

## Stewardship Notes

Stewardship abounds at LCM! We are celebrating our stewardship during Consecration Sunday on November 17, 2013. This annual stewardship event calls us to “pledge” our giving and time & talents to Christ through the Lutheran Church of Mahomet for the upcoming year. *Following the morning worship service, be sure to join us for a special fellowship “brunch.”*

Please plan to turn in your completed pledge cards and the Opportunities for Service booklets for 2014, which you received in the mail. Hand in the booklets after service, or put in the box located in the narthex later. If you aren't able to turn in your pledge card or Opportunities for Service booklet on November 17, there will be extras in the narthex. Contact Cindy Erickson if you have any questions.

This is the time to celebrate our faith in action, relationships, fellowship, and God's abundant love for us. I am humbled when I see the stewardship alive in our congregation, whether it's attending or teaching Sunday school, volunteering at Crisis Nursery, taking part in LOGOs, singing in the choir, sewing 463 quilts and assembling the health kits, increasing weekly offerings, participating in the Live Nativity, serving on LCM committees, or sharing fellowship at Ladies or Men's night out, etc. It's just amazing! We are pretty awesome in sharing God's love!

This year we are blessed as our congregation stepped up in offering pledges and in giving of their time and talents. I want to thank everyone for sharing and growing in God's love. Of course, I also want to encourage all of you to look into your hearts and see what's possible for 2014. Let's keep our momentum going! Thanks for your participation in our LCM stewardship!



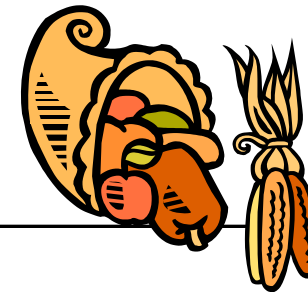
- Our mission is to invite people to know Jesus Christ so that we may all share God's love.

## LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MAHOMET

410 East Andover, Mahomet, IL 61853

Church Phone: 586-4786; Fax: 586-5618 [www.lcofm.org](http://www.lcofm.org)

# NOVEMBER 2013



### REBUILDING OUR CONGREGATION!

The Lutheran Church of Mahomet family has a lot for which to be thankful! We have a vibrant, loving congregation, dedicated leadership, and two wonderful pastors. LCM is an inviting place where people can build great relationships with great people. But, while we have weathered the storm for the past few years, it seems that many of our ongoing challenges are related to not having enough active members. We see this in periodic shortages of volunteers, potential burn-out of church leaders, shortage of SS teachers, lack of participants needed to make our youth and adult education programs vibrant, etc. **Thus, we need your help and participation to re-build the church in order to maintain the activities and programs that we are accustomed to at LCM. Every church, if it is to be healthy and thrive, must grow its ranks by attracting new members to replace those who move, die, or stop attending for whatever reason.**

This is the perfect time of year for us to be inviting people to our church. Some suggested ways of doing this are:

○ **Increased community awareness of LCM:** First, we should continue our efforts to increase the general awareness of LCM in the community. Our Festival booth, the yard signs, newspaper advertising, and the Live Nativity are all intended to increase that awareness. These efforts are a key part of our "being out in the community", along with more visible community assistance efforts like leaf raking, serving the Candlewood lunches, hosting outside groups like Cub Scouts and Lions Club, and assisting Mahomet Helping Hands, Salt & Light, and the Crisis Nursery.

**Talk up LCM at every chance:** Secondly, we should all think in terms of frequently talking to people about LCM and the worship experience through which we are blessed every Sunday. Let people know where you go to church and how much and why you enjoy it. Be positive--talk up LOGOS, talk up fellowship, talk up the puppet shows, talk up the chili cook-off, talk up Gals/Guys Nights Out, talk up All God's Children preschool. These discussions could also include comments about our upcoming Christmas season services for the Madrigals and Hanging of the Greens. The Christmas season is a very joyous and exciting time at LCM, making it easy to show others our excitement for the upcoming holiday season.

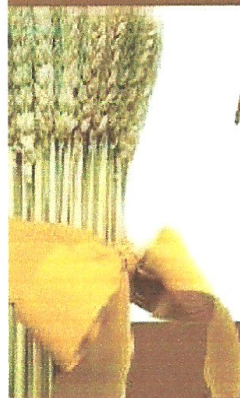
○ **Invite friends and neighbors to LCM:** Thirdly, I'd like to ask each of you to invite at least one friend or neighbor to come to church as your guest over the next month or two—sooner the better. Then, you can re-invite them when we get our new pastor or for various Christmas season services. **This is a very important part of our overall new member efforts.** Preferably, these will be folks without a current church family, but not necessarily. It might take inviting several people to get one to come. However, it is my feeling that when we welcome our guests with open arms, we will have a good chance of them becoming LCM members over time. Think of how many of you are members as a result of being invited as a guest of a member. I'm certainly in that group.

