

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MAHOMET

WEEKLY E-MAIL NEWSLETTER

December 19, 2012

LCM Website: lcofm.org

Phone: 217-586-4786

Pastor's Hours: Pastor Baderschneider will be serving this week from Monday, December 17th through Sunday, December 23rd and will be in the church office Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM this week.

Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. *This week only:* The office will be closed today, Wednesday, December 19.

Staff Meetings: Staff Meetings will be held on Tuesdays at 10:30 AM, except for the fourth Tuesday of every month. *This week only:* Staff Meeting will be held Thursday, December 20 at 10:30 AM.

LCM Membership Update!!: As we have been working with our membership list, it has become clear that it is in need of an update. In order to do this, we have sent all those currently on our membership list a letter along with a form to provide updated information on you and your family. Please return to the church as soon as possible so we can update our membership rolls. Thank you

46th Annual Pancake and Sausage Breakfast: Join us for the 46th Annual St. Thomas Pancake and Sausage Breakfast on Sunday, January 20, 2013, serving from 7:00 AM to 12:30 PM at St. Thomas School, 311 E. Madison In Philo. All-you-can-eat pancakes, our own whole-hog sausage, and coffee/juice/milk. Exciting raffles and lots of family fun. Mark your calendars now! Suggested donation \$7.00/adult; \$4.00 Child; Children 5 and under free.

LOGOS Staff Meeting and Dinner: Will meet January 2, 2012 at 6:00 PM

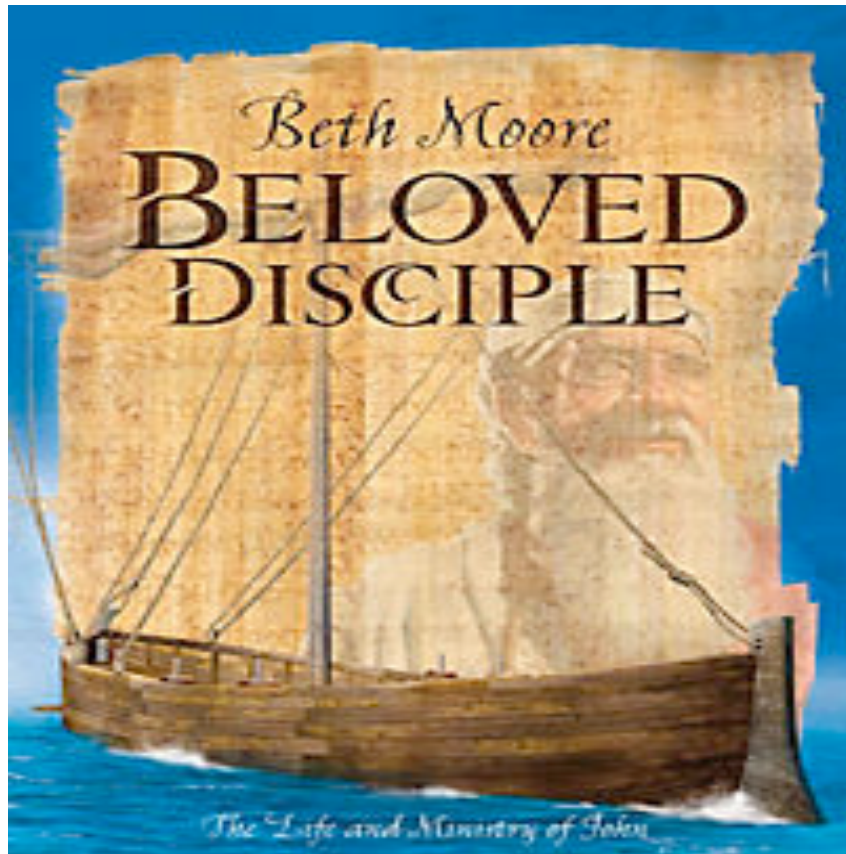
Suite Inspirations: Will be Thursday, January 3 and Thursday, January 10 at 6:30 PM.

