

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

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MAHOMET

410 East Andover, Mahomet, IL 61853
Church Phone: 586-4786; Fax: 586-5618
www.lcofm.org

JUNE, 2013



One You Can Trust

“If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater.” I John 5:9

“Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD.” Jeremiah 17:7

A person with whom I was visiting was telling me of his vacation journeys that he and his wife had enjoyed. One experience that they had on their travels stood out for him. He told of how on this one day they were traveling along a narrow mountain road, when they came upon a long line of cars trailing a heavily loaded, slow moving truck.

Because of the terrain, it was almost impossible for any driver to see far enough ahead to pass the slow moving truck in safety. From time to time the driver in the elevated cab of the truck could see clearly breaks in the oncoming traffic and would wave his arm out of the window, giving the motorist behind him the “green light” to pass him in safety. He did this repeatedly, and more than a dozen cars passed safely in this way. In each case the person behind the wheel put their trust in the signal given to them by someone they didn't even know! Having observed this for quite a while, this person was impressed with the thought that every one of those drivers was willing to place their life in the hands of a man they had never seen before.

When you stop to think about it, we all do things like this daily. Whether boarding a bus, taking a taxi, or getting on an airplane, we entrust ourselves to individuals who are total strangers to us. We also take the word of others concerning matters of health, nutrition, and finances, and act accordingly. Yet, isn't it amazing how reluctant some of us are to trust our loving and caring God and His word given to us.

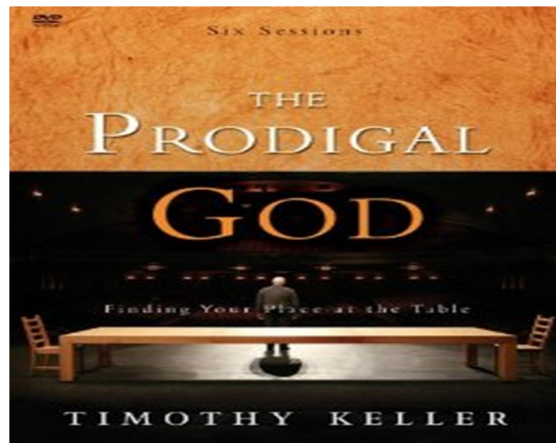
It's utterly inconsistent to place our confidence in people and then refuse to rely upon our Lord's testimony. As Scripture tells us, “If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater.” We have good reason to believe God. As Solomon declared, “There has not failed one word of all his good promise.” Above everyone else, the faithful, omnipotent God of the Holy Scriptures is One you can trust throughout all of your journey of life!

Pastor Vic Baderschneider



Keep your marriage strong with the new set of communication tools you'll receive on a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend! You'll reconnect, renew and re-energize your relationship on the Weekend at the Double Tree Hilton in Schaumburg, IL from July 12 – 14. For more information or to apply, visit GodLovesMarriage.org or contact Jan Gerzevska at luthmarrencounternorthil@gmail.com or 630-294-5014. Call Jan for availability after July 1. Weekends fill fast and applications are due soon – don't miss out.

Congratulations: To newlyweds Brandon John Arnold and Nichole Lynn (Nicholson) Arnold on their wedding held May 19 at LCM



Summer Small Group Bible Study
6 Sessions Wednesdays 6:30-8 pm
Begins June 12, 2013
Lutheran Church of Mahomet
Study the powerful message of Jesus' best known parable The Prodigal Son
Cost \$12.50/book
RSVP htslindsey@mchsi.com



2013

Grace Eileen Beach
Baptismal Date: November 21, 1999
Parents: Randy and Robin Beach
Sponsors: Missy Duff and Jeff Beach
Mentor: Nancy Rosenbery
"I can do all this through Him who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13

Noah Lee Carsten
Baptismal Date: November 1, 1998
Parents: Jeff and Jolie Carsten
Sponsors: Bobbie and Joe Sibley
Mentor: Fran Koller
"Commit your work to the LORD, and your plans will be established" .Proverbs 16:3 (NSRV)

Morgan Elizabeth Cheek
Baptismal Date: November 12, 2000
Parents: Shannon and Kim Cheek
Sponsors: Jim and Terri Hopper
Mentor: Tammy Kesler
"For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord".
Romans 8:38-39

