



The Circuit Rider



Sharing the Good News in Mahomet since 1843

vol. 176

1/1/2019, Issue 1

Sweet Thoughts,

As I told your elected spiritual leaders the other night at our Church Council meeting I am excited about the possibilities that God is bringing us here at the Mahomet United Methodist Church in 2019!

Think about it ... sure there is the possibility of a new addition to the physical plant, but more importantly there is the possibility of new programs and relationships here and in our community. There is the possibility of re-newed mission outreach and the growth of our new youth program. And there is also everything else that God is bringing us in the new year.

So you may be wondering just how we may be accomplishing these new possibilities. Well, I continue to believe and try with God's help to live these possibilities and vision by the simply strategy of our membership vows, you know: Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service and Witness. As the new year begins you will be hearing more during worship in my sermon series on P.R.A.Y.E.R. as we learn and practice more together about the prayer Jesus teaches us. As William Barclay once said

"the pattern is very simple but very comprehensive as Jesus says to us:

When you pray, Remember that God is your Father and you King, and that, therefore, you go to One in whom Love and Power are equally combined. When you pray, Do not hesitate to tell God about your daily needs. When you pray, Do not shrink from telling God about your mistakes. When you pray, never forget to place the unknown future and all its perils in the hands of God."

Let's begin this new year together in prayer with all the possibilities of faith and life and love as we lead people Jesus and help them grow as disciples.

See you in worship,

Rev. Craig



The Illinois Great Rivers Conference camping program is an extension of the local church's disciple-making process. Its mission is to connect people, nature, and Christ for the transformation of the world. In fulfillment of the camping ministry's mission, programming at both [East Bay Camp](#) and [Little Grassy Camp](#) makes the most of their locations on lakes, which, along with plentiful timber, invites guests

to explore God's creative genius in a leisurely manner, enjoy prolonged experiences of Christian community, forge relationships with God and others through worship, study, mealtimes, and play, and foster growing relationships with Jesus Christ.

Please register at: <https://www.igrc.org/camping>. There are Camping Guides available at the Welcome Center or contact Angela in the church office for more information.



Finance Committee Report-December 11th, 2018

Dear Church Family,

The Finance Committee and Church Council have approved a working financial plan for 2019. People do not give to budgets; people give less from the head than from the heart. Congregations give to support the church, to needs, to causes and to things that they feel are necessary. Church members realize that there are costs to maintain the building, pay the insurance and utilities. The Finance Committee hopes the plan that has been approved will accurately predict the needs of 2019. We want to thank the Congregation for their commitments to the 2019 ministries. The unrestricted giving for 2019 are 93% of the financial plan for 2019. If you still want to pledge for 2019 please complete a pledge card or call the office and Angela will mail a pledge card to you.

November total for unrestricted giving was \$25,839 with the January through November 2018 total giving of \$334,480. The Year-To-Date unrestricted total giving compared to the annual budget is 74.1% of budget. November total expenses were \$26,965 for a negative \$1,126 for the month. January through November 2018 total expenses were \$398,704 which is 91.7% of the annual budget. That leaves us with a negative \$55,223. However, pledges paid in 2017 towards the 2018 budget reduces that negative total to \$22,682 as of the end of November.

Thank you to the members and friends who have given to the special Thanksgiving offering. Close to \$2,000 was divided equally and donated to the Mahomet Area Youth Club, Helping Hands and the Eastern Illinois Food Bank.

“How Your Gift Can Make a Lasting Difference”. The tools explained in this brochure can make a lasting difference in growing our endowments for the future of our church. Please check the Welcome Center counter for the brochures or ask a member of the Finance Committee for the information and consider making the lasting difference.

The congregation's generosity and faithfulness continues to support the work of the church. The reports are always available on request.

Happy New Year
Scott Yeazel
Chair, Finance Committee



CONGRATULATIONS to those who have January Wedding Anniversaries:

Lee & Alice Miller
Robert & Bonnie Vaughn
Robert & Suzanne Slade
Terry & Cindy Dodd

THANK YOU!!

