



August 2024



THE MESSENGER

[From Our Pastor]

Can you relate to the following decisions? You order two pizzas and cheese sticks. It costs \$46. The next day you stop for coffee. Another \$6. Later you find an online deal. \$35 just like that. Finally, you go to church. \$1 in the offering plate.

If I am honest with myself, I can relate to these financial decisions all too well.

Why is it that our giving to Christ pales in comparison with what we spend elsewhere? Why are we not more motivated to, as Paul puts it, “excel in the grace of giving” (2 Corinthians 8:7)?

Do you know that it is possible for our church to run out of money? Costs of living are skyrocketing. It takes more to obtain the same results; and expecting more from our church, and others to pay for it, is counterproductive these days.

We each have the responsibility to financially support the ministry of Christ. Our task is to show love in action, but action requires money (see Acts 4:32-33.) How then can we give when we have less income and more expenses than before?

First, we need to have faith. We need to make an unusually strenuous effort to trust that God will perfectly and abundantly provide for us (Luke 12:22-31).

Second, we need to obey God’s Word. We need to bring our gifts to the One who is to be feared, and be grateful for God and what he does for us (Psalm 76:11).

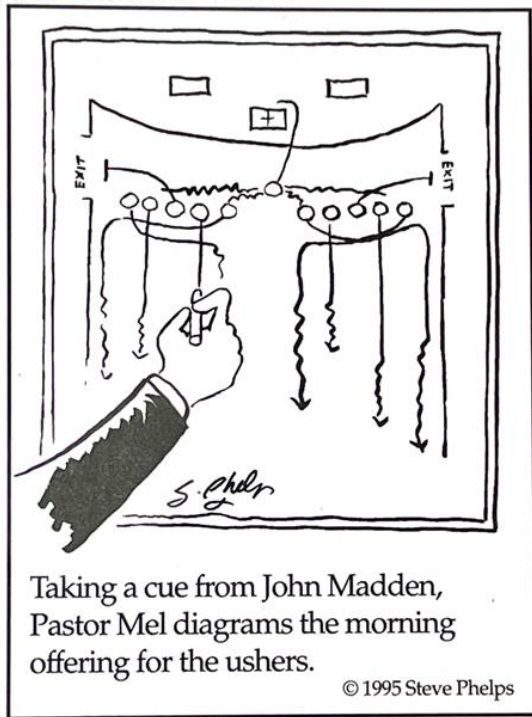
Third, we need God’s grace to be poured out on us. When we are overflowing with God’s grace, poverty cannot take away our joy in giving (2 Corinthians 8:1-2).

Fourth, we need to be filled with the Holy Spirit. We need to give ourselves over completely to God and be good stewards of the spiritual gifts he gives to us (Romans 12:6-8 and 1 Peter 4:10).

Fifth, we need to test the sincerity of our love by what we give. Give less, and you will love less. Give more, and you will love more (2 Corinthians 8:8).

You and I can be certain that our church never runs out of money, but it will take the commitment of each and every one of us. I urge you to put these five teachings into practice. Together we can give “just a little more” each week, each month, and each year because our God is faithful, and He supernaturally provides everything we need.

In Christ,
Pastor Charles



**SACRIFICIAL GIVING IS
GIVING UP WHAT YOU LOVE
FOR SOMETHING YOU LOVE
EVEN MORE.**

“As He looked up, Jesus saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins” (Luke 21:1,2).



Meet Our New Bishop for Indiana Conference



Bishop Tracy S. Malone has been assigned as the resident bishop for the Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church, effective September 1, 2024. She was elected to the episcopacy at the 2016 North Central Jurisdictional Conference and has served as the resident bishop of the East Ohio Conference ever since.

She also is currently the president of the Council of Bishops, president of the General Commission on the Status and Role of Women, and is a member of the Board of Trustees of Africa University. She pastored several churches in the Northern Illinois Conference, represented that Conference at four General and Jurisdictional Conferences, served as a district superintendent, and has been dean of the Cabinet.

Bishop Malone received a bachelor's degree from the North Central College in Naperville, IL; a master of divinity degree from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, IL; and a doctorate of ministry from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, OH. Bishop Malone and her husband, Derrick, have two daughters.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2024



Our theme for VBS this year was Camp Firelight.



The kids heard stories about Trusting God while on the lazy river.

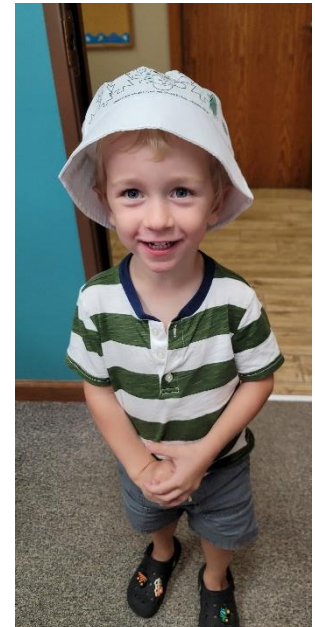
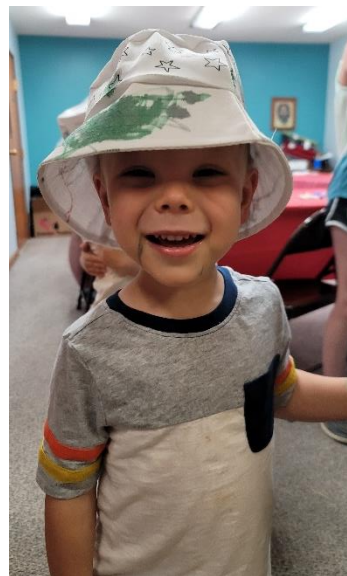
All the kids had a great time with Lu the lightning bug and Camp Counselor Sam.



