



SWEET THOUGHTS

BY REV. CRAIG SWEET

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Over the years as I've read and continued to learn and stretch myself, I've kept a collection of thoughts and sayings and quotes that have connected with me. Some have ended up in sermons. Some have been used in these kinds of monthly reflections. Some you've seen as thoughts for worship. While others I've just kept. The first one I wrote down on a 3x5 card during High School, and now my collection of quotes is 104pp with 1277 different quotes in a Word file. My first one though was from the book *The Proper Study of Mankind* by B. A. Howard. I'll tell you in a bit what it said, but first I want to share something else I've kept track of over the years.

Since 1976 when I preached my first sermon, and yes I did speak in church for a few years before that but this was the first time I was paid for what I was saying [and they were quite kind as I talked with them about Platonic Forms and the shape of reality] I will have by June 30th preached 1,684 Sermons in 48 different places and made 86 different talks and lectures. I have baptized 142 persons in age from a couple of hours old to 86 years old and welcomed into membership 115 confirmands. I have married 101 couples and buried 213 saints [and I imagine one or two sinners]. I have been in appointed ministry in 11 different communities and helped out in 3 others.

When I was ordained and admitted into probationary membership the Bishop asked me a question that I had been asked by the Board of Ministry and the District Superintendent and many other folks since then. What Bishop Choy asked was, "What do I want to do with my life?" And I said then, what I continue to say: "I want to be in ministry with the people of a local church." And I believe that by the grace of God, I have.

Oh, what that first quote I kept was that:

"The average person has in them: Enough water to fill a 10 gallon barrel; enough fat for 7 bars of soap; carbon for 9,000 lead pencils; phosphorus for 2,200 match-heads; iron for 1 medium sized nail; lime enough to whitewash a chicken coop; and small quantities of magnesium and sulfur."

I've kept this because as I read it again, I am reminded of Psalm 90 [go ahead, look it up, read it and come back, I'll wait ... can you hear the theme from Jeopardy in your head ... I can]. Anyway, it has kept me focused on what is most important in my living: whose I am, not on what I am, or have.

Enjoy Today! We'll talk again, Peace
Pastor Craig




MAHOMET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Retirement Party

*Celebrating Reverend Craig Sweet's
ministry with the people of the
Mahomet United Methodist Church*

**JUNE 20TH, 2020 • 1PM - 3PM
CHURCH PARKING LOT**

Help us to honor Pastor Sweet with a Parking Lot Drive-by, Goodbye! Please drive through our parking lot with kind words, cards, gifts, and lots of honking, waving and well wishes!





