



Youth News

If you have any questions about Youth Programs and Activities, call, text or email Alicia Ek-hoff: (217) 649-8472 / ekhoffal@gmail.com

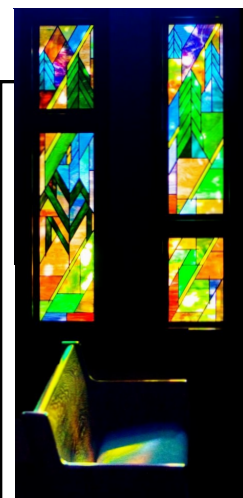
VBS: Kingdom Rock starts Sunday, August 4th with a Family/Congregation Picnic 5:30-7:30. Families with children age 3 years – 5th Grade can register for VBS online at LCoFM.org, or register at the picnic. Grilled chicken legs, carrots, apples and ice cream will be served; come meet the staff and families that will attend VBS August 4-8 and see what Kingdom Rock is all about!

There will be a **Pre-VBS meeting for volunteers on Sunday, July 28th** and again on Sunday, August 4th immediately following the 9 am service in the Pre-School classroom located on the West end of the church.

Youth Sunday School for ages 3 years – 12th grade begins Sunday, September 8th. Volunteers are needed to lead music, bible lessons and activities. Please join us for a Youth Sunday School informational meeting in the Youth Room, located on the West end of the church, on Sunday, August 11th immediately following the 9 am service.

Thank you for the support of our Youth Mission Trip to Cincinnati, OH June 30 – July 5th. \$473 was collected during the Free Will Offering and was given to agencies we served. Pictures from the trip are on the bulletin board outside the Fellowship Hall. The youth that participated are still collecting money to help them pay for the cost of their trip, which was \$229 per person. If you have odd jobs that you need help with, and would be willing to make a donation toward the trip expense, please contact Alicia Ekhoff, Youth Chair.

LOGOS / Gen On Youth Ministries starts Wednesday, September 11; Gen On is a family ministry that is open to the Community for ages K – 6th grade students and includes Bible Study, Worship, Dinner and Crafts or Games. Please contact Kat Downs, Director at 217-586-4786 or musikat00@hotmail.com, for more information about volunteer opportunities. This is a great way to get to know our youngest members!



- Our mission is to invite people to know Jesus Christ so that we may all share God's love.

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MAHOMET

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A Word About the Beautiful Stained Glass Windows We Enjoy Each Sunday

The top panels signify God's creation of heaven and earth.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. And God said "Let there be light" and there was light. (Genesis 1:1,3)

The bottom panels signify God's creation of land and Jesus coming to earth.

Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. (Gen 1:11)
He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John 1:10-14)

The four symbol panels on the left side of the church (facing the altar) signify events in the Old Testament:

The Garden of Eden: Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. (Genesis 3:1-6)

God's Promise: Then he sent out the dove from him, to see if the waters had subsided from the face of the ground; but the dove found no place to set its foot, and it returned to him to the ark, for the waters were still on the face of the whole earth. So he put out his hand and took it and brought it into the ark with him. He waited another seven days, and again he sent out the dove from the ark; and the dove came back to him in the evening, and there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf; so Noah knew that the waters had subsided from the earth. I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." (Genesis 8:8-11, 9:13-16)

The Ten Commandments: Then God spoke all these words: I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work--you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and consecrated it.

Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin." Then the people stood at a distance, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was. (Exodus 20:1-21)

Elijah and the Twelve Tribes of Israel: Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come closer to me"; and all the people came closer to him. First he repaired the altar of the LORD that had been thrown down; Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the LORD came, saying, "Israel shall be your name"; with the stones he built an altar in the name of the LORD. Then he made a trench around the altar, large enough to contain two measures of seed. Next he put the wood in order, cut the bull in pieces, and laid it on the wood. He said, "Fill four jars with water and pour it on the burnt offering and on the wood." Then he said, "Do it a second time"; and they did it a second time. Again he said, "Do it a third time"; and they did it a third time, so that the water ran all around the altar, and filled the trench also with water. At the time of the offering of the oblation, the prophet Elijah came near and said, "O LORD, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel, that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things at your bidding. Answer me, O LORD, answer me, so that this people may know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back." Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt offering, the wood, the stones, and the dust, and even licked up the water that was in the trench. When all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, "The LORD indeed is God; the LORD indeed is God." (1 Kings 18:30-39)

The four symbol panels on the right side of the church (facing the altar) signify events in the New Testament:

The Birth of Jesus: While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. (Luke 2:6-7)

Baptism: Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:13-17)

Communion: Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. (Luke 22:19-20)

Resurrection: When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." (Mark 16:4-7)

The yellow rays of the sun in the panels raise towards the cross in the middle of the sanctuary and form a visionary triangle which is the symbol of the Holy

Trinity. We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit which has been given to us. (Romans 5:1,5)



Thank You for Volunteering

A special thank you for the following who volunteered their time and talents for our Church the month of July

Greeters: Bill Moehring Family, Chris Edmonds Family, Pete Farm Family and Scott Kingry Family.

