

- 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

November 2015



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



Where to find me:
In the office M-TH: 7am-1pm
In the community M-TH: 1pm-3pm



... the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, **“This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”** ²⁵In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, **“This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”** ²⁶For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We are in the season of harvest and gratitude. Thanksgiving quickly approaches, a time in which we are reminded of our gratitude for each other and for that which sustains us. This holiday challenges us to step away from the chaotic, competitive world around us and to instead hold dear the simple things in life. What has sustained you in this past year? Who has been a rock to shield you against the storm? What has filled your soul with life? Many of you will gather around tables with family or friends, or maybe simply in prayer, and be fed with the food of gratitude.

In the text above, we hear words familiar to many of us. These are the Words of Institution, taken from 1 Corinthians. These words are said at each Communion service and invites Christ's truly physical presence among us in the bread and wine. This is the meal at which we all partake of Christ's love, mercy, and redemption—in short, this is a transformational meal.

The disciples and Jesus gather around a table and share a meal during a holiday which challenges them to be grateful for what they have. But, this is a transformational meal. Something about the way in which Christ breaks bread and pours wine makes this meal special. And, we notice in our November frames of mind, that Christ's transformative meal comes about only after giving thanks. After giving thanks he broke bread; after giving thanks he poured the wine...

Gratitude holds power for Jesus and introduces the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Gratitude holds more transformational power than we give it credit for. How often do we resort to criticism or complaint in order to affect change? In this month, and in this holy meal, we are challenged to change the world in our gratitude. When we make lists of things and people for which we are grateful, we are making a list of ways in which God's love has been shown to us. These are the ways in which our lives have been shaped and transformed, revealed now in our gratitude.



Consecration Sunday – November 8, 2015

Stewardship abounds at LCM! We are celebrating our stewardship during Consecration Sunday on November 8, 2015. 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 potluck.*

On Consecration Sunday, please plan to turn in your completed pledge cards and the Opportunities for Service booklets for 2016, which you received in the mail. Prior to November 8, you can put your pledge cards in the Stewardship mailbox by the church office, and put your booklets in the designated box in the narthex. Extra copies of booklets and pledge cards are available. 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. It’s humbling to see the stewardship alive in our congregation, whether it’s attending or teaching Sunday school, taking part in LOGOs, singing in the choir, sewing quilts and assembling the health kits, increasing weekly offerings, participating in the Live Nativity, serving on LCM committees, giving gifts for Advent Caring Tree, 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 2016. Let’s keep our momentum going! Thanks for your participation in our LCM stewardship!

In God’s Peace,
Cindy Erickson, Stewardship
217-586-3142
erickson.cindy@gmail.com





LCM Education Team

Attitudes of Gratitude: With Thanksgiving just a few weeks away, we have many blessings to recount since November of 2014. To use a favorite verse from Psalm 68:19—“Blessed be the Lord who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation.” (KJV)

And a portion of those benefits include our new pastor who dwells among us, directing us to creative ways to move forward as a congregation, discovering our gifts and becoming partners in spreading the good news (Philippians 3:5). As we strew light on the paths of others, we share our gifts with family, congregation, community, and the workplace.

As members of the Education ministry, we are aware that we are called to create relationships within and outside of our congregation, to communicate effectively through our words and actions, and to commit to learning and sharing with an open mind.

In striving toward these goals, our combined team of adult and youth groups is grateful for the new energy that has welcomed new youth classes on Sunday mornings and has encouraged adults to join in our “Fearless Conversation” series. We are grateful for those youth who joined the adults recently for a shared discussion about the Amazing Grace that promotes spiritual growth.

Short term goals include the study of Lutheran Liturgy in Adult Sunday School sessions to unify our Sunday focus with the Youth.

Small Groups are always open—never too late to join! Contact Nancy King or Pat Moehring.





Advent Caring Tree – Your Ornament is Waiting

The Advent Caring Tree will be appearing this month in the Narthex! While you are admiring it, be sure to take an ornament or two home with you. Then, go shopping for the requested gift on your ornament(s). The LCM Advent Tree provides a wonderful way for LCM members and families to share the joy of Christmas with those in need. Our goal is to have all the ornaments disappear by the end of November, and then for the requested “gifts” to appear no later than December 6th. (We’re starting earlier this year to give you more time for shopping and avoid the last minute scramble!)

This year there are a variety of gift options to give! So far, our gifts are designated for:

- **Mahomet Helping Hands*
- **Lutheran Social Services of Illinois*
- **Lincoln Trail Backpack (\$5 Food) Program*
- **Needs of our LCM church family and projects*

The ornaments on the Advent Tree will describe the type of gift and give you guidelines. In general, the gifts should be under \$15, *unwrapped*, and age appropriate. The gifts are unique, so be sure you read the specific guidelines on your ornament!