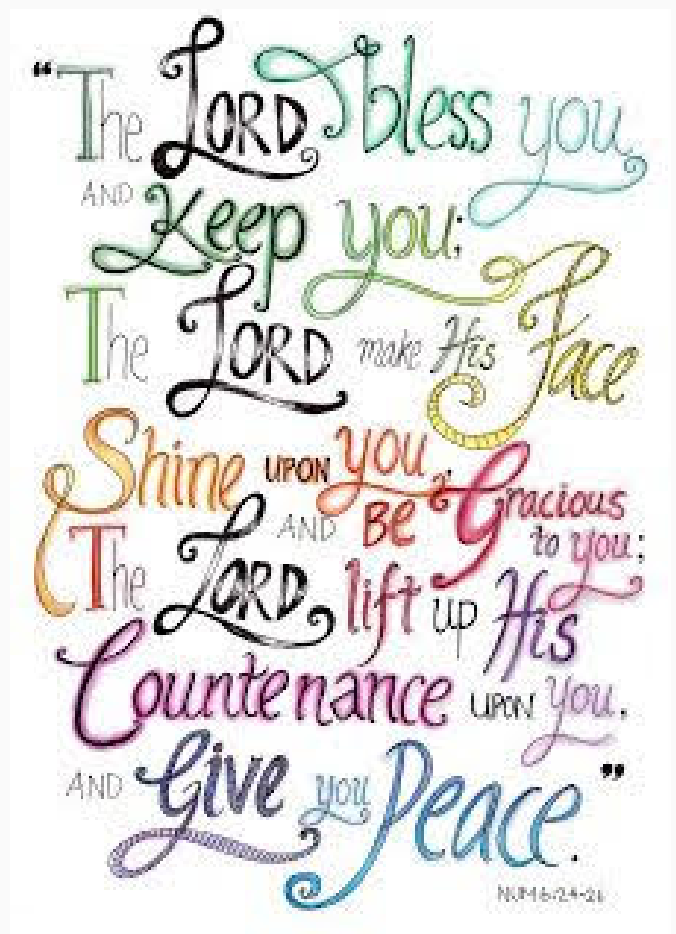
Angel Whispers



This is an angel whisper, a scripture picture. Sending them to church members, especially those on the prayer list, is an easy way to reach out to friends. For those who are sick, those grieving and those who are worried, lonely or afraid, it can be a little bit of reassurance. For those who are getting well or had success at something, it is a way to recognize their efforts. Scripture pictures for weddings and new babies are always fun to send.

Using a search engine such as Google on a cell phone or computer makes it very easy to find images to go with scriptures. It's not necessary to know the scripture chapter and verse, just the subject matter or a few words will get you a lot of scripture pictures. They are easily sent to a cell phone number or an email address.

If you are interested in knowing more about this, call Joyce Livesay, 369-1643.



Stay
Connected



Continued Conversations: Check our Mahomet United Methodist Facebook page and/or subscribe to our YouTube channel to view Pastor Sweet's daily devotionals.

Worship: Please note that we will be streaming one Worship Service on Facebook Live at 9:30 am Sunday mornings this can also be found on YouTube.

Church Phone Tree: We will be starting an All-Church phone tree, so expect a call! We look forward to hearing your voices!

Giving: Although we cannot currently be at worship together your contributions are still very much needed and appreciated. You can give online by going to our website, mumc.org and clicking the blue box at the top of the screen that says "Give Online". You can also mail checks directly to the church.

Donations: We are still collecting food and money to help our community. Checks written to Helping Hands should be mailed directly to Mahomet Helping Hands at P.O. BOX 259 Mahomet, IL 61853. Food and Toiletry donations can be taken directly to Mom's Pantry located on the north side of the Mahomet-Seymour High School Thank you for your contributions!

Prayers: Look for our weekly Prayer List sent out in an All-Church e-mail and by US Mail if requested. To submit prayers call (217-586-2147) or email the church at mumc.org, you can also post prayers in the comment section on Facebook during our 9:30 Sunday Worship Service or go to the Prayer tab on our website at mumc.org

How to Reach Us: The church office is closed, but voicemail will be checked daily and you can always reach us via e-mail at mumc@mumc.org. See the last page of this newsletter for more communication details.

Update from Finance: Due to limited office hours we are not going to be sending out quarterly giving statements. If you need to see yours, please send a request to finsecretary@mumc.org.

COVID-19 Screening: Carle Foundation Hospital has launched two new screening resources that can help patients determine if they need further assistance when experiencing symptoms of coronavirus. Coronavirus Hotline: Call 217-902-6100 and Press 1
Online self-assessment go to: <https://carle.org/home/covid-19-screening>

GOOD NEWS

SCHOLARSHIP

The Isabell Parnell Scholarship is now available for those entering or currently in college. Please go to mumc.org or contact the church office for more info.

CONGRATULATIONS

To the graduating class of 2020! May God Bless you on your journey.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Carlos on receiving his tenure at the University of Illinois. We know you will be a gifted Professor and we are blessed to have you as part of our MUMC music department!
Best Wishes,
MUMC Staff

FAREWELL and WELCOME

In order to honor Pastor Sweet's time in ministry with our church and welcome our new Pastor, Rev. Lori Harvey, we are asking you to send two cards to MUMC before