On behalf of the family of Joel Roberts, we want to thank all of you who worked so many hours during his visitation and funeral. There is so much to be done on such occasions and you did everything, many things, so efficiently that everything was in the right place and time. All of our family and friends were made comfortable. Everyone gave lots of hugs and comfort to all of us, who were struggling to accept what we were there for. Our church is full of kind, loving people and we thank you for helping us get through those days and the days to come.

The family of Joel Roberts

To our Christmas Elves,

Thank you to everyone who participated with Bagful of Christmas. Each Christmas bag was gratefully received with joy. Thank you for your goodies and cards and for the taking the time to deliver them in person.

Thank You



The staff at Mahomet
United Methodist Church
would like to wish you a
Happy New Year full of love,
health, and joy.

Thank you for all of the kind words, the delicious goodies, and thoughtful gifts that you've blessed us with this Christmas season. We feel honored that you would think of this during the hustle and bustle of the holidays.

With gratitude,
The staff at the Mahomet United Methodist Church

Thank you so much for the Bag of Joy for Arlon. He particularly loved looking at all the cards but we've sure been enjoying the goodies too.

Judy McGuire

Dear friends at MUMC,

Many thanks for the goodies bag and every little gift I received will be used. Thank you also for the cards. They were so enjoyable to read. I do hope you and your families had a blessed celebration of our Lord's birthday.

God Bless,
Pat O'Neal

Thank you church for the lovely Christmas cards. They were appreciated and enjoyed.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!
Thelma Labhart

Thank you so much for the Christmas gift bag for my mother, Beulah Newman. She really enjoyed looking through all of your thoughtful gifts and beautiful cards. We both appreciate your kindness in remembering her and all of the others at Christmas.

Sandi Yarnell

Dear Church Family, Thank you so much for the wonderful Merry Christmas bag.

Betty Brainerd



Wonderful Outreach Wednesdays

Resumes January 9



In January (9,16,23,30) and February (6,13,20,27) W.O.W. will be doing a program titled "POLAR BLAST, Where Jesus' is Cool". We are asking that parents pre-register their children for this 8-week program that will take us all

the way through to Ash Wednesday, March 6th. The program is for 3-year-olds through 5th graders but will thrive with the help of older student volunteers. During this program, kids will learn music, play games, do crafts, learn Bible stories, and do projects with a purpose!

Sundays

This January in Pre-School through 5th grade Sunday School

BLAST OFF: A 4-WEEK SERIES ON DISCIPLESHIP

SERIES OVERVIEW:

If you're a grown-up and you've been following Jesus for a while, you've probably figured out a few ways to grow spiritually. The kids, on the other hand, aren't grown-ups, so they might need a little help from us to figure out how, exactly, to grow spiritually. **So what should spiritual growth look like for a kid?** We like to think about it in terms of four spiritual habits. To help a kid grow spiritually, **teach them to spend time with God, spend time with others, use their gifts, and share their story.** These are the 4 keys to discipleship that will help kids launch their faith.

JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

6th Graders - 12th Graders

Meets every other Sunday at 6 pm.

Sunday, January 6

Sunday, January 20

Sunday, February 3

If you have questions, contact:

Kristina Robinson at krobinson@mumc.org

PARENT TIP OF THE MONTH:

You are the most important and influential person in your kid's life. Make the most of the opportunities you have to invest in your kids, build connections with them, and point them to God in everyday moments. Your presence and time with your kids is what matters most. Even on the stressful days when you're exhausted or nothing seems to go right. Even when your kids misbehave or it seems like they want to trade you in. They will always need you and need to feel loved.



Your Help
is Needed



COMMUNION STEWARDS

- Sign-up sheets are on the Welcome Center, or email or call the office to sign up (mumc@mumc.org, 586-2147).

GREETERS & WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

- Sign-up sheets are on the Welcome Center, or email or call the office to sign up (mumc@mumc.org, 586-2147).

ALTAR FLOWER & BULLETIN SPONSORS

- Sign-up sheets are on the Welcome Center, or email or call the office to sign up (mumc@mumc.org, 586-2147).
- Each sponsorship is a \$20 donation. Make checks to Mahomet UMC. Indicate "Flowers" or "Bulletin" in the memo line.