Our Camp Callout was: Whenever I'm afraid, I put my trust in you.
(Psalm 56:3).



They did fun camping crafts!



The children ate snacks in the mess hall, sang songs you could sing around a campfire, and played games out in the shelter house.



We raised around \$200 for games and trash bags for the Hope House and had around 18 kids all five nights.



Thank you to all the volunteers and kids for a great VBS!

THANKS AND BLESSINGS

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Lynne and I would like to thank you from the bottom of our hearts. For the last five years, you blessed us time and time again in so many different ways. You encouraged, gifted, and supported us by your words and in your actions.

On June 30, my very last day of active service as a full Elder in The United Methodist Church before retiring, you blessed us yet again. The carry-in dinner was delicious (as it *ALWAYS* is!), and you even fed nearly 30 family members and former parishioners who came to celebrate my final day.

Thank you to so many of you who gifted us with cards, well wishes, and gifts! We truly appreciate your generosity, and will most definitely give God thanks for you as we use those gifts.

As Paul prays in Ephesians 3, we share in that prayer for you. *“For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.”*

May God continue to richly bless you so that you may continue to be a blessing to others in the name of Jesus Christ.

In Christian love,

Pastor Kerry and Lynne O’Brien

CARE COMMITTEE

MOHAWK UMC IS CREATING A NEW COOKBOOK!!



Have you sent in your favorite recipe to share? We are still collecting them for the Mohawk UMC Cookbook. We need your **BEST** recipes! **August 18th** is the final day to turn in recipes for this amazing cookbook.

This cookbook will make a great Christmas gift. They are \$10 each, and money is due when you order. All pre-orders are due by September 22, 2024. Cookbooks should be available by November 1st.

*If you have questions, contact **Laura Phares** or **Myra Williams**.*

LADIES' DAY OUT

The Care Committee will be enjoying lunch and fellowship with a **LADIES' DAY OUT** at Tuttle's Cafe on Saturday, August 3rd at 11 a.m.



MUSIC AT MOHAWK

"The Occasional Blues Band Plus"

We enthusiastically welcome back The Occasional Blues Band Plus (TOBB+) to Music at Mohawk. Blues music is their bread and butter, and they also play gospel blues, 60's Motown, some classic rock, and a sprinkling of jazz and country. In a long-running inside joke, they call themselves the "Occasional" blues band because, as they tell folks, "Occasionally we're a band, and occasionally we play the blues."



6-8pm August 17
Music At Mohawk – Mohawk UMC
2045 W 400 N, Greenfield
FREE!!! Join the Party!!
Bring: lawn seating & refreshments

"The Occasional Blues Band Plus"



Saturday, August 17, 6:00-8:00pm

Bring your chair and have a great night!



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1 st	Sarai Pelc	2 nd	Lorraine Ewing
6 th	Gerald Phares	17 th	Nora Blair
20 th	Tim Plank	30 th	Helen Jackson
30 th	Leisa Harmon	31 st	Brooke Lane

NOTE: *If you notice any birthday or anniversary dates missing, please contact us in the office.*

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

4 th	Blake & Ashley Thompson
18 th	Pastor Charles & Carrie Pelc
27 th	Ben & Connie Wilson
29 th	Chuck & Leanne Dix



STRIKE OUT HUNGER FUNDRAISER:



year to help cover their operating expenses (which is close to \$50,000). Thank you for considering joining, or donating.

Mohawk will have a team again this year for the bowling fundraiser on Sunday, August 25.

If you would like to bowl or donate to the team, please see Burl Bearhope or Leslie Dalton.

This is the soup kitchens' major fundraiser for the



Stewardship Corner

When we give our gifts to God, He gives back more to us. We can never outgive God. God doesn't need what we are able to give, but we have a need to give. In His infinite wisdom, God establishes giving as a means of developing a relationship and connectedness with Him. Therefore, God, Who gave 100 percent of Himself for us, seeks a response from us. God wants us to experience the joy of giving and is honored when we give Him our first and best. Our giving, when done without reservation, has its source in God. God, Who abides in us, enables us to give.

FINANCE COMMITTEE NEWS

Mohawk United Methodist Church Finances

2024							2023
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Year to Date	Year to Date
Income:							
General Offering	9,833	12,525	17,254	10,116	10,259	18,998	78,985
Other	183	7,254	1,963	272	1,806	324	11,802
Total Income	10,016	19,779	19,216	10,388	12,065	19,322	90,787
Expenses:							
Tithe	-	-	4,555	-	-	-	4,555
Utilities	2,331	951	859	1,208	233	786	6,367
Other	1,081	2,729	2,923	3,319	10,602	4,764	25,417
Wages	9,336	9,357	9,383	14,315	9,357	8,218	59,966
Total Expenses	12,747	13,037	17,720	18,842	20,192	13,769	96,306
Net Income (Loss)							
	(2,730)	6,741	1,497	(8,454)	(8,127)	5,554	(5,519)
							237

Budget Comparison

General Offering Budget	16,485	16,485	16,485	16,485	16,485	16,485	98,910	96,010
Over (Short)	(6,652)	(3,960)	769	(6,369)	(6,226)	2,513	(19,925)	(17,147)