

- 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)

# SEPTEMBER 2013



Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it (Proverbs 22:6)

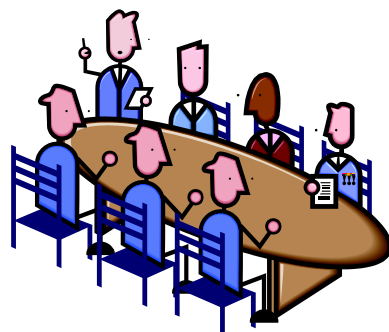
Beginning in late August and continuing in September is a focus on education (both religious and secular). Students are back on campuses of Universities and Colleges. We have our 26 colleges and universities of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and 8 Seminaries scattered across the states from California to New York. These institutions are far more vital in the strength and mission of the church than most of us realize. Our young adults receive, not only a superb education in liberal arts and scripture but are also experiencing Christian growth as they participate in campus life and socialize. When they graduate and join a congregation where they begin their careers, they become confident witnesses and leaders in the local community of faith.

And so also our various pre-schools, elementary schools, High schools, colleges etc. are now in session following a summer recess. Sunday School resumes; confirmation classes begin; a new year for Logos is underway; Bible Studies; Adult Sunday Class; All God's Children (AGI) pre-school.....and more...are all part of the mission of Lutheran Church of Mahomet. We are thinking, "Education" ! But do we stop to realize that all of these places and institutions are "supplementary to" or "extensions of" the education received in the home? Yes, the concept of home schooling is not new. We have been doing it from the beginnings with the first family. Sons and daughters would work along side their parents and learn various skills. While doing that they would hear stories from the past. They would hear about dreams, visions and plans for the future. They would learn about Jesus and how to live life in harmony with God's divine Will. Dr. Martin Luther assembled the Small Catechism to be used by parents for teaching the Christian Faith in the home. The home is where education for children is expected to take place. Of course, adults (parents) keep learning themselves as they consciously or sub-consciously serve as teachers. We need God's guidance and wisdom to carry out our roles.

Cynthia, a Parochial pre-school teacher, spent several weeks during the past Summer as a nanny to three children under the age of five years. The mother was into body building and, when not working out, was competing in body building events in various cities far from home. The father had to spend his days in his career. The children's welfare was not a priority. The children had no social skills and thus were denied admission to pre-school. The three children clung to their nanny for love, attention and learning during the day time hours. When evening came, the children regressed to former behaviors in the presence of their parents. The consistency and atmosphere for growing and learning was not there. The next morning the nanny would have to start her work all over again. Training up a child has to do with molding them and shaping them so that they have a fear of God (a high respect and adoration for God) that will remain strong into old age.

Actually, we spend a life-time learning. Most careers or jobs today require continuing education, both off and on the job. We do well to strengthen our relationship with God with learning, socializing with our community of faith, and receiving regularly the means of Grace, God's Word and the Sacrament.

Pastor Emil



AUGUST 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 July 19, 2013, meeting have been approved and posted.

At the August 19, 2013, meeting, the following motions were made and passed:

1. That we present for consideration to the congregation at the October congregational meeting set for October 20, 2013, the new cranberry hymnals with each family to be asked to purchase one hymnal
2. That the revised Ministry Site Profile be approved with two changes and revised dates

Other matters discussed or decided at the August 19 meeting were as follows:

1. Any funds for the kitchen project not covered by memorial funds will come from the equipment replacement fund.
2. The dishwasher has been ordered, and the plumbing and electrical work needed to be done before installation should be complete by August 25.
3. Many of the projects requested by the preschool, including certain repairs to the playground and painting of the classroom, were completed by the building and grounds committee. Some painting and plastic replacement of playground equipment still needs to be done.
4. Dates for special services and events were scheduled.
5. The parent/student meeting for confirmation is scheduled for August 28 with the first class session to be on September 11.
6. A nominating committee needs to be organized so that nominees can be made for available council positions.

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.