AUDIO/VISUAL (Pro-Presenter)

- Sign-up sheets are located by the sound board, or email or call the office to sign up (mumc@mumc.org, 586-2147).

A special thank you to our sound "engineers". What would our services be without you? No pictures, no announcements, no scriptures, no responsive readings, and most importantly, no music or sermon--at least ones that can be easily heard. Which reminds me, would YOU want to become a sound engineer? We need you! If interested, contact Kathy Tock: tockwoman@gmail.com or 621-2941.

The Music Department

Wesley Spirit Singers

Please join the Wesley Spirit Singers for hymn singing and reminiscing on:

Tuesday, January 8 at 1:00 pm
The Glenwood in Mahomet

For questions, contact:
Alice Nelson at 369-6685



Church Family, W.O.W. Needs You!

For our upcoming POLAR BLAST unit of W.O.W. we need your help with our **Projects with a Purpose!**

There are three ways you could get involved:

- 1) We would appreciate your help in collecting empty and clean tin cans
- 2) Donations of fleece to be made into tie blankets for children in need in our community. We need two 1.5 yard pieces of felt to make one "BRR BLANKET" We will make as many blankets as we have fleece!
- 3) Your time! We have many volunteer opportunities within this growing program and we have a place for you. We can find a volunteer position that best fits your spiritual gifts!"

VBS SAVE THE DATE

July 8-12th





WOMEN'S READING CIRCLE

The Thursday Reading Circle will resume meeting on January 10 at 1:30 pm in the Church prayer room. We will be discussing *June*, A novel by Miranda Beverly-Whittemore.

This is a novel of suspense and passion about a terrible mistake that changed a family forever.

Cassie Danvers is holed up in her family's crumbling mansion in small-town Ohio, mourning the loss of her grandmother, June. But the noise of the rusted doorbell forces her out of isolation. Cassie has been named the sole heir to legendary movie star Jack Montgomery's fortune.

Soon Jack's famous daughters arrive, entourage in tow, determined to wrestle Cassie away from an inheritance they feel is theirs. Together, they come to discover the true reason for June's silence about the summer she was eighteen, when Hollywood came to town, and June and Jack's lives were forever altered. Shifting deftly between the past and present, Cassie and her guests will be forced to reexamine their legacies, their definition of family, and what it truly means to love someone, steadfastly, across the ages.

If you love reading and discussing what you read with others, please join us on the second Thursday afternoon of each month. For more information, contact Sheryle Carpenter at davesherylecarp65@yahoo.com.



The United Methodist Women would like to thank all of the households who baked beautiful cookies & goodies as well as the talented workers who gave their time to create the many beautiful items for the Cookie Walk. You helped us raise **\$2,669.18!** This money will be used for various mission projects. Thank you and God Bless you all!!!



Mahomet UMW Meetings

UMW does not meet in January. The next meeting is Thursday, February 7 at 1 pm. Meet in the church library. All women of the church are invited to attend.

Three reasons to join UMW:

- 1) Get to know each other on a deeper level
- 2) You have the chance to support women and children locally and nationally
- 3) Deeper understanding of your faith in action

For more information contact Cindy Dodd (217) 649-1698 or crd2001@mchsi.com

Midwest Mission Distribution Center

SUPPLY REQUEST:

New or Laundered Blankets of all sizes

These blankets will be going to *Food For The Poor* to help those poorest and in need in Trinidad due to the mass flooding. All blankets must be in their own bag washed and ready to go. Donations can be dropped off anytime at 1001 Mission Drive, Pawnee, IL 62538. Questions call Ashley at 217.697.4681 or email ashley@midwestmission.org.





PRAYER-A-DAY CALENDAR

Your prayers mean so much!
This calendar provides specific ways you can pray for our daily needs.



