The MESSENGER







A publication of Mohawk United Methodist Church

IT TAKES A CONGREGATION

"This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs <u>together</u> with Israel, members <u>together</u> of one body, and sharers <u>together</u> in the promise in Christ Jesus."

Last month, I began my column like this: "Although it might be too early to declare the pandemic over, I can tell you I have felt relieved the last couple months because COVID-19 numbers went down drastically and have so far stayed down."

After having been through another COVID-19 infection recently, I was either flat out wrong or at least premature in saying that. I started showing symptoms of COVID-19 late Mother's Day, and was officially diagnosed three days later. I quarantined at home for nearly 10 full days, and it took longer than that for me to feel mostly normal again. During that time, I had to miss leading worship on May 15, and worshiped at home on YouTube instead.

A number of people stepped up so we could still worship on May 15. Someone led prayer. Another person gave a children's message while someone acted as their mic stand. Someone else gave a message. Someone came early to unlock the building, turn on lights, and then closed up afterwards. Another person ran the sound room. Someone read scripture and someone else led the singing. All of those folks are on top of the ones who routinely bring donuts, make coffee, lead Sunday school classes, collect and count money, play music, etc.

Whoever said "It takes a village to raise a child" is right, because it does take more than parents. I would quickly add my pastor's version to that idea: "It takes a congregation to worship fully." Our May 15 worship service proved that it takes more than one pastor to have a full worship service. Even when I am present, it still takes many people. It truly does take a congregation!

I give God thanks for each of you and for all of you. We can only do so much on our own, but we can do so much more together. As I've said from nearly my first day here, we aren't just the little church that can, we are "The little church that does."

Let's keep working together. Doing God's work together. Sometimes it will be easy, and sometimes it will be toilsome. Either way, the rewards are heavenly!

> His, Pastor Kerry

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MUSIC AT MOHAWK

Our Outreach Committee is bringing outdoor music to Mohawk this summer. We have scheduled two summer evenings of family-friendly music being provided by local musicians, at our shelter house. Here's the line-up so far: <u>Saturday, June 25</u> is "Acoustic Duo Patchwork" that features a down home mix of traditional and contemporary folk music, as well as a healthy dose of Gospel and original music. <u>Saturday, August 13</u> is "The Occasional Blues Band" a 4piece outfit consisting of bass, drums, and two guitar players. OBB plays blues, gospel blues, 60's Motown, classic rock, and some jazz and country.

Music both evenings will start at 6pm and continue for a couple hours each. Bring your own chair, blanket, or other seating if you're able, because the picnic table seating is limited. Do what you can to promote these free events to your friends, relatives, neighbors, and co-workers. They will be a great time to enjoy a summer evening with other friendly folks.

OUTDOOR WORSHIP DATES

Our Worship Committee is planning outdoor worship in the west lawn and shelter house the Sundays immediately after each "Music at Mohawk" free music events. Mark your calendars for June 26 and August 14 (so far!) to worship outside. All services will still begin at our normal 9:00am worship time. We will also have our "Worship At the Fair" on Sunday, June 19, at 10:30am. Note that June 19 is also Father's Day, and that we will NOT have worship services at the church at all that Sunday morning.

LAWN MOWING SIGN UP

We have very few mowing slots filled yet. Please help us if you are able to mow around the church this summer. Pick your week(s) and sign up online now at https:// www.signupgenius.com/go/4090d4caba923a0fe3-2022. There is also a sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall if you'd rather use that method. Together, we can keep our lawns in tip-top shape this spring and summer.

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SUMMER VBS

Are you getting excited for the Food Truck Party VBS?! I sure am!! The dates are Monday, July 11 – Thursday, July 14, from 6-8 pm. I would love to have an easy kid-friendly meal each evening at 5:30-6, but would need someone to head that up. Are you that someone?

Here are spots that need to be filled: Bible Story Leader Snacks Leader Group Leaders – take a group of kids from station to station Assistant Group Leaders – help group leaders as needed People to help make decorations People to put up decorations on Sunday, July 10 after church A person (or two) to help at the registration table each evening

NOTE: Volunteers are not just moms and grandmas. I would love to see men and youth involved, too.

We need supplies for decorating, and donations of craft materials and snacks. I will have a board up in the fellowship hall with needs on Post-it notes. Pull one or more off the board and write you name on the list that will be attached so I know who is bringing what. I will also be there to answer any questions and gladly accept your offer to volunteer.

I. Am. Excited. Can you tell? Lynne O'Brien





RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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