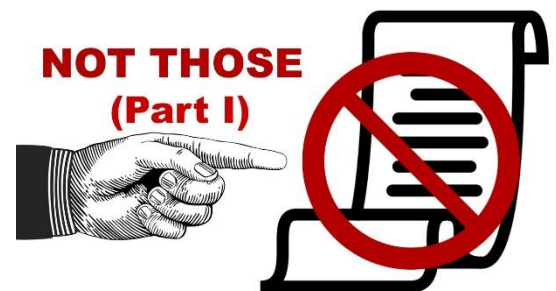


It was wonderful that so many people signed up to help with our worship services for December! Thank you all for serving. Please continue to think about how you can serve in our worship services in January and February. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall or use SignupGenius online. Click the link to sign up: [Mohawk](#)

[United Methodist Church: MUMC Worship Opportunities To Serve \(signupgenius.com\)](#)

### **CURRENT SERMON SERIES**

Pastor Kerry's new sermon series, "**Essentials**" is beginning January 7th! It explores what people *think* are essential beliefs and what really is essential to believe to be a Christian. Be sure to come for this interesting, thought-provoking series, and invite others to join you!





- |    |                  |    |                 |
|----|------------------|----|-----------------|
| 1  | Connie Wilson    | 21 | Katie Hooker    |
| 2  | Elaine Cox       | 21 | Kaitlyn Hartzog |
| 3  | Lucinda Blair    | 21 | Susan Edwards   |
| 5  | Ed Clark         | 24 | Eve Martin      |
| 9  | Alyssa Cain      | 25 | Dave Holman     |
| 13 | Ainsley Martin   | 29 | Dan Bauer       |
| 14 | Michelle Bricker | 31 | Robert Jackson  |
| 16 | Robert Phares    |    |                 |

***NOTE:*** We do not have any Anniversaries listed for January, so if you know of any that we are missing please let us know. If you notice any birthday dates missing, please contact us in the office as well. [mohawkumc@gmail.com](mailto:mohawkumc@gmail.com)



### UNHANGING OF THE GREENS

The church looks beautiful, thanks to all those who helped decorate for Advent and Christmas. On January 7th, after Sunday School, please stay and help take everything down so it can be stored away for next year! It will go quickly if many people pitch in.

### THE AUCTION RETURNS



We're gearing up for our big ANNUAL AUCTION! This February 18, we will once again hold our auction in our Fellowship Hall. We need our whole congregation to pitch in to make it work well! Our Finance Committee is asking that every Mohawk Church household donate at least one item that could be auctioned for \$50 or more. (It could be handmade/homemade food or crafts, working vehicles or home/farm machinery, gift baskets, toys and games, etc. *New or gently used, please.*) We also need help getting the items organized and ready for the auction, as well as people who will help with the auction itself. If you're able to help, please see Debi Lane.

Like last year, there will also be a pitch-in meal from 11:00am until the auction begins at Noon. We'll also need help with it. Please start thinking now how you will participate in this fun and profitable fund raiser. *Thank you.*

### CONFERENCE NEWS

Pastor Kerry will be retiring in June, and Indiana Bishop, Julius C Trimble, will be retiring in September 2024.

The General Conference that has been delayed several times is scheduled to take place April 23 to May 3, 2024. The official website for information is [resourceumc.org](http://resourceumc.org).

# FINANCE COMMITTEE NEWS

## Mohawk United Methodist Church Finances

	2023												2022
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Year to Date	Year to Date
<b>Income:</b>													
General Offering	19,758	15,558	11,549	14,286	9,422	8,289	12,808	9,751	8,522	15,327	19,944	145,214	156,591
Other	553	8,391	989	796	908	332	1,113	363	2,847	181	7,677	24,151	7,446
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>20,311</b>	<b>23,949</b>	<b>12,538</b>	<b>15,082</b>	<b>10,330</b>	<b>8,621</b>	<b>13,921</b>	<b>10,114</b>	<b>11,369</b>	<b>15,508</b>	<b>27,621</b>	<b>169,365</b>	<b>164,037</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>													
Tithe	2,272	1,789	1,328	1,643	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,294	9,326	8,157
Utilities	1,931	2,321	551	758	849	1,569	639	763	877	578	934	11,771	13,836
Other	1,054	670	1,453	2,886	10,985	3,002	2,585	4,015	5,444	1,613	2,236	35,941	21,103
Wages	9,635	9,864	9,841	9,523	13,346	9,029	9,239	8,841	8,994	13,170	9,456	110,939	118,468
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>14,892</b>	<b>14,644</b>	<b>13,173</b>	<b>14,811</b>	<b>25,179</b>	<b>13,600</b>	<b>12,463</b>	<b>13,620</b>	<b>15,315</b>	<b>15,361</b>	<b>14,919</b>	<b>167,976</b>	<b>161,565</b>
<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>	<b>5,419</b>	<b>9,306</b>	<b>(635)</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>(14,850)</b>	<b>(4,979)</b>	<b>1,459</b>	<b>(3,505)</b>	<b>(3,946)</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>12,702</b>	<b>1,389</b>	<b>2,472</b>

Budget Comparison													
General Offering Budget	16,002	16,002	16,002	16,002	16,002	16,002	16,002	16,002	16,002	16,002	16,002	176,022	152,980
Over (Short)	3,757	(444)	(4,453)	(1,716)	(6,580)	(7,713)	(3,194)	(6,251)	(7,480)	(675)	3,942	(30,807)	3,611
Non General Fund Restricted Donations													
	1,990	285	-	2,000	1,265	165	-	710	90	-	(6,440)	65	-