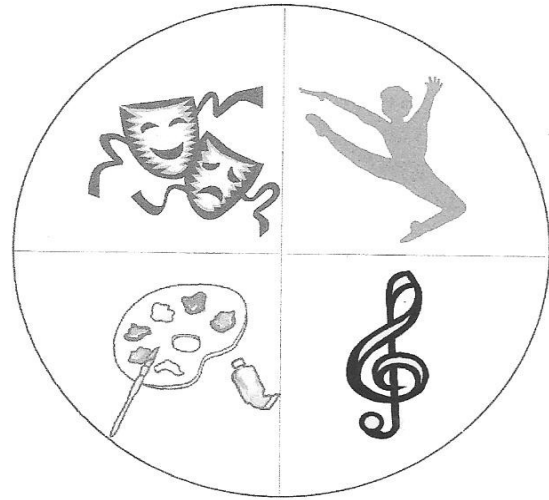
Jaelyn Marie Middendorf
Baptismal Date: August 8, 1999
Parents: Jay and Stephanie Middendorf
Sponsors: Marty and Roxann Nuss
Mentor:
"I consider that the present suffering is nothing compared to the coming glory that is going to be revealed to us" Romans 8:18

Madison Rae Mitchell
Baptismal Date: June 27, 1999
Parents: Cory and Michelle Mitchell
Sponsors: Curt and Tammy Kimmel
Mentor: Sherri Reifsteck
"I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus"
Philippians 3:14 (NRSV)

Kaylee Ann Kibler
Baptismal Date: September 19, 1999
Parents: Cliff and Karen Kibler
Sponsors: Jill Weddle and Doug Thompson
Mentor: Alicia Ekhooff
"A time to weep and a time to laugh separate us from the love of God a time to mourn and a time to dance"
Ecclesiastes 3:4

Church in the Park is June 2 at 10:00. This is also Youth Sunday, Services will be held at the Urbana Sportsman's Club off of Rte. 150 in Mahomet. Participants will enjoy a potluck dinner and putt-putt golf after the service. The main dish, drinks, and table service will be provided by Congressional Life and the Youth Committee. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Volunteers Needed: LCM is participating in the church-wide Free Summer Lunch Program at Candlewood Estates again this year. Our week will July 22 to July 26th. Last year we served approximately 35 children and senior citizens each lunch hour. This year we need help from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Monday through Friday. Please call Amy McDonald at 586-3944 if you could help on these days and attend a brief organizational meeting.



Summer Fine Arts Camp 2013

Jr. High Camp – June 10-14

\$25 Registration due by May 20th

High School Camp – July 22-26

\$25 Registration due by July 1st

10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Held at
The Lutheran Church of Mahomet
410 E. Andover

Registration forms available online at www.lcofm.org
or from the church office



MAY 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 April 15, 2013, meeting have been approved and posted.

At the May 20, 2013, regular meeting of council, the following motions were made and passed:

1. The membership of Shyane VanDeVeer and Gabriella Agius be released
2. The membership of Sue Brockman be reinstated

Matters discussed or decided at the May 20 meeting were as follows:

1. That committees and other groups in the church should make use of free materials available on the ELCA website
2. Working on a plan to refurbish the kitchen
3. Requests of the church by All God's Children Preschool, the need for a church representative for the AGC Board, communication between the preschool and the church council, and the need to review the relationship and contract between the church and the pre-school
4. Requirements for confirmation attendance and adjusting the class schedule so that it allows for better attendance
5. Delegates to the synod conference in June are Kendyl Cummins, Bill Moehring, and Dia Nuesmeyer, with both pastors also attending
6. Although there is not a parish nurse at this time, Barb DeReus continues doing some of the parish nurse duties, and Ashley Rosenbery has been doing blood pressure checks. Anyone interested in becoming a parish nurse is encouraged to contact a council member.
7. Report by Brenda Lindsey that having garden plots in the extra lot for Faith in Place was not possible this year.
8. Continuing the Sunday Shepherd program with council members filling that role for the rest of this year and then including it on Time and Talent Sheets for the future
9. Ways to brighten up the fellowship hall without painting
10. Using the back room with no windows as a storage room for all committees and groups so that extra items are not taking up space in the other areas of the church

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 June 17, 2013, at 7:00pm.



