

- 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

## MARCH 2014



### The Season of Lent begins on Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>

Lent is a period of forty days in which the Sundays are not included. It begins on Ash Wednesday and runs through the Saturday before Easter. Many Christians are confused these days about how to observe Lent.

Our forefathers used to fast and deny themselves worldly pleasures during this season. Many of them gave up something for Lent. There were no weddings, parties, or other festivities during this time. Today, most of this has gone by the board.

We remember that Jesus says, **“If any person would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.”** To deny ourselves means not merely to deny ourselves something! It is to deny ourselves! It is to say no to all that we are by nature and to say yes to the way Jesus would have us live.

To help in accomplishing this, we invite you to come and worship at the special Lenten services and to set aside time for personal and family reading of God's Word and prayer. Our theme for this Lenten Season is **“The Love Road to Calvary”**. As we travel together on the road to Calvary. We will see how Jesus dealt with others in love and how we are to live out our lives in showing love to God and others.

Our prayer for you is that the Season of Lent will be a special blessing for each of us as we travel together on **“The Love Road to Calvary”**.

Interim Pastors: Vic Baderschneider & Emil Blobaum

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March 5	“Love is being patient and kind”	- Ash Wednesday - 7:00 pm
March 12	“Love is not jealous or boastful”	- Wednesday - 7:00 pm
March 19	“Love is not arrogant or rude”	- Wednesday - 7:00 pm
March 26	“Love does not insist on it own way”	- Wednesday - 7:00 pm
April 2	“Love is not irritable or resentful”	- Wednesday - 7:00 pm
April 9	“Love does not rejoice at wrong but rejoices in the right”	- Wednesday - 7:00 pm
April 17	“Love bears, believes, hopes, and endures all things”	- Maundy Thursday- 7:00 pm
April 18	Tenebrae Service	- Good Friday - 7:00 pm

## FEBRUARY 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 January 13, 2014, meeting have been approved and posted.

Matters discussed or decided at the February 10, 2014, meeting were as follows:

1. Repairs for the keypad entry, a leak in the kitchen ceiling, and a sewer line
2. To reconvene the annual meeting on March 2, 2014, to present the 2014 budget for approval
3. Need for a youth chairperson and some type of division of duties of the youth committee
4. Need for a VBS leader so that planning can begin soon
5. Program ideas and possible speakers for the council retreat
6. Continuing to hold council meetings on the second Monday of each month
7. Delivering membership directories and the small group brochure to members who have not picked up their directories
8. Having a rental policy and procedure for calendaring of rentals of the church facilities
9. A request by Waldorf College asking us to host a concert on May 6 and provide dinner and host families for approximately 34 choir members to be considered by the music and worship committee

Members of the congregation are welcome to attend any council meeting. 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







## Total giving and investment

In 2013, you and people like you have given nearly \$9 million to support our church's disaster response ministry. Thank you.

During the same period, our church has invested or allocated over \$9 million for disaster response work around the world, supporting more than 40 immediate and long-term programs in the United States and around the world, ranging from helping hundreds of families and individuals rebuild their lives and homes in New York, New Jersey and Maryland after Hurricane Sandy to distributing food for thousands of children whose families have been driven from their homes by civil unrest in the Central African Republic.

Your undesignated gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response, internationally and domestically, make it possible for us to respond quickly in time of need. Thank you.



## The work we do



Effective disaster response calls for a wide array of work. Here are some examples of the work Lutheran Disaster Response has carried out in the past year, **both in the United States and internationally:**

### Emergency relief

- Food and nutrition
- Water and sanitation
- Shelter, clothing, bedding, more
- Medical care
- Coordination and management of relief work

### Livelihood recovery

- Education
- Seeds, tools, more
- Work programs

### Health and safety

- Safety and security
- Health and safety education
- Spiritual, psychosocial and respite care

### Community preparedness and resilience

- Community disaster response training
- Congregational emergency services
- Institutional preparedness for emergency responses



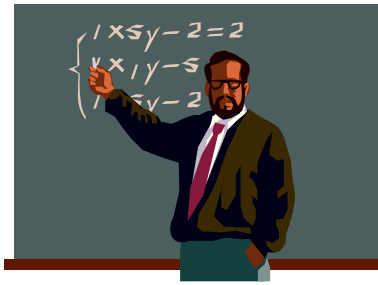
## Sharing the Faith With Friends

This small group will continue to study Rob Bell's book *Love Wins* in the DeReus home at 1701 Whisper Meadow Lane in Mahomet. Time: 6:30-8:00 and date will be March 18. We will continue with chapter 4, "Does God Get What God Wants?" and possibly chapter 5, "Dying to Live." Newcomers, please let Barb or Steve know if you would like to join us, and regulars, please notify us if you are unable to come. 778-6546 or [barbdereus@mchsi.com](mailto:barbdereus@mchsi.com).