<u>Day 1</u> Every young person to realize they are a child of God	<u>Day 2</u> More families willing to open their homes to foster children	<u>Day 3</u> Energy and creativity for teaching staff to find ways to engage youth in learning	<u>Day 4</u> Early childhood interventions that help families break the cycle of neglect and abuse	<u>Day 5</u> Youth involved in recreational activities to improve sportsmanship and skills	<u>Day 6</u> Strengthening communication, trust, and problem-solving through family therapy sessions
<u>Day 7</u> Youth in anger management classes	<u>Day 8</u> Inner healing from the deep pain of abuse and abandonment	<u>Day 9</u> Youth with disabilities to discover their strengths	<u>Day 10</u> Staff to have an extra portion of God's peace and compassion when youth are in crisis	<u>Day 11</u> Child care and afterschool programs which provide learning, supervision and support	<u>Day 12</u> Youth trying to better their lives through participation in job skills programs
<u>Day 13</u> Those who tutor and mentor young people	<u>Day 14</u> Inner peace for youth with mental health issues	<u>Day 15</u> God's spirit to guide agency leaders	<u>Day 16</u> Youth working on life skills toward independent living	<u>Day 17</u> Transforming experiences for interns and volunteers	<u>Day 18</u> Families whose children are in crisis
<u>Day 19</u> Staff and volunteers who do paperwork, cleaning, and repairs behind the scenes	<u>Day 20</u> Therapists and counselors who help youth process their life experiences and find hope	<u>Day 21</u> Those who teach youth about God	<u>Day 22</u> Wrap around services that help support families so they stay together	<u>Day 23</u> Ministry to young people in jail	<u>Day 24</u> Youth who suffer from anxiety and self-harm
<u>Day 25</u> Adoptive families who open their homes to children from difficult backgrounds	<u>Day 26</u> Cooks and food programs that feed children's hearts as well as stomachs	<u>Day 27</u> Summer programs that engage children and youth in positive activities	<u>Day 28</u> Young people transitioning back home or to a new home environment	<u>Day 29</u> All youth to have a sense of infinite value and self-worth	<u>Day 30</u> Legislators to act on behalf of the needs of vulnerable youth

More information at www.embraceocok.org





JANUARY, 2019 CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, 1/2

NO WOW; 5 pm Building Committee;
7 pm Praise Band Rehearsal

THURSDAY, 1/3

8:30 am Women's Small Group at Mahomet Family Restaurant; 7 pm Staff Parish Relations

FRIDAY, 1/4

7 pm Debt Anonymous

SATURDAY, 1/5

Noon AA

SUNDAY, 1/6 – COMMUNION

8:30 am Worship; 9:45 am Discipleship;
10:45 am Worship with Praise Band;
5 pm AA; 6 pm Jr/Sr High Youth Group

MONDAY, 1/7

1 pm Mission Mondays; 7 pm Discipleship Team

TUESDAY, 1/8

1 pm Wesley Spirit Singers (Glenwood);
6:30 pm Wesley Bells; 7 pm AA; 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

WEDNESDAY, 1/9

5 pm Children's Choir; 5:30 pm Dinner;
6 pm **WOW** Children & Adult Programs;
6 pm Adult Study; 7 pm Praise Band Rehearsal

THURSDAY, 1/10

8:30 am Women's Small Group at Mahomet Family Restaurant;
1:30 pm Thursday Reading Circle

FRIDAY, 1/11

7 pm Debt Anonymous

SATURDAY, 1/12

Noon AA

SUNDAY, 1/13

8:30 am Worship; 9:45 am Discipleship;
9:45 am Membership Orientation; 10:45 am
Worship with Praise Band; 5 pm AA

MONDAY, 1/14

1 pm Mission Mondays

TUESDAY, 1/15

6:30 pm Church Council; 6:30 pm
Wesley Bells; 7 pm AA; 7:30 pm Finance
Committee; 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

WEDNESDAY, 1/16

5 pm Children's Choir; 5:30 pm Dinner;
6 pm **WOW** Children & Adult Programs;
6 pm Adult Study; 7 pm Praise Band Rehearsal

THURSDAY, 1/17

8:30 am Women's Small Group at Mahomet Family Restaurant;
7 pm Trustees

FRIDAY, 1/18

7 pm Debt Anonymous

SATURDAY, 1/19

Noon AA

SUNDAY, 1/20

8:30 am Worship; 9:45 am Discipleship;
10:45 am Worship with Praise Band;
5 pm AA; 6 pm Jr/Sr High Youth Group