The Lutheran Church of Mahomet  
and GenOn Ministries  
present

# Exploring LOGOS

Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>  
6:00-7:30 pm

- Come explore and experience LOGOS
- Learn how this weekly generational encounter can help energize and grow your child's faith
- All family members are welcome to join us for an evening filled with activities for all ages
- One parent, guardian, or adult relative must be present with each family of children
- Questions? Contact Kat Downs, LOGOS Director 586-4786

Dinner will be served at 6:00



### Thank You for Volunteering

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

**Greeters:** John LeGrant Family, Karen Ickstadt, Rolf Vogen Family and Nancy Rosenbery.

**Ushers:** Edmonds Family, John Sapp Family, Dan Erickson Family and Stewart Ekhoﬀ Family.

**Scripture Readers:** Alicia Ekhoﬀ, Dia Nuesmeyer, Dave Robberstad and Cindy Erickson.

**Communion Assistants:** Mark Reifsteck, Chris Edmonds, Sherri Reifsteck and Alicia Ekhoﬀ.

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

**Celebration Leader:** Brenda Lindsey.

**Sunday Shepherds:** Sherri Reifsteck, Brenda Lindsey, Margaret Rinkel and Kelly Strode.

**Acolytes:** Chatman Edmonds, Noah Schnepper, Callum Buchanan and Seth Buchanan.

**Fellowship Hosts:** Congregational Life Committee.

**Bread maker:** Leslie Knicl.

**Alter Guild:** Nancy Rosenbery and Elsbeth Hixon.

**Offering Counters:** Alicia Ekhoﬀ, 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



### Stewardship

Fall is a busy time! Activities are gearing up at school, sports, work, and at the Lutheran Church of Mahomet. As we leave the summer days behind and become immersed in our busier schedules, now is the time to sharpen our stewardship skills! No kidding! Stewardship is about how we care for everything that God has given to us. It's how we care for our families, our homes, our bodies and our environment. It's how we use our God-given talents and how we live as Christians in response to God's love. So, as we juggle our time, talents, and resources this fall, let's not overlook being good stewards!

In an ELCA stewardship resource, a new approach to stewardship is explained. I was particularly interested in this "shift" as it relates to our Christian stewardship in a broad sense.

This new approach to stewardship requires a large shift in the way that we think and talk about stewardship:

**BEFORE**

"Stewardship is about paying the bills

"Stewardship is about money."

"How much of what is mine should I give away?"

"We don't have enough."

**NOW**

**"Stewardship is about loving God and my neighbor."**

**"Stewardship is about my whole self."**

**"How much of what is God's should I keep for myself?"**

**"God has provided for us in abundance."**

The new approach to stewardship is not primarily about paying the congregation's bills. Instead stewardship is about how the congregation together can do God's work. It is about how the congregation can together live out God's call to love God and our neighbors. Stewardship is directly tied to discipleship. It is no longer about the congregation's need to receive, but about the giver's need to give. Stewardship is a way of life. It is not just about what is given to the congregation, but how generous we are with all that God has entrusted to our care both inside and outside of the church walls and in our homes.

(From *Stewards of God's Love*, p.7 ELCA publication)

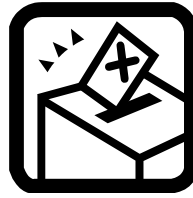
In God's Peace,

Cindy Erickson  
Stewardship Chair

[Erickson.cindy@gmail.com](mailto:Erickson.cindy@gmail.com)