The study of **Worship: Our Highest Calling** is a booklet/video course that emphasizes the Biblical model of worship and aids in a deeper understanding of the worship experience. The what, why and how of worship point to the attributes of God, direct attention anew to His love and sacrifice for humanity, and require the involvement of every Christian. Thoughtful questions and practical helps are features that will resonate with Christians of any denomination. This five-week course, prepared by nationally recognized Bible teacher, Tom Kraeuter, will be taught by Group leader Kat Downs.

Contact **Kat Downs** at 217-552-2608 or [musikat00@hotmail.com](mailto:musikat00@hotmail.com)



## ADULT INQUIRER'S CLASS

An Adult Inquirer's Class will begin soon. This class is open to all adults who want to know more about the Christian Faith and what it is that Lutheran Christians teach and believe. There is no obligation other than to come and participate.

If after one has completed the class, he/she desires to become a member of the congregation, they are most welcome. Attendees may be persons who want to better understand their spouse's faith; persons who desire Baptism; those who want a refresher course of the Catechism; spouses who accompany a class attendee; etc. There are usually 6 sessions and the meeting time and dates are arranged to fit the schedules of those who register.

Pastor Baderschneider and Pastor Blobaum, who will be teaching the class, welcome your questions.

### INQUIRER CLASS REGISTRATION

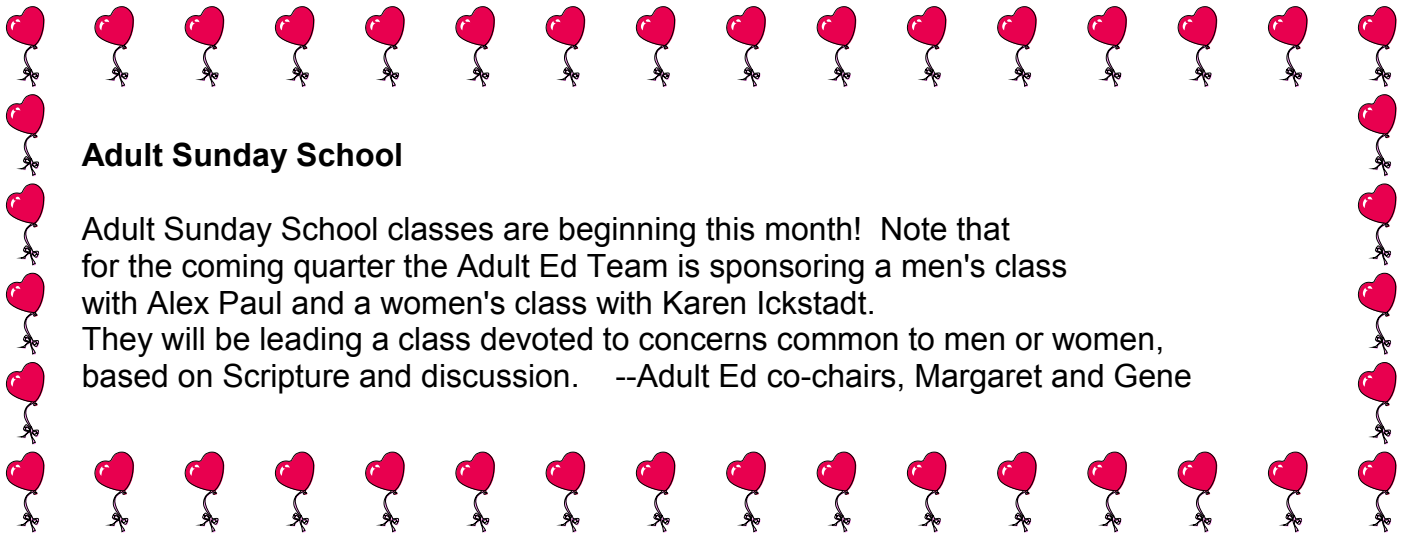
Please include (me) (us) in the Inquirer's Class. Following is (my) (our) contact information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

(Return this form to the church office; to either pastor; or send information by e-mail to the church office)

For referral.....

Please contact (name) \_\_\_\_\_ and invite them to the class  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_



### Adult Sunday School

Adult Sunday School classes are beginning this month! Note that for the coming quarter the Adult Ed Team is sponsoring a men's class with Alex Paul and a women's class with Karen Ickstadt.

They will be leading a class devoted to concerns common to men or women, based on Scripture and discussion. --Adult Ed co-chairs, Margaret and Gene





## 15 Minutes with God

Prayer is one of the foundational resources that we as Christians have to help ground us in our faith; however, due to a variety of circumstances, it becomes increasingly more difficult for people to find time to develop their prayer life. "15 Minutes With God" is designed to help people reclaim prayer as one of the foundational resources of their life.