**Invite inactive members to worship:** Finally, if you are aware of members who we haven't seen in a while, please either reach out to them yourself or let the Pastors or a Council member know the inactive member that you're thinking about and praying for.

Now is the time to grow our church—not tomorrow! We should not delay until we have a new pastor. It is primarily the congregation's job to re-build the congregation, not the pastor's. **We all have a responsibility to spread the gospel by growing our flock.** We can't just sit back and wait for people to magically find us--we need to proactively reach out to expand our ranks. We can do it!

Thanks for listening.  
Bill Moehring, Council President

**You and your family are invited to join in a community Thanksgiving service**



**6:00pm Sunday, November 24  
Mahomet Seymour High School Auditorium  
Special Guests: MSHS Madrigals  
Speaker: John McIntosh, Minister  
Mahomet United Methodist Church**

**Mahomet Ministerial Alliance**

*Free-Will offering to benefit Helping Hands*

### TOY DRIVE



It Takes a Village was started by a few Mahomet residents about a year ago. Their families had trouble providing for their kids during Christmas. Someone took care of that for them. So they formed this group and pass it on. They rent out a storage locker on Lake of the Woods Road, and collect new and used clothes. Each month they open the locker on Thursdays so people can get clothes for their kids. Last year, they held a toy giveaway for Christmas at Grace. They had new and gently used toys and clothes available for families who registered. The families took what they needed for Christmas.

It Takes a Village also has a Facebook page that people can use to donate items or ask for help.

This year, there are already 85 families with children ages 0-18 who will need toys and clothing. The items we collect will be given away at the Dec. 7 toy giveaway for registered families at Grace Church. More information about drop off boxes and dates will be coming out in November. There will also be drop off locations at the IGA or the Marathon.

### OCTOBER 20, 2013, CONGREGATIONAL MEETING RESULTS Submitted by Sherri Reifsteck, Church Council Secretary

New council members were elected at the October 20 congregational meeting as follows:

- President: Bill Moehring
- Financial Secretary: Barb LeGrant
- Building and Grounds Chairperson: Bill Taylor
- Evangelism Chairperson: Pete Farm
- Stewardship Chairperson: Cindy Erickson

The position for Youth Chairperson is still open. If you feel called to serve in this position, please contact a council member.

There was also a discussion about the purchase of new hymnals at the meeting. Issues raised during this discussion (both for and against) will be considered by the Music and Worship Committee.

#### Special Reminder – Upcoming Events Here at LCM

- Nov. 3 All Saints Sunday
- Nov. 7 Suite Inspirations and Chancel Choir
- Nov. 10 Installation of Barb Buchanan
- Nov. 14 Suite Inspirations and Chancel Choir
- Nov. 17 Consecration Sunday
- Nov. 21 Suite Inspirations and Chancel Choir
- Nov. 23 Wedding
- Nov. 24 Christ the King
- Nov. 27 NO LOGOS
- Nov. 28 NO CHOIRS

#### LOGOS themes for November are:

- Nov. 6 Message in a Bottle
- Nov. 13 Hodge Podge
- Nov. 20 Thanksgiving

#### December Sundays are as follows:

- Dec. 1 1st Sunday in Advent  
Hanging of the Greens  
MSHS Madrigals
- Dec. 8 Nativity
- Dec. 15 "All is Well" LCM Chancel Choir
- Dec. 22 "The Most Wonderful Day" LCM Children and Puppet Ministry



LCM Youth Report  
October 2013  
Submitted by Alicia Ekhoﬀ, Youth Chair

Sunday School

K-5<sup>th</sup> averages 3 students and will continue to be taught by Stu & Alicia Ekhoﬀ with substitutes as needed. Fall/Winter curriculum, ELCA Taking Root, is working well & will continue through January. Reviewing a 3-year curriculum that was shared by Jennifer Farm for consideration for Spring and beyond.

Jr. High/High School ranges from 1-5 students & has not met some Sundays due to no students. Teacher, Chris Edmunds, moved time to 10:15 – 11am at the suggestion of parents but there has been little change in attendance.

Youth Sunday School will not meet December 1<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> due to holidays (Thanksgiving & Christmas). We will resume January 5<sup>th</sup>.

LOGOS

Nineteen students are enrolled; meals are prepared for 42 people to accommodate Confirmation students and parents/volunteers.

