



## From Our Pastor

### THE SCOOP ON ADVENT

*The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus." -- Luke 1:28-31 (TNIV)*

The season of Advent is upon us. This is a time when we're called to ready ourselves for the coming of the Christ. It's a time each year when we are invited to make room in our hearts again for Jesus.

It may seem odd or easy to be asked to do that. But pause for a moment and think about it as it applies to your life this past year. Have you pushed Jesus to the outer edges of life, perhaps unintentionally. Or have you've pushed Him out of your life entirely? Are you like the innkeeper who told Mary and Joseph there's no room for Jesus? Do you need to make room for Jesus in your heart again? In the busy-ness of life, it can happen without realizing it. We all need to intentionally make the time for Jesus. We need Advent to make room for Jesus again.

There's lots of opportunities at Mohawk Church for us to make room for

Jesus this year. Here are ways you can make room for Jesus this year:

- Advent calendar of ideas & practices in Fellowship Hall and online;
- Advent devotionals (free) in Fellowship Hall;
- Advent services on December 4, 11, and 18 at 9:00am;
- Advent study, 10:15am, Fellowship Hall, December 4, 11, and 18;
- Children's Christmas Pageant during worship on December 18;
- Christmas Eve, 6:00pm service - "Kids, Carols, and Candle Light"
- Christmas Eve, 11:00pm service - "Carols and Candle Light"
- Christmas Day, 9:00am service - We welcome Jesus!

These are ways at Mohawk Church to make room for Jesus, and there are certainly others. You might sign up to ring the bell for Salvation Army. You could take a shift at a food pantry, help at Love, Inc., serve at a soup kitchen, to name some ways to share the love of Jesus and help others make room for Him.

As we "remember the Reason for the Season" this Advent, may your preparations lead to a deeper, more significant experience of the Birth of Jesus.

His,  
Pastor Kerry

## MISSION NEWS

**WE HAVE A WINNER!**



**\$365**                      **\$202**

**Thanks to your generosity, \$567  
was raised to help others!!!**

### **CANDY BAGS**

Your candy donations allowed the 3D Class to fill about **400** candy bags for the Feast of Plenty.



Thank you for your generosity!!

### **PIZZA PROFITS!!**

Thanks to those who ordered and those who made pizzas! We sold 82 pizzas. With pizza sales and donations, we raised \$687.90. A donation of \$221.10 covered the remaining cost of the new sanctuary projector (totaling \$909).



**FOOD PANTRY MINISTRY CHANGE** – We are no longer collecting canned and non-perishable food items. Instead, each Sunday, we will be accepting cash and check donations in the orange box on the Script table in the Fellowship Hall. For checks, please make payable to Mohawk United Methodist Church, description – food pantry. With our monetary donations, our food pantries can purchase more food through matching grants and also provide fresh food. Please direct any questions to Susan Edwards and thank you for your support!



We were contacted by the Hancock County Salvation Army to ask for volunteers to ring the bell. Ringing starts the day after Thanksgiving. In Greenfield, they will be at Kroger (inside the vestibule) and Walmart (outside - which is Walmart's policy everywhere). In New Pal, they will be at Needlers on Thurs-Sat only. Sign up online to ring at [Register to Ring](#), or they can call 317-498-2265.

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



Get involved in the life of our church on Sunday mornings! Can you be a Greeter, Song Leader, Liturgist, Sound-room tech (you will be trained!), or can you help in the Nursery or facilitate Children's Church? December has many openings. Click the link to sign up: [Mohawk United Methodist Church: MUMC Worship Opportunities To Serve \(signupgenius.com\)](#) or contact the church office.



Join Pastor Kerry for a Bible study in four sessions studying Awe, Humility, Fire, and Blessedness at Advent. Everyone's welcome. Come and bring a Bible. 45-minute long sessions will begin at 10:15am in the Fellowship Hall starting this Sunday through December 18.

There are also free Advent calendars and devotionals on the table under the TV in Fellowship Hall.

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Rehearsals for our annual Christmas pageant are every Sunday through December 11. The Christmas pageant will be December 18, during our 9:00 worship service. Every child who would like to be in the pageant is welcome – even if they show up the morning of, we will put a costume on them and they can participate!



## FAMILY ADVENT-URE TIME

Families are invited to our Family Advent Workshop during Sunday School hour on December 4. Available activities will be making a pinecone birdfeeder, making cards for to send to some of our members, reading the Christmas story (and keeping the book), a photo op with nativity costumes, and more. Help remind your family about the reason for the season by participating!



There will be two services on Christmas Eve. The earlier service will be at 6:00pm, and will be a kid-friendly service. It will have a special Children's Message, nursery and child care, and both battery-operated as well as real candles for when Silent Night is sung. The later service will be at 11:00pm, and will continue our tradition of ending the service just as Christmas Day arrives. There will not be child care or a Children's Message at this service. We will sing carols, ending with Silent Night by candle light. At both services, a special Christmas offering will be taken. 25% will go to the Bishop's special Christmas offering, and 75% will go toward projects at the church.