Ushers: Robberstad Family, Andy Scheele Family, Tim Koller Family and John Paul Family.

Scripture Readers: Brenda Lindsey, Teresa Edmonds, Sheila Kingry and Kelly Strode.

Communion Assistant Lindsey, LuAnn Robberstad, Marty Vogel and Fran Koller.

Assisting Ministers: Kendyl Cummins, Alex Paul and Mark Reifsteck.

Celebration Leader: Karla Washburn.

Sunday Shepherds: Pete Farm, Laura-Zick Bottorff, Gene Rinkel and Bill Moehring.

Acolytes: Isabelle Farm, Gretchen Scheele, Kylie Fuoss and Chatman Edmonds.

Fellowship Hosts: Congregational Life Committee.

Bread maker: Linda Hanslow.

Alter Guild: Alicia Ekhoﬀ and Kathy Tuggle.

Offering Counters: Dan and Cindy Erickson, Sherri Reifsteck, Susie Johnston, Scott Kingry, Chris and Theresa Edmonds, David Alderks, and Jon and Barb LeGrant.

Martin and Linda Vogel
Volunteer Coordinators

Do You Know...Why You Go To Church?

If you are like me, that question would require at least a full page to answer, but soon we are going to launch an evangelism campaign asking members of our congregation to answer this question in one sentence.

"I go to church because..." Yard Signs

We are kicking off a yard sign campaign to create general awareness of LCM in the community through a series of thought-provoking, attention-grabbing messages. Besides being informational, we are striving for **creative signs that jump out from the crowd and cause people to say--"Hey, that church sounds interesting. Let's go check them out."**

So here's where the fun comes in. Over the next month, we're going to have a contest to come up with the "Top 20" statements to complete this sentence:"I go to church because..." The completion statements would hopefully be attention-getting, perhaps plays on words, and perhaps provocative. Examples might be:

- ...well, it's not really about me.
- ...I need to be fed.
- ...they don't talk about God like this on the radio.
- ...I found a place that accepts and affirms me.
- ...I get to sing in public.
- ...I need salvation now.
- ...to remember whose and who I am.

We're planning to purchase 20 **different** signs and rotate their location around town every two weeks.

We think we can really have some fun with this and also create additional awareness of LCM in the community. It's a game the whole family can play, and you can submit as many entries as you want. So, get the conversation started with your friends and family and look for the official launch coming soon.

Yours in God's Service,
Kelly Strode



A Most Precious Possession

A young convert approached his pastor with a question. "How can a Holy God forgive a sinner? Isn't God repulsed with all of the hatred and jealousy that fills people?"

The pastor looked warmly at his young, enthusiastic friend and said, "You are the third generation in a family of master furniture makers. Tell me, if a fine table that your grandfather made was scratched would you throw it away?"

"Of course not," the young man exclaimed. "A scratch can hardly alter the character of a fine piece of furniture."

"And," the pastor continued, "if you nicked a well-crafted oak rocker would you toss it away?"

"Throw it away?" the young man exclaimed. "Even with a few scratches quality furniture is sturdy and valuable."

"You have spoken like a true craftsman," the pastor replied. "You share that spirit with our creator God who continues to find his human creation precious and valuable in spite of their obvious flaws."

Every person is precious to God. For it is God who has created that individual. God never gives up on a person. God never throws that person away. We see just how precious each person is to God by looking at the cross and remembering that **God so loved the world that He gave His only Son that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)**

It is because each person is precious to God that Jesus asks us who are God's children to share this Good News with people in our community. Jesus invites you and I to **"go and tell them what great things God has done for you."** That they too will know God's love and be blessed in the living of their life. As God gives each of us the opportunity to do this, I pray that each of us will respond by saying, "Here I am Lord, use me, use me."