Please return the UNWRAPPED gifts by December 6th, and be sure to label your gift according to the instructions on the ornament you have chosen. *The ornaments should be attached to the gifts you return.* More details will follow in the Sunday bulletin and Wednesday LCM emails.

For more information, contact June Willms ([\(217\) 840-2845](tel:2178402845)) wilmsjune@yahoo.com Social Missions Chairperson, and Cindy Erickson ([\(217\) 649-0851](tel:2176490851)) erickson.cindy@gmail.com Stewardship Chairperson.

Thanks for your generosity in spreading the Christmas spirit!

Congregational Care Team Report:



For the month of September 2 meals, and 9 call/visits were provided by members of the Congregational Care Team. Bill Moehring and several others provided these services. If you are not a member of the team but provide meals, rides or calls/visits to others, please let me know so I can include them in this report. If you wish to have your name added to one of the care teams, e-mail me or call. If you are on a team, you will be notified by group e-mail of a need. If you can provide that need, e-mail me and I co-ordinate. If you cannot provide the need, you simply do not respond to the e-mail. Thank you to all members of the teams who have helped do God's work for the Month of September. Also, as a reminder, there is a cabinet as well as a pamphlet board with information regarding various health issues and wellness information. Feel free to take any of the pamphlets on the board.

Sharon Taylor, e-mail: stay4444@gmail.com

Phone: [217-586-2222](tel:217-586-2222) (H) or [217-369-6713](tel:217-369-6713)

1 Peter 4:9-10 Practice hospitality ungrudgingly to one another. As each has received a gift, employ it for one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.





Thank You for Volunteering

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

- Greeters Scott and Sheila Kingry, Karen Ickstadt, Patti Sapp, Judy Ferdinandsen and Donna Lea.
- Ushers Adam and Ashley Rosenbery, John Paul and Karen Reifsteck, and Bill and Ruth Studley.
- Scripture Reader Alex Paul, Kelly Strode, Tim Koller and Brenda Lindsey.
- Communion Assistant Barb LeGrant, Nancy Rosenbery, Marty Vogel and Jennifer Farm.
- Assisting Minister Mark Reifsteck, Alex Paul and Chris Edmonds.
- Celebration Leader Nancy Rosenbery.
- Sunday Shepherd Sherri Reifsteck, Gene Rinkel, Margaret Rinkel and Pat Moehring.
- Acolyte Mikel Petro, Jr., Natalie Mitchell, Kylie Fuoss and Izzy Farm.
- Fellowship Hosts Congregational Life Committee, Taylors, McDonalds, Rosenberys, Witheralls, Yeakels and Wonderlins.
- Breadmaker Linda Hanslow.
- 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 Vogel
Volunteer Coordinator

The Lutheran Church of Mahomet



Invites you to join us this Advent & Christmas Season

- Sunday, November 29th Hanging of the Greens Worship Service with MSHS Madrigals 9:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, December 2nd Chili Cook-off 5:45 p.m., Advent Service 6:30 p.m.
- Sunday, December 6th Live Nativity 4:00-7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, December 9th Soup Supper 5:30 p.m., Advent Service 6:30 p.m.
- Sunday, December 13th Christmas Cantata, "I Have Seen The Light", 9:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, December 16th Soup Supper 5:30 p.m., Advent Service 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday, December 24th Christmas Eve Services, 6:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.
- Friday, December 25th Christmas Day Worship, 10:00 a.m.
- Sunday, January 10, 2016 Children's Christmas Program, "The Three Camels", 9:00 a.m.



September COUNCIL NOTES

Submitted by Andrew Scheele, 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 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, 2015 meeting have been approved and posted.

At the October 12th, 2015, meeting, the following motions was made and passed:
None

Matters discussed or decided at the October 12th, 2015 meeting were as follows:

1. Discussed the wheelchair lift. Installation is expected to be complete sometime in November. The lift is at Champaign Mobility, and we are awaiting permits.
2. Discussed the Updated Constitution and By-Laws. The Team continues to make good progress on definition of roles and responsibilities for board chairs and executive board positions.
3. Discussed the Habitat for Humanity build on-going in Gifford. Expecting to have work days in November to help them complete the interior of the house.
4. Began discussion of the year end business of the church, including merit reviews, Advent planning, and transition plans for those leaving and joining the Church Council.

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 Tuesday prior to the meeting so that the item can be placed on the agenda. The next council meeting is Monday, October 12th, 2015, at 7:00pm.





Happy Thanksgiving

**Thanksgiving is a traditional American Holiday where families all over the United States sit for dinner at the same time---
Halftime**