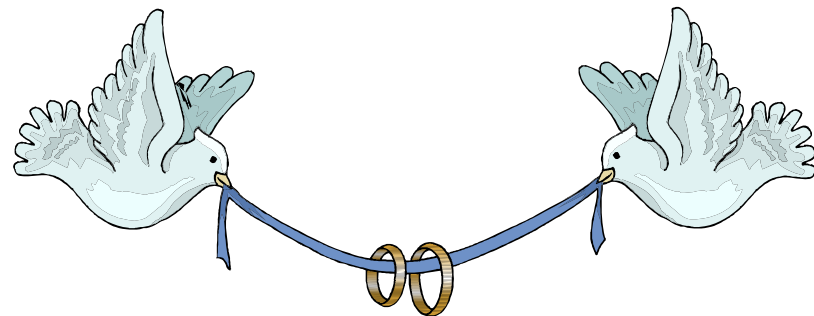
## Nominating Committee



Along with council members Brenda Lindsey, Kelly Strode, and Larry Gibson, three congregational members are needed to serve on the nominating committee to find nominees for open positions on the church council. This is a short-term commitment that would begin in September and be completed in October. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Bill Moehring or Sherri Reifsteck.

Council Positions: The church council positions up for election with two-year terms beginning in January of 2014 are: President, Financial Secretary, Building and Grounds, Evangelism, Stewardship, and Youth. If you would be interested in serving in one of these council positions, please contact Brenda Lindsey, Kelly Strode, or Larry Gibson, who are the council members serving on the nominating committee.

Ephesians 4:11-12 says: "And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, for the equipment of the saints, for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ." Please prayerfully consider if the gifts you have been blessed with can be used by serving your congregational family in one of these positions.



### **A Fall Enrichment Weekend for Married Couples!**

The greatest gift you can give each other is the gift of your time and attention when you attend the October 11 - 13 Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend in Peoria, IL. You'll communicate on a deeper level, rekindle your romance, and renew your commitment to each other. For more information or to apply, visit [GodLovesMarriage.org](http://GodLovesMarriage.org), or contact Charlotte Ricks at [dclme1094@comcast.net](mailto:dclme1094@comcast.net) or 309-682-7273 before September 11 to ensure your reservation - it's a Weekend you won't forget!

## **Congregational Life Report**

The commercial dishwasher for our kitchen has been ordered and should come in to Proctor Restaurant Supply in a week or 10 days. They will let us know. I defer more info sharing to Mark Dalton and the Building and Grounds committee, as they will be organizing the switching around of space in the kitchen and preparing for the installation.

## **Did You Know?**

Did You Know... that the worship hymnal we are currently using is 35 years old? In 2005, a new hymnal was published called *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. The introduction in this new book of worship gives a great description on the Lutheran Church's philosophy in terms of the worshiping assembly, and it couldn't be more relevant for the Lutheran Church of Mahomet today. The Christian assembly worships in the midst of an ever-changing world. And because the worship that constitutes the church is also the fundamental expression of the mission of God in the world, worship is regularly renewed in order to be both responsible and responsive to the world that the church is called to serve. Materials are newly included to help congregations welcome adults and children to formation in faith, to baptism, and to the baptismal life. Additional settings of Holy Communion highlight both the increased diversity of expression in the church, as well as, the commitment to gathering regularly around both God's Word and the Holy Supper. *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* continues to emphasize that "freedom and flexibility in worship is a Lutheran inheritance, and there is room for ample variety in ceremony, music, and liturgical form. Through its design and variety of interpretive materials within, it seeks to make more transparent the principle of fostering unity without imposing uniformity.

Our worship hymnal is not just a book of hymns; it is also a great educational tool. In our Sunday School and LOGOS classes we use it to teach the Sunday calendar, principle and lesser festivals, and commemorations. And, there are suggested Bible verses and hymns attributed for each of these occasions. It is important that we stay current with these tools for worship and continuing education. Now, these books aren't cheap, but in keeping with the fresh new start of our congregation, we thought that each member, or family, could purchase one or more of the books. The cost per book depends upon the quantity purchased, but we estimate the price at \$23.00. And, commemorative bookplates would be available should you wish to honor a loved one or just as a reflection of your commitment to the Lutheran Church of Mahomet's mission station.

We have 18 copies of *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* available, and will have them on a rack in the narthex for you to peruse while you consider our proposal. We will discuss and vote on this item at our next membership meeting.

God's peace and love to you,  
Kelly Strode