New Small Group Bible Study: Beloved Disciple: The Life and Ministry of John will be on Thursdays for 10 weeks from 6:30 to 8:00 PM beginning January 17, 2013. To register contact Brenda Lindsey htslindsey@mchsi.com or call (217) 586 3463. Please see flyer attached to this e-mail.

Conference Epiphany Dinner: LCM is privileged to host our Conference of ELCA churches for Epiphany Dinner on January 6th. This year it is the Lutheran Church of Mahomet's turn to sponsor this dinner. We need 6 persons willing to serve and cleanup for the dinner. Please contact Dia at 840-9846 if you can help.

Thank You to the LCM Congregation: I would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, visits and support during my recent surgeries over the past two months. Having this support has made the healing process for Marty and I much easier. God was certainly with me through all of my latest trials. Thank you again from the bottom of my heart. In God's Peace *Linda Vogel*

Beloved Disciple: The Life and Ministry of John



Jesus commanded us to love one another
New Small Group

Lutheran Church of Mahomet

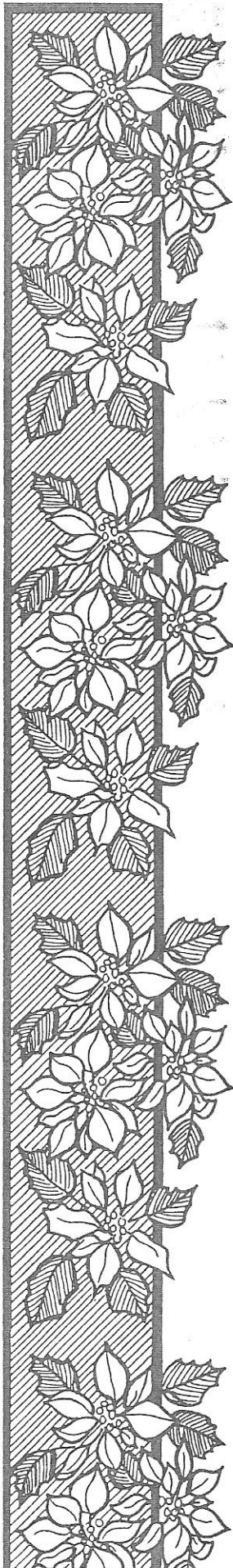
Thursdays 6:30–8 pm

10 weeks

Begins January 10, 2013

Member book \$15

To register contact Brenda Lindsey htslindsey@mchsi.com
or call (217) 586 3463



The Legend of the Orphan's Gift

Once upon a time a small orphan boy lived in a village in Europe. It was Christmas time and the village custom was that everyone put gifts under a great Christmas tree standing in the village square. Then on Christmas morning, everyone in the village gathered together around the tree to sing Christmas hymns and give the gifts under the tree to those people who were very poor.

One special Christmas, the boy who was an orphan wanted to leave a gift under the tree. But he didn't have much that he could give. In fact, the only things that the small boy owned were a wagon, a red scarf, and one copper penny.

The boy thought very hard. "I know," he said to himself, "I will leave my wagon under the tree. Even though it is a small wagon, someone would surely find it as useful as I do."

But as the boy pulled the wagon over to put it under the tree, another child put a new shiny wagon there. The boy who was an orphan thought to himself, "My wagon is old and dented--it's rusty and has so many scratches on it. I can't give my wagon as a gift."

And he sadly pulled his wagon away from the tree.

Then he thought, "Maybe someone could use my scarf. Even though it is faded, it still keeps me warm."

So the boy took his scarf off from around his neck and went to put it under the tree.

But as he bent down, another child put a brand-new, soft scarf under the tree.

The boy who was an orphan thought to himself, "My scarf is too old to put under the tree." So he sadly put the scarf around his neck and walked away. When he put his hands in his pocket, his fingers closed around his copper penny.