Interim Pastor Vic Baderschneider

Lutheran News from Around the World

Graduation Day at Ft. Dauphin Synod

July 13 was Graduation Day at the Bible School in the Ft. Dauphin Synod of the Lutheran Church in Madagascar. The school provides training for congregationally-based catechists, who often carry out all but the sacramental ministries of a local church in the absence of a pastor. The school was established in 1996. The Ft. Dauphin Synod is one of our two companion synods in Madagascar, and your gifts for the sake of our collaborative mission in Madagascar provide direct funding to this Bible School. Over the years, our synod has raised money for particular projects, in addition to direct funding for the school. For example, five years ago each graduate received a bicycle from us – bicycles being important to the work of catechists. The Holy Spirit continues to lift up faithful men and women in the Lutheran Church of Madagascar who devote themselves to spreading the Christian gospel. The photo below is of this year's graduates. (A prayer follows the photo.)



Almighty God, who knows the needs of your Church in every place, hear our prayer for these who will be launching out as workers in your vineyard. Give them courage, strength, and vision. May your holy will ever be set before them. May they themselves trust and articulate well the gospel that they teach and proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

2104 Madagascar Trip Information

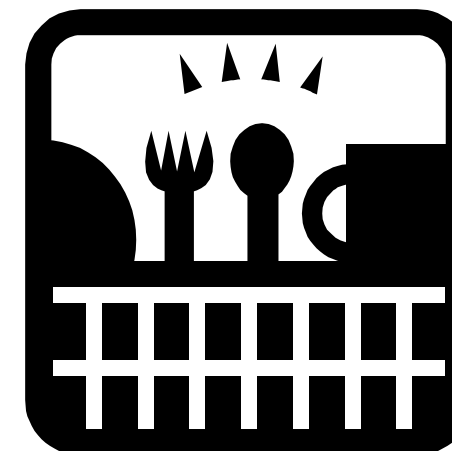
Walk with your brothers and sisters in Christ living in Madagascar and help your brothers and sisters in Christ in the Central/Southern Illinois Synod (C/SIS) to walk with our companion synods on the other side of the globe. The C/SIS is preparing for a trip to Madagascar during the

LCM Kitchen Improvements

Our Congregational Life Committee has recommended that a commercial dishwasher be purchased so that our kitchen can be better utilized by our members and those that use our facilities and so that the purchase and disposal of paper and plastic products can be greatly reduced.

Church council voted at its July 15, 2013 meeting to obtain quotes for the purchase of a commercial dishwasher for the kitchen and the remodeling that would be required to the kitchen to accommodate the dishwasher with a cost not to exceed \$12,000. Laura Zick-Bottorff, chairman of the Congregational Life Committee, and Mark Dalton, chairman of the Building and Grounds Committee have obtained quotes for a Hobart commercial dishwasher, as well as estimates for freight and installation. Based on these quotes, the total cost of the project is estimated to be \$8,400. Plans are to utilize congregational members to assist with as much of the remodeling as possible. The project will be paid for from certain designated funds presently held in the church's accounts.

Even though our Constitution does not require congregational approval to spend designated funds, Council voted to hold an informational meeting after the August 4 service to keep our Congregation informed and allow for questions and comments



JULY COUNCIL NOTES

Submitted by Sherri Reifsteck, Church Council Secretary

One of the priorities of the present council is to keep the members of The Lutheran Church of Mahomet more easily and better informed of actions taken and matters discussed at council meetings in a more timely manner. For more detailed information as to the council meetings, you are welcome to take a copy of the minutes from the quad board after they are approved and posted. Minutes from the June 17, 2013, regular meeting and the July 2, 2013, special meeting have been approved and posted.

At the July 2, 2013, special meeting, the following motion as amended was made and passed: The maximum defined compensation for a pastoral call, which includes base salary, housing allowance, and social security allowance, would be up to \$66,000, that the ministry site profile would be updated to indicate that a pastoral candidate should have up to 10 years of service, and that the rolling hybrid approach (receiving one name at a time as candidates are available) the synod is now using to submit candidates to the call committee should be used.

In addition to the motion, it was also decided that any package offered would also include a vehicle allowance, professional books, health insurance, pension, etc., would be within the synod guidelines, and allowances could be adjusted between items to be the most beneficial for both the candidate and the church. It was also decided that the ministry site profile would indicate a pastor's years of service to be considered as "4 to 9" years. Further, since it had been almost a year since the ministry site profile had been submitted to the synod, it was decided to review it at the July 15 council meeting for updates.