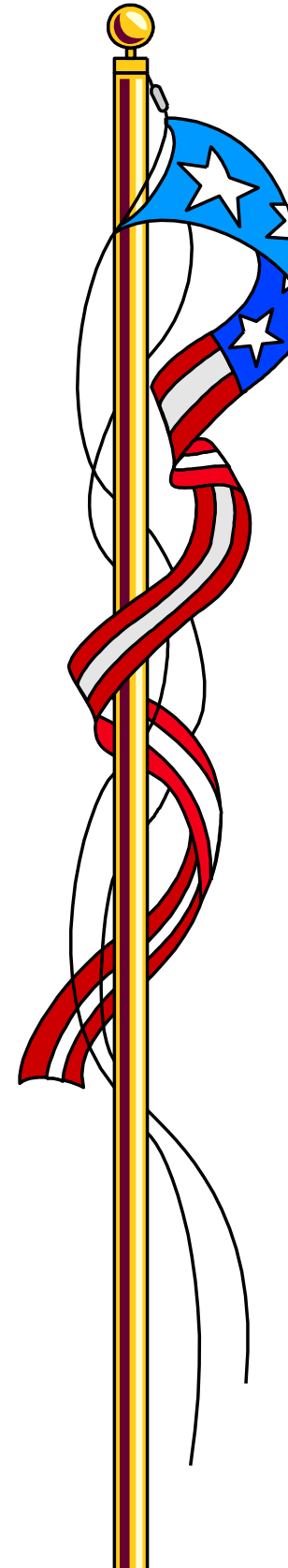
Activities

September 29<sup>th</sup> – Fifteen youth and adults attended Thrivent's Luth Youth event at the U of I Union Bowling/Rec room.

November 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> – LYO Youth Gathering (ELCA) in Carlinville, IL. All Jr. & Sr. High students are welcome; cost is \$160 + \$12 optional t-shirt + transportation. LCM Youth will contribute \$60 for each member youth attending. Registration & \$100 check is due by October 27<sup>th</sup>, \$12 check for t-shirt should be written separately; both checks should be made to LCM Youth. Place both checks in Alicia Ekhoﬀ's box outside the church office. Transportation and chaperones will be determined once we know how many will attend. LYO requires 1 chaperone per 8 students of each gender. If at least 5 youth attend, we will also invite Monticello Lutheran Church. If there is not enough interest, we will consider Youth Quake Zone for Jr & Sr High students in Chicago, March 12-14, 2014.

December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2pm – 5pm -  
Holiday Craft Fun Day for PK - 5<sup>th</sup> grade children, & to give parents a break. Confirmation students can receive Volunteer Credit for helping.

December 8<sup>th</sup> – Youth Sunday; student participation in the service.  
Live Nativity. Children's crafts will be available throughout the afternoon and evening.



# *The 9th Annual* **LIVING FLAG**

**A Community Veterans Celebration**

**All New Musical**

***“America the Beautiful”***  
***Featuring a Salute to the Armed Forces***

**Colors Presented by...**

**U of I Air Force ROTC Color Guard**  
**Lincoln's Challenge Academy Color Guard**  
**Mahomet American Legion Post 1015 Color Guard**

**With Special Guests Including...**

**Air Force Detachment 190 ROTC Drill Team**  
**The Patriot Guard Riders** (*Saturday 7:00 PM*)  
**The Singing Men of GNN** (*Sunday 6:30 PM*)  
**Small Wonders Preschool Singers**

*...and more*

**Special Guest Speaker...**

**Les Gioja, Lt. USN**

**THREE PRESENTATIONS:**

**2pm Saturday November 9, 2013**  
**7pm Saturday November 9, 2013**  
**7pm Sunday November 10, 2013**

**Presented by**

**Mahomet Christian Church**  
**908 N. Lake of the Woods Road**  
**Mahomet, Illinois**

***For more information call (217) 586-3095***

Thank You for Volunteering



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

Greeters	Bill Moehring Family, Chris Edmonds Family, Pete Farm Family, Scott Kingry Family.
Ushers	LuAnn Robberstad, Tara Cash, Marty Vogel Family, John Sapp Family, John Paul Family.
Scripture Readers	Brenda Lindsey, Chris Edmonds, Sheila Kingry and Kelly Strode.
Communion Assistants	Tim Lindsey, LuAnn Robberstad, Marty Vogel and Fran Koller.
Assisting Ministers	Kendyl Cummins, Mark Reifsteck and Alex Paul.
Celebration Leader	Karla Washburn.
Sunday Shepherds	Alicia Ekhoﬀ, Stewart Ekhoﬀ, Pete Farm and Cindy Erickson.
Acolytes	Isabelle Farm, Chatman Edmonds, Kylie Fuoss, and Gretchen Scheele.
Fellowship Hosts	Congregational Life Committee, Holly Fuoss Family, Sean Roberts, Theresa Edmonds, Ekhoﬀ Family, Taylor Family, Dalton Family and Brian Dahlke.
Bread maker	Karen Kibler.
Alter Guild	Barb LeGrant and Nancy Rosenbery.
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



**Annual Chili Cook-off:** On Wednesday, December 4 at 5:45 p.m., the Chili Cook-off will be held again as the opening event of the 2013 Advent Services. Please bring a pot of your own chili to share, and the chilis will be tasted, voted on, and fabulous prizes will be awarded for 3 places! All of the chilis will provide the main dish of the meal. Side dishes, toppings and condiments will be provided.