Do you know...

Gene and Margaret Rinkel? If not, and you attend fellowship after the church services, you most likely will soon. Gene and Margaret are co-chairing the Adult Education and Small Groups committee. Last month I wrote about the very important work we do as a mission station in our tithing and how it impacts the world in the form of relief efforts. So, I had been mulling around a few ideas for a follow up this month and pretty much decided to touch upon ideas outlined in a document from the Adult Ed group. When we sat down for the May council meeting last night and Pastor Blobaum began the meeting with a scripture that pretty much sealed the deal. The scripture was from James 2:17, "so faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead."

In their treatise, the Adult Ed committee has outlined their goals and suggestions for showing "Faith and Love in Action." I would like to reprint the entire paper, because it is so well thought out, but for this DYK article I'm going to focus on random acts of kindness. We are so blessed to have such scholarly members as the Rinkels in our church family. Their paper is laced with quotes that bring their talking points home. Some of my favorites are:

"If one life shines, the life next to it will catch the light" (anonymous)

"It is in the shelter of each other that people live" (Irish Proverb)

"Wherever there is a human being there is an opportunity for kindness" (Seneca)

Random acts of kindness rarely cost a thing, and tend to benefit both the giver and receiver. Here are some ideas from the Adult Ed committee:

Make someone's day with a hug, compliment, or warm smile; Record everyday miracles in a small journal or give thanks for 3 blessings daily; Seize teachable moments with children for imparting respect and empathy; create a family tradition of helping the needy during holidays; Smile and greet strangers; Send a letter of appreciation to someone who has made a positive impact in your life; Compliment a job well done; Volunteer to drive an elderly person to an appointment or out for lunch; Contribute food, clothing, or labor wherever it's needed locally or to disaster sites; Compliment a service person for doing a great job; Practice the Golden Rule.

This is just a drop in the bucket of suggestions from the Adult Ed group, but the main point I'm trying to convey is that being a mission station is so much more than what our tithes can contribute to the world. It is also how we interact with those around us. It is a great day for me when I can reach out and show God's love to anyone I encounter. Yep, a great day indeed!

In the beginning of this article I hinted about something happening in fellowship soon. The Adult Ed group is going to hold a kind of 5 minute temple talk during fellowship that will, hopefully, get folks talking about different ways you can show faith and love in action. I can't wait!

Yours in Christ,
Kelly Strode



Psalm 55:22

Cast your burden on the LORD,
he will sustain you;
he will never permit
righteous to be moved.

Invitation to Prayer

"Burden" is a heavy word, one of those words which sound like its meaning. The weight of the problem can be felt even as the word is spoken. As we consider what we ought to do in the hour of need, we hear the advice of the psalmist that we are to seek the help of the Lord.

Seeking help is a regular part of our lives. As differing needs arise, we seek help from those who are able to grant it. The medical doctor cares for our physical ailments, the lawyer unwinds our legal entanglements, the mechanic solves our automotive dilemmas, and so forth. Only the foolish seek no help from the proper source when it is readily available. Only the foolish would seek help for their bodies from a mechanic or for their car from a doctor. Help from the wrong source is no help at all.

As we Christians go through life, there is one common source of help for us in any problem, one individual who can be approached whatever our need. That special source of help is our God. He can and will guide us in every undertaking, as He has promised.

But there is another side of God's invitation. If we do not bring our problems to Him in faith, if we continue to worry or fret in the face of problems in spite of His invitation, then we are actually showing a lack of confidence in Him and His promise. Even the best Christian is guilty of this weakness from time to time. We have to remember that God didn't say "sometimes" he would help, "sometimes" He would be available, or that He is available only for large burdens. Every problem, every care should be brought to Him for help. Not to do so is a vote of "no confidence" in His offer.