Surely someone could use his copper penny, the boy thought. But just as he was putting his copper penny under the Christmas tree, another person placed a chest of gold there.

Now the boy was very sad. "My copper penny is so small," he thought, "no one will even notice it is there. What good is one copper penny next to a chest of gold?"

There didn't seem to be anything that the boy who was an orphan could put under the Christmas tree. As the boy walked slowly home, he heard a choir practicing one of the Christmas hymns they would sing the next morning. The song the choir was singing gave the boy an idea.

The next morning, all the people who lived in the village hurried to the Christmas tree. As they gathered together singing, everyone looked for the gift he or she put under the tree, hoping that it would be the best gift of all. Everyone noticed the shiny new wagon, the soft scarf, and the chest of gold. But then they noticed something else--one small orphan boy, curled up in a ball under the tree fast asleep.

For you see, the boy remembered something very important. When God had wanted to give the best gift of all...God gave Himself.

May your Christmas day be a blessed one and the new year filled with you giving your time and love to those around you.

A CHRISTMAS TALE

by Louis Casse

Once upon a time, there was a man who looked upon Christmas as a lot of hum-bug. He wasn't a scrooge. He was a very kind and decent person, generous to his family, upright in all his dealings with other. But he didn't believe all that stuff about an incarnation which churches proclaim at Christmas. And he was too honest to pretend that he did.

"I am truly sorry to distress you," he told his wife, who was a faithful churchgoer. "But I simply cannot understand this claim that God became man. It doesn't make any sense to me."

On Christmas Eve, his wife and children went to church for the midnight service. He declined to accompany them. Shortly after his family drove away in ~~the~~ car, snow began to fall. He went to the window and watched the flurries getting heavier and heavier.

"If we must have Christmas," he reflected, "it's nice to have a white one." He went back to his chair by the fireside and began to read his newspaper.

A few minutes later, he was startled by a thudding sound. It was quickly followed by another, than another. He thought that someone must be throwing snowballs at his living room window. When he went to the front door to investigate, he found a flock of birds huddled miserably in the snow. They had been caught in the storm, and in a desperate search for shelter had tried to fly through his window.

"I can't let these poor creatures lie there and freeze," he thought. "But how can I help them?" Then he remembered the barn where the children's pony was stabled. It would provide a warm shelter. He quickly put on his coat and galoshes and tramped through the deepening snow to the barn. He opened the doors wide and turned on the light. But the birds didn't come in.

"Food will bring them in," he thought. So he hurried back to the house for bread crumbs, which he sprinkled on the snow to make a trail to the barn. To his dismay, the birds ignored the bread crumbs and continued to flop around helplessly in the snow. He tried shooing them into the barn by walking around and waving his arms. They scattered in every direction - - except into the warm, lighted barn.

"They find me a strange and terrifying creature," he said to himself, "and I can't seem to think of any way to let them know they can trust me. If only I could be a bird myself for a few minutes, perhaps I could lead them to safety."

Just at that moment, the church bells began to ring. He stood silently for a while, listening to the bell pealing the glad tidings of Christmas. Then he sank to his knees in to the snow.

"Now I understand," he whispered. "Now I see why you had to do it."

May the Peace and Joy of Christ fill your hearts and homes during this Blessed Season.

Holiday Schedule Changes:

Sunday School: There will be no Sunday School on December 23, and December 30 The first day of Sunday School for 2013 will be January 6, 2013.

LOGOS will not meet during the Month of December. LOGOS will start back up in January 9, 2013.

Office Hours: The church office will be closed today, Wednesday, December 19th while Randa attends a funeral and will be open Monday, December 24 from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. It will be closed Tuesday, December 25 and Wednesday, December 26.

WELCA Sewing Meetings: will not meet Monday, December 24 but will meet on Wednesday, December 26. They will meet Monday, December 31.