**Monday Morning Ladies Sewing Group:** They did a fantastic job for LWR this year! The totals of our efforts this year are: school kits, 55 baby care kits, 173 personal care/health care kits, and 463 quilts. think we did a great job. We delivered the 124 boxes in which these things are packed, to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Champaign on Friday, October 25.

That means next Monday morning, we will start all over again! Fran Koller



**Veterans Day Program at Lincoln Trail School:** A special Veteran's Day Tribute will be held November 11 at Lincoln Trail School in Mahomet. The bus will leave from LCM at 9:15 AM and the program which will include a special tribute to Vietnam Veterans and to present day troops will begin at 10:15 AM in the Lincoln Trail School gym. All veterans are invited to enjoy coffee and cookies at Lincoln Trail lunchroom beginning at 9:15 AM. Bus service will also be provided from the Catholic Church.

OCTOBER 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 September 16, 2013, meeting have been approved and posted.

At the October 21, 2013, meeting, the following motion was made and passed:

1. That Marty Vogel replace Kelly Strode as Music and Worship Chairperson for the term ending December 31, 2014.

Other matters discussed or decided at the September 16, 2013, meeting were as follows:

1. That our congregation will offer use of our building for retreats, etc., to assist the Navigators program, which reaches out to college students
2. To change council meetings to the second Tuesday of the month for November and December and then decide on a set schedule for next year
3. Rescheduling the "God's Work, Our Hands" service project for the congregation to a date after the leaves have fallen
4. To start the Advent meals at 5:45pm with the Advent services to begin at 6:30pm
5. That there is a workshop for the ELCA Lutheran Men in Mission on November 16, 2013, in Gilman, Illinois, for anyone interested in attending
6. Installation of Barb Buchanan as our parish nurse is set for Sunday, November 10, 2013
7. Having a family-friendly New Year's Eve party after the New Year's Eve service

Members of the congregation are welcome to attend any council meeting. **The meetings will be held at 7:00pm on the second Tuesday of November and December, 2013.** 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 November 12, 2013, at 7:00pm.



### LCM YARD SIGNS

Thank you to everyone who participated in the LCM Yard Sign contest. We had a total of 64 entries! There were many very similar entries. The entries chosen for our signs are shown below. The signs have been printed and distributed on October 21. You should see them around town. We will rotate the signs periodically. We are hopeful that they will bring an increased awareness of LCM to our community. Thanks again.  
I GO TO CHURCH BECAUSE....

I'm expecting a Bible text message  
I find Love and Faith in action  
it gives me peace and joy  
my best friend happens to be there  
other Sunday habits just don't compare  
I need to get my batteries charged  
it's a place to believe...to belong...to become  
I am welcomed; not judged  
I love to share God's love with friends & family  
it makes me feel loved  
I'm not perfect  
I need to be fed  
I never tire of hearing the story of my salvation.  
it's my mission station  
it makes God happy  
to remind my teen sons it's not all about them  
I enjoy worship  
it helps me build a stronger relationship with God  
Heaven is forever  
to feel closer to God  
I find peace there



Congratulations to Barbara Buchanan for successfully completing the Parish Nurse Program at Carle Hospital. A special ceremony will be held Sunday November 3 at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Urbana. Great Job!!! Barbara



This year, Bridle Brook Adult Community located at 1505 Patton Drive, Mahomet, Il will be a location spot on the Mahomet Chamber's Annual *Sampling of the Season* event. This event will be taking place on Sunday, November 24th. The dietary team will delight your taste buds with a variety of homemade soups and breads to warm you up on your journey through the Mahomet community at this amazing progressive meal event. For more information about the *Sampling of the Season* event, contact Theresa Berry at the Mahomet Chambers at 217-586-3165.

**LSTC Seminary Sampler Night** at Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago— November 20, 4:30-9:00 pm. This event is offered periodically and is designed for commuters and local prospective students, although all are welcome. Rather than a three day event, Seminary Sampler Night typically starts at 4:30 and ends at 9:00 on a weeknight. Like the Seminary Sampler this event will allow students to share a meal and worship with faculty and current LSTC students as well as discuss academics, financial aid, candidacy and community life at LSTC. This event will emphasize the various ways part-time and commuter students can thrive in our degree programs. For more information go to <http://www.lstc.edu/prospective-students/visit/sampler-night/>