Monday, 1/21 Martin Luther King Day
Church Office Closed

TUESDAY, 1/22

6:30 pm Wesley Bells; 7 pm AA; 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

WEDNESDAY, 1/23

5 pm Children's Choir; 5:30 pm Dinner;
6 pm **WOW** Children & Adult Programs;
6 pm Adult Study; 7 pm Praise Band Rehearsal

THURSDAY, 1/24

8:30 am Women's Small Group at Mahomet Family Restaurant

FRIDAY, 1/25

7 pm Debt Anonymous

SATURDAY, 1/26

Noon AA

SUNDAY, 1/27

8:30 am Worship; 9:45 am Discipleship;
10:45 am Worship with Praise Band;
2 pm Glenwood Nursing Home Service;
5 pm AA

MONDAY, 1/28

1 pm Mission Mondays

TUESDAY, 1/29

6:30 pm Wesley Bells; 7 pm AA; 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

WEDNESDAY, 1/30

5 pm Children's Choir; 5:30 pm Dinner;
6 pm **WOW** Children & Adult Programs;
6 pm Adult Study; 7 pm Praise Band Rehearsal

THURSDAY, 1/31

8:30 am Women's Small Group at Mahomet Family Restaurant



W.O.W.
WONDERFUL
OUTREACH
WEDNESDAYS

Wednesday Evening Schedule

5:00-5:30 pm Children's Choir (Grades 2-5)
5:30-6:00 pm Dinner
6:00-7:00 pm Group Time for Children & Adults

W.O.W. resumes on January 9

**Hospital and Healthcare Facility Visits**

If you or a member of your family will be in the hospital, please let Rev. Sweet know your legal first name, i.e., the name you will be admitted under. Thank you!



mahomet + united + methodist + church

Our Mission: To lead people to Jesus and help them grow as disciples.

1302 E. South Mahomet Road, Mahomet, IL 61853-3729
(217) 586-2147 • mumc@mumc.org • www.mumc.org

Office Hours

Mon.-Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Sunday Worship

8:30 am Traditional Worship

10:45 am Contemporary Worship

Sunday Schedule

8:30 am Traditional Worship

9:30 & 10:30 am Coffee Fellowship

9:45 am Sunday School/Discipleship Hour for All Ages

10:45 am Contemporary Worship

Church Staff

Rev. Craig Sweet, Pastor ~ csweet@mumc.org

Kathy Tock, Worship Music Director ~ tockwoman@gmail.com

Angela Pearl, Office Administrator ~ apearl@mumc.org

Kristina Robinson, Children's Ministry ~ krobinson@mumc.org

Dr. Carlos R. Carrillo Cotto, Organist

Jodi Allen, Substitute Organist

Emily Kuchenbrod, Choir Director

Eileen Waters, Parish Nurse ~ enie@mediacombb.net

Carrie Roberts, Nursery Coordinator

Marty Butts, Custodian

Adult Opportunities

- **Sunday Morning Adult Study:** 9:45 - 10:30 am
- **Wednesday Morning Bible Study:** 9:00 - 9:45 am
- **Wednesday Evening Adult Study:** 6:00 - 7:00 pm
- **Wednesday Evening Parent Group:** 6:00 - 7:00 pm
For parents with children that attend WOW programming.
- **Thursday Evening Women's Bible Study:** 6:00 - 7:00 pm
(Starting back up in January 2019)

Worship Attendance Figures for December 2018

Date	8:30 am	10:45 am	Total
Dec. 2	86	67	153
Dec. 9	97	58	155
Dec. 16	101	103	204
Dec. 23	120	83	203
Dec. 30	74	56	130
December Total	478	367	845

Christmas Eve Services

5 pm	7 pm	11 pm	Total
186	165	67	418

Office Closed

January 21

Martin Luther King Day



CIRCUIT RIDER DEADLINE

No later than Tuesday, January 22

Committees, classes, and groups:
If you have information about upcoming events, please let us know.