At the July 15, 2013, regular council meeting, the following motions were made and passed:

1. Laura Zick-Bottorff should obtain and prepare a bid for a dishwasher and kitchen remodeling needed to accommodate a dishwasher not to exceed \$12,000 and, once the bid is submitted, that we have a congregational meeting to vote on the proposal.
2. The lock box at Fisher National Bank be drilled. (No keys can be located for the lock box)

Other matters discussed or decided at the July 15 meeting were as follows:

1. The director of All God's Children, Wendy Tomashek, brought to council's attention certain maintenance issues with the playground and the building that she would like council to consider, as well as a concern that had been brought to her attention by parents about having an entry system at the church controlled by a buzzer when the school is in session. It was also decided that some type of contract should be prepared between the preschool and the church as to responsibilities. Arrangements will be made for her to meet with VP Chris Edmonds and Building and Grounds Chairman Mark Dalton as to the maintenance issues.
2. Signup sheets will be up for people to sign up for times to work the booth at the Sangamon Valley Festival scheduled for August 23 and 24.
3. The Education Committee is considering following the lectionary (the weekly readings designated for the worship service) for the Sunday school classes and plans to begin small groups in September.
4. Various ideas for fund raising activities were discussed, and it was decided to start an ad hoc committee to plan fund raising events for special projects or needs that would come through council.
5. To have a gardening subcommittee under Building and Grounds for specific areas around the church.
6. For people who attended the Webinar to check into the gifts and talents survey so talents of members can be fit into the programs and goals of the congregation and to look into healthierchurch.org as to utilizing its programs.
7. Planned to celebrate Pastor Baderschneider's and Pastor Blobaum's 50 years of ministry each at the time they leave their interim call with our congregation.
8. Updates were suggested to update the Ministry Site Profile.

Members of the congregation are welcome to attend any council meeting. The meetings are held at 7:00pm on the third Monday of every month. If a member wishes to present an issue to the council for consideration at a meeting, a request should be made to the president, the church council secretary, or the church office by the Thursday prior to the meeting so that the item can be placed on the agenda. The next council meeting is August 19, 2013, at 7:00pm.

Announcements

E-Mail Address Updates Needed: If you haven't been receiving the weekly email newsletters and email special alerts (and would like to), please send your email address to the church office at lcoffice@lcofm.org with the subject "Add email" or phone 217-586-4786. Please encourage anyone you know who would also like to begin receiving our weekly e-mail newsletters to contact the office to have their address added. We have been working very hard to update our membership and with Larry Gibson's help we hope to update our e-mail address list as well.

Confirmation Orientation Meeting: We ask that the parents who have an unconfirmed youth in grades seven through nine come to this special meeting. We also ask that the youth come with their parents that night.

The meeting will be at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, August 28 in the Adult Classroom which is just off of the narthex.

The purpose of this meeting is to get to know one another, share with you about the Confirmation Program that is offered through the Lutheran Church of Mahomet and what role we are inviting you to play. If you have questions or concerns prior to the meeting, please speak with Norman Knicl or Pastors Blobaum or Baderschneider. The office can be contacted by phone at 217-586-4786 or by e-mail to lcoffice@lcofm.org.

LCM Booth at Sangamon River Music Festival: The Lutheran Church of Mahomet will have a booth in the vendor area at the Sangamon River Music Festival August 23rd and 24th in addition to volunteering at the Big Daddy Weave Concert. We will need volunteers for both. There will be a sign up sheet posted in the Narthex for our vendor booth. We have some LCM T-shirts left for volunteers to wear. We will also be handing out Flyers and Pens and inviting the community to join us for Worship and Fellowship at "The Church On The Hill." We will also have face painting and a bean bag toss at our booth. For more information or to sign up contact Pete Farm at 217-202-1199 or peterfarm@yahoo.com.

VA Illiana Health Care Training: The VA Illiana Health Care System is offering training on ways our church can help to meet the needs of Veterans in our community. The training will include information on Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Mental Health, Suicide Prevention, Substance Abuse, and other subjects. In addition to these topics, information will be provided on eligibility for benefits, job opportunities and other programs offered through the VA. The training is free and will be held September 19, 2013 from 8-3 at Parkland College. If you are interested in attending the training, please contact Brenda Lindsey at htslindsey@mchsi.com.

Crisis Nursery Volunteers Needed: Volunteers are needed for the Crisis Nursery Ministry Team. Our team covers volunteer shifts at Crisis Nursery every Saturday from 4-8 pm. We have had difficulty covering all our shifts and a few more volunteers would give us flexibility to respond to the needs each week. Volunteering at the Nursery is fun and rewarding. Please consider serving God in this way. For more information, contact Brenda Lindsey at htslindsey@mchsi.com.

LSSI Donation: On July 7, LCM donated \$363 on behalf of first "Pedal for a Purpose" cross-state cycling journey from Quincy to Danville to raise money for Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI). Thank you very much for your generous support of LSSI and the cyclists who did the ride.

Ladies Nite Out: The August Ladies Nite Out will be Monday, August 26 at the home of Denise Dalton. We will have a cook-out and pot luck meal. More information about this event will be coming soon.