Upcoming Events

Advent Services: The Final Wednesday night service and meal will be held on December 19th. Meal will be at 5:30 PM and Advent Service will be at 6:30 PM.

Christmas Services: There will be a Family Worship Service Monday, December 24 at 6:00 PM and a Candlelight Worship Service at 10:30 PM. Christmas Day Worship Service will be on Tuesday, December 25 at 10:00 AM. We hope to see you there.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE WEEK OF December 19 – December 26, 2012

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|--------------------------------------|---|
| <u>Wednesday, December 19</u> | 5:30 PM Meal 6:30 PM Advent Service 7:00 PM Confirmation Church Office Closed |
| <u>Thursday, December 20</u> | 6:30 PM Beth Moore Bible Study 7:00 PM Choir |
| <u>Sunday, December 23</u> | 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM Fellowship |
| <u>Monday, December 24</u> | 6:00 PM Family Service 10:30 PM Candlelight Service 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM Church Office Open |
| <u>Tuesday, December 25</u> | 10:00 AM Christmas Worship Service Church Office Closed |
| <u>Wednesday, December 26</u> | Church Office Closed |



WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

| | <u>December 23</u> | <u>December 30</u> |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| <u>ACOLYTES:</u> | Madison Mitchell | Noah Carsten |
| <u>BREADMAKER:</u> | Linda Hanslow | Karen Kibler |
| <u>ALTAR GUILD</u> | Elsbeth Hixon Nancy Rosenbery | Elsbeth Hixon Nancy Rosenbery |
| <u>ASSISTING MINISTER</u> | Alex Paul | - |
| <u>CELEBRATION LEADER</u> | - | Dia Nuesmeyer |
| <u>COMMUNION ASST:</u> | Jon LeGrant | Mark Reifsteck |
| <u>GREETERS:</u> | Cory Mitchell Family | Jon LeGrant Family |
| <u>READER:</u> | John Bottorf | Pam Atwood |
| <u>USHERS:</u> | Chris Edmonds Family | Tim Koller Family |
| <u>OFFERING COUNTERS:</u> | David Alderks, Scott Kingry Jon and Barb LeGrant | David Alderks, Scott Kingry Jon and Barb LeGrant |
| <u>FELLOWSHIP HOSTS:</u> | Fellowship | Nancy and Dennis Boma Scott and Karen Wonderllin |

Volunteer Guideline Revisions: Please take a moment to make a note of the date you are assigned for the task of Greeter, Reader, Communion Assistant, Usher, Assisting Minister or Celebration Leader. An email reminder will be sent t weekly, along with a description of the volunteer task.

If you cannot perform your task on the designated time and date, please find a substitute and notify Scott Kingry (SDKingry@gmail.com), not the Church Office. A list of individuals who perform these specific tasks can be found on the Volunteer List located on the quad board in the Narthex, in the monthly newsletter, or on the Church website at www.lcofm.org. Thank you for your assistance in performing these tasks by serving our Church.

Greeters and Ushers: There are now greeter and usher pins for use on Sunday mornings. The greeter pins are located in the Welcome Center and the usher pins are located next to the Sunday bulletins. Please wear them on Sunday and return before you leave church. Thanks!

CONGREGATIONAL INTERCESSIONS

Prayer List Guidelines: A prayer list's purpose is to rally special attention to particular people in need of prayer. The list will be divided into acute (immediate) or long term concerns.

Because this is a public list, you must ask permission before placing someone's name on the list (privacy law compliance). To be added, removed, or moved from one list to the other, contact the church office at 586-4786, or contact **Linda Vogel** at lindasv101@gmail.com or 217-590-0093.

- Please provide first and last names.
- Death and birth announcements and praises of thanksgiving will be removed after 2 weeks.

Notices on the acute list will be removed after 4 weeks unless there is a request to continue.

Prayer lists are updated on Wednesdays, sent in the Wednesday email newsletters and posted on the quad board.

Visit our website at www.lcofm.org