2	Emily Lovins	21	Ramona Bennett
4	Jaksen Cain	25	Brooks Schenck
6	Brody Steeno	27	Layne Ewing
9	Donna Cain	29	Bryson Plank
12	Jeff Bricker	30	Janet Bearhope
14	Madison Tunny		Walker Addison

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**

4	Tim & Donna Cain	21	Bill & Lorraine Ewing
7	Robert & Laura Phares	27	Bob & Debi Lane
12	Rick & Susan Edwards		

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



**UNHANGING OF THE GREENS**

The church looks beautiful, thanks to all those who helped decorate for Advent and Christmas. On January 8, 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.

**\$ - INFORMATION FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE - \$**

Thank you all for submitting 2023 pledges! We received 18 pledges to total \$78,100. This helps us manage the church expenses and projects. (You may still turn in pledges.)

	2022										2021	
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Year to Date	Year to Date
<b>Income:</b>												
General Offering	13,019	12,155	16,676	13,342	10,270	9,402	13,482	10,996	15,803	12,382	127,527	117,057
Other	355	486	1,733	932	388	243	703	314	179	770	6,105	10,917
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>13,374</b>	<b>12,641</b>	<b>18,408</b>	<b>14,274</b>	<b>10,658</b>	<b>9,645</b>	<b>14,185</b>	<b>11,310</b>	<b>15,982</b>	<b>13,152</b>	<b>133,632</b>	<b>127,974</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>												
Tithe	-	-	4,813	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,813	5,624
Utilities	1,051	2,595	812	876	2,885	272	1,743	871	1,029	763	12,897	11,148
Other	321	698	1,625	3,703	6,694	959	1,256	2,099	1,916	875	20,145	37,783
Wages	10,863	9,542	9,695	10,152	14,671	9,606	10,019	9,691	10,041	14,354	108,634	98,576
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>12,234</b>	<b>12,834</b>	<b>16,944</b>	<b>14,731</b>	<b>24,250</b>	<b>10,837</b>	<b>13,019</b>	<b>12,662</b>	<b>12,985</b>	<b>15,993</b>	<b>146,489</b>	<b>153,130</b>
<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>	<b>1,140</b>	<b>(193)</b>	<b>1,464</b>	<b>(456)</b>	<b>(13,592)</b>	<b>(1,192)</b>	<b>1,167</b>	<b>(1,351)</b>	<b>2,997</b>	<b>(2,841)</b>	<b>(12,857)</b>	<b>(25,156)</b>

**Note the General Offering has increased by \$10,000 over last year to date! We are also having an excellent November!!**

**COMMUNION CHANGE** - Starting in January, Communion Sunday will be the second Sunday of the month. The Worship Committee voted unanimously to make the change, since it was noted several Holidays fall on the first weekend of the month. The Call to Worship will be done on the first Sunday, monthly. This change will begin in January 2023.

Leanne Dix-Committee Chair

## Leadership Retreat

Pastor Kerry is inviting everyone who wants to help discern ways we can fulfill our mission in 2023 to a time of prayerful planning. With our “*Making disciples of Jesus Christ*” mission statement in mind, we will look at determining two or maybe three ways that we will direct our focus next year.

The retreat will begin at 11:30am on Sunday, January 22, with a provided lunch. Then, we’ll take the afternoon to prayerfully seek God’s guidance as we discern 2-3 ways we will focus our efforts for the year that will effectively help us make disciples of Jesus Christ.

If you wish to be part of this retreat, look for the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. Please be sure to sign up so we can properly plan for the day.

## CHILI ‘N’ CHOCOLATE ‘N’ CHURCH

What’s better than a morning of worship and Sunday school? Ending with a delicious homemade lunch of chili and a dessert of scrumptious chocolate!

Our Outreach Committee is organizing a fantastic carry-in meal of some favorite chili recipes and chocolate desserts for Sunday, January 15, after the Sunday school hour. If you have a favorite chili recipe or chocolate dessert recipe you will share with your church family, look for the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. It will be a great event to invite your friends and family to!



## FUN-RAISER AUCTION: A BIG THING

Our Finance Committee is planning to hold a BIG auction on Sunday, February 19, 2023, with proceeds going to support our ministry. We’ll have a pot-luck about 11:15am, then the auction will start around noon. Everyone who’s part of Mohawk Church is invited to all of it! You can bring food for the pot-luck, and can certainly join in the feasting. You can contribute items to be auctioned. You can certainly bid during the auction itself. Maybe you’ll come away with the biggest steal of the day!

This will be a BIG auction with BIG results, while having BIG fun. Mark your calendar now in BIG letters! Since it’s the Sunday before Valentine’s Day, be sure to invite your sweetheart. Shoot, invite all your friends and neighbors, too.

The Finance Committee is asking that each household contribute at least one item to be auctioned. Examples: home-made food items (canned, baked, cooked, etc.), handmade items (quilts, scarves, etc.), old/unused but working farm equipment, a gift basket, certificates for future services (tree trimming, weeding, cleaning etc.), unwanted NEW Christmas gifts, unwanted used vehicles... the list is only limited by your imagination. Proceeds will help fund our 2023 ministries. Let’s be creative, aim high, and make this auction a BIG success!

**Pastor's Advent Study**

10:15am Sundays through December 18

**Family Advent-ure Time**

10:15 December 4

**Christmas Pageant**

9:00am – Sunday, December 18

**Christmas Eve Services**

6:00pm – Kids, Carols, and Candlelight

11:00pm – Carols and Candlelight

**Christmas Morning Service**

9:00am – A Special Service for Christmas Morning!