In this 55th Psalm, as in so many of them, the psalmist speaks of his enemy. As we pray these same psalms, we understand that enemy to be Satan and the temptations and trials that he sets before us. In the face of all such, we are told simply to "cast your cares on the Lord". All of Scripture is filled with the message of God's love for sinners, His gift of forgiveness and eternal life, His offer to guide and protect each of us on the road to our eternal joy. How simple it is to relax with our cares given over to God, to sing His praises without hindrance from worry or care.

Almighty God, help me to see the joy of giving all my burden of care over to you at your invitation.
Amen



Thank You for Volunteering

A special thank you for the following who volunteered their time and talents for our Church during the Month of May.

Greeters: the LeGrant Family, the Mitchell Family, the Vogen Family and Nancy Rosenbery.

Ushers: the Koller Family, the Sapp Family, the Edmonds Family and the Ekhoﬀ Family.

Scripture Readers: Alicia Ekhoﬀ, Pam Atwood, Marty Vogel and Ashley Rosenbery.

Communion Assistant: the Edmonds family, Mark Reifsteck, Jenifer Farm and Sheri Reifsteck.

Assisting Minister: Dia Nuesmeyer, Alex Paul and Mark Reifsteck.

Celebration Leaders: Marty Vogel. and Kendyl Cummins

Acolytes: Kaylee Kibler, Callum Buchanan Chatman Edmonds.

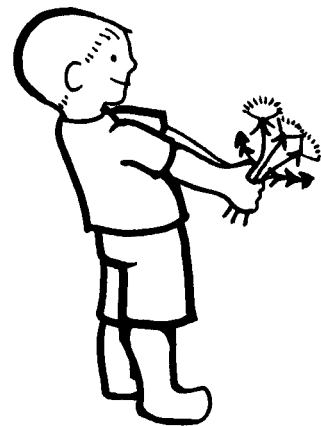
Fellowship Hosts: Congregational Life Committee, the Isaac's family, Kelly Strode, the Rinkel family, the Sapp family and the Vogen family

Breadmaker: Ruth Studley.

Altar Guild: Nancy Rosenbery and Theresa Edmonds.

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

Martin and Linda Vogel
Volunteer Coordinators



“Using God’s Strength”

My brother was so sick last week I seriously thought he would die. Our daughter has struggled with a health issue for well over a year. She is not out of the woods yet. I have been dealing with a close aunt who will enter a nursing facility next week due to Alzheimer’s. My 90 year old mother is doing pretty well right now, living independently with the help of my brothers, husband and me. It seems like Steve and I are on the road to Chicago or Davenport constantly. We are two people in the “sandwich generation.” The stress has been almost unbearable at times.

I have personally learned much during these difficult months. Prayer for me is frequent. I know I have needed the strength of God to see me through. One also must count on the support of family and friends and also know when to ask for medical help. Accept when to “lighten up” on responsibilities. People only have so much physical and emotional energy and it must be spent wisely. How to be positive during times of crisis is challenging. Remember that no one likes to be around a grump! I, for one, get so tired of hearing the sayings such as “the golden years aren’t so golden” or “getting old is not for sissies.” Yes, I am getting old too. I feel it when I don’t heal as quickly. I know it because I am stiffer. I see it in the mirror. Time marches on. Yet, I thank God every day that I am still here, and ask Him to help me live the way Jesus would have me live, and hope for many more days to come! I intend to have this attitude ALL my days! I hope you will too. I suggest concentrating on the good in your life, and thanking God for it daily.

2 Corinthians 12:10 “For Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”

Psalms 55:22 “Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous fall.”

*Footnote: This article was written before the devastating tornado in Oklahoma. Incidents like this make one realize how many of our problems are insignificant in comparison. It also magnifies our realization of the numerous blessings we truly have. I am sure you join with me in asking God to give strength to the people around our country and the entire world who are suffering in so many ways.

I would like to thank RN Ashley Rosenbery for doing blood pressures periodically after services. I hope you are taking advantage of this service.

Although I have not been working as your parish nurse, there is a bulletin board in the fellowship hall, there are Care Notes available there for you to take, an AED is in the Narthex in the event of an emergency, and there are 3 first aid kits-- in the kitchen, above the AED, and above the staff mailboxes. I continue to care about you and will be checking on you and your family when I see you.
Barb DeReus BS, RNC, Faith Community Nurse (retired)