**How it works:** You are invited to make a commitment to spend 15 minutes in prayer with God each day for a specific period of time (i.e. one week, one month, three months, six months, one year, etc.). During this pre-selected time period, you agree to "make every effort to the best of your ability" to pray 15 minutes each day. In addition, your congregation could help support this ministry by providing you with additional prayer resources.

## 7 Easy Steps

1. Determine the length of the time-frame (a week, a month, etc.) to which you will devote 15 minutes each day for prayer.
2. Set aside a specific time each day for "uninterrupted conversation" with God.
3. Find a "quiet place" where there will be no outside distractions.
4. Make yourself comfortable as if you were going to sit down and have a conversation with a familiar friend.
5. Speak aloud or from your heart and tell God what has been going on in your life.
6. If you are unsure of what to say, do any of the following:
  - ❖ **PRAISE** God for something wonderful that has happened;
  - ❖ **ASK** God for guidance and/or direction;
  - ❖ **CONFESS** something that has been troubling you;
  - ❖ **THANK** God for the blessings in your life;
  - ❖ **PRAY** for someone else;
  - ❖ **LISTEN** in silence and wait for God to speak to you;
  - ❖ **READ** the Bible and allow God to speak to you via the scriptures.
7. As you engage in this kind of prayer, share your experiences with others. Invite them to set aside 15 minutes each day for prayer.



## For Your Consideration

1. What are the biggest factors in your life that help you to nurture and/or develop your prayer life?
2. Who are the people and what are the concerns in your daily life about which you pray?
3. What can your congregation do to help you develop a deeper prayer life?



## Thank You for Volunteering

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

Greeters	Jon LeGrant Family, Karen Ickstadt, Robert Witherell Family and Nancy Rosenbery.
Ushers	Tim Koller Family, Norm Knicl Family, Chris Edmonds Family and Stewart Ekhoﬀ Family.
Scripture Readers	Alicia Ekhoﬀ, Alex Paul, Brenda Lindsey and Cindy Erickson.
Communion Assistants	Mark Reifsteck, Theresa Edmonds, Jennifer Farm and Jennifer Scheele.
Assisting Ministers	Chris Edmonds, Dia Nuesmeyer and Alex Paul.
Celebration Leader	Alicia Ekhoﬀ.
Sunday Shepherds	Peter Farm, Barb LeGrant, Brenda Lindsey and Bill Moehring.
Acolytes	Chatman Edmonds, Seth Buchan, Callum Buchanan and Noah Schnepfer.
Fellowship Hosts	Congregational Life Committee, Mitchell Family, Bottorﬀ Family, Lindsey Family, Mills Family, Howard Family and McDonald Family.
Breadmaker	Leslie Knicl.
Alter Guild	Pat Moehring and Amy McDonald.
Offering Counters	Stewart and Alicia Ekhoﬀ, Dan and Cindy Erickson, Sherri Reifsteck, Sharon Yeakel, Susie Johnston, Scott Kingry, Chris and Theresa Edmonds, David Alderks and Jon and Barb LeGrant.

Martin and Linda Vogel  
Volunteer Coordinators

## Special Thank You!

A special thank you goes out to Donna Lea and Judy Ferdinandsen for filling in for us with folding the Sunday bulletins and helping with the assembly and mailing of the February Newsletter while we were out of town.

Martin and Linda Vogel

## Thank You Pastor Moorman

The people of LCM would like to extend their gratitude to Pastor Ron Moorman for responding to the invitation of our Call Committee for his message to our congregation Sunday, February 23. Pastor Moorman is an Assistant to the Bishop and has been the Call Committee's contact with the Synod Office throughout the Call Process. His assistance and guidance have been invaluable to us.

## Stewardship Notes - March 2014

### Stewardship and Lent

The 40 days of Lent are a time for us to intentionally reflect on our relationship with God and others. Lent can be viewed as a course in how to live a life as a disciple and as a **steward** of our God given gifts; our time, our talent and our treasure. It is typically a time when we consider making a sacrifice or “giving up” something. Rather than solely “giving up” something during Lent why not also add something to your life or “take on” something new?

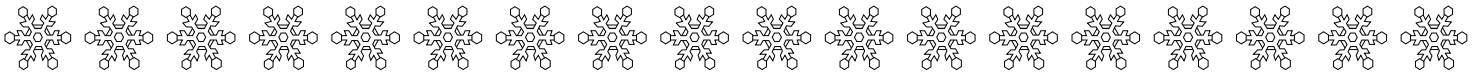
*Stewardship Prayer: Dear Lord, help us discover the talents you have entrusted to each of us. May the Holy Spirit guide us in how to use these talents to do your work in our community and beyond. May we learn to be accountable to you for these gifts. And, when possible may we accompany others in discovering how to use their gifts. Amen.*

Lutheran Church of Mahomet Directories are in envelopes in the Narthex and available for you to pick up and take home!

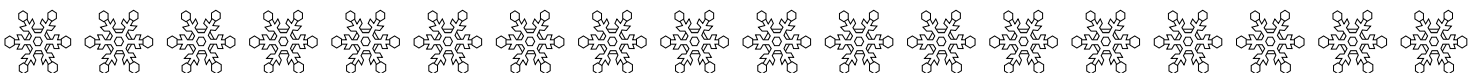
Small Group Ministry is here! Interested in meeting people, serving the Lord, growing spiritually, and having fun?? Look for the poster in the Narthex about small groups and pick up a brochure which describes and lists the small groups available now! New ideas for groups are always welcome, so if you have a passion and would like to lead a group, please contact one of the Faith in Action team (Cindy Erickson, Brenda Lindsey, Margaret Rinkel, and Gene Rinkel).



*Celebrate the March Wind*



WANT AD: Are you looking for a rewarding volunteer position? Do you enjoy spending time with youth and planning activities and special events for them? Do you enjoy sharing God’s love and grace with young people? If you said to yes to those questions, the position of Youth Chairperson might be just what you have been looking for! Duties include planning programs and education for all youth, working with and supervising the LOGOS team, and working with the church council in this two-year position. If you feel called to serve the youth of our congregation in this way, please contact President Bill Moehring at [billmoehring@yahoo.com](mailto:billmoehring@yahoo.com) or Secretary Sherri Reifsteck at [mrsr1974@mchsi.com](mailto:mrsr1974@mchsi.com).





# ASH WEDNESDAY

## Ash Wednesday

"Ashes to ashes, dust to dust,"  
How those words,  
remind me, tell me  
of my mortality.

O dear Feast of Lent,  
what I can accomplish  
during your forty days  
for immortality?

Surrender Your will,  
my Master would say.  
And learn of my way,  
of obedience to the Father.

That is a hard task,  
I thought.  
How can a mortal  
accomplish this?

By grace, dear child, my grace.  
Grace I give you, each time  
you say, 'no' to self,  
and 'yes' to me.

Love your enemies,  
do good to your persecutors,  
give without reward.  
Judge not and forgive.

This way you will be with me  
in my darkest, darkest hours,  
when sin does its worst  
to rule the earth.

It put me to death,  
High on the cross,  
I had the last word.  
I am the Saviour of all.

Marianne Dorman

## When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

While preparing for a communion service in 1707, Isaac Watts wrote this deeply moving and very personal expression of gratitude for the amazing love that the death of Christ on the cross revealed. It first appeared in print that same year in Watts' outstanding collection, *Hymns and Spiritual Songs*. The hymn was originally titled, "Crucifixion to the World by the Cross of Christ." Noted theologian Matthew Arnold called this the greatest hymn in the English language. In Watts' day, texts such as this, which were based only on personal feelings, were termed "hymns of human composure" and were very controversial, since almost all congregational singing at this time consisted of ponderous repetitions of the Psalms. The unique thoughts presented by Watts in these lines certainly must have pointed the 18<sup>th</sup> century Christians to a view of the dying Savior in a vivid and memorable way that led them to a deeper worship experience, even as it does for us today.

Young Watts showed unusual talent at an early age, learning Latin when he was 5, Greek at 9, French at 11 and Hebrew at 12. As he grew up, he became increasingly disturbed by the uninspiring psalm singing in the English churches. He commented, "The singing of God's praise is the part of worship most closely related to heaven; but its performance among us is the worst on earth." Throughout his life, Isaac Watts wrote over 600 hymns and is known today as the "father of English hymnody." His hymns were strong and triumphant statements of the Christian faith, yet none ever equaled the colorful imagery and genuine devotion of this emotionally stirring and magnificent hymn text.

*When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.*

from *Amazing Grace: 366 Inspiring Hymn Stories for Daily Devotions* by Kenneth W. Osbeck

# *The Lutheran Church of Mahomet*

*Invites you to join us this Easter Season*

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Wednesday, March 1                   | Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 p.m.  |
| Wednesdays, March 12 through April 9 | Mid-Week Lenten services at 7:00 p.m.   |
| Sunday, April 13                     | Palm Sunday service at 9:00 a.m.<br>Brunch following service  |
| Thursday, April 17                   | Maundy Thursday service at 7:00 p.m.  |
| Friday, April 18                     | Good Friday service at 7:00 p.m.  |
| Sunday, April 20                     | Youth sponsored breakfast from 7:30 a.m.-8:30 a.m .<br>Followed by Easter Sunday service at 9:00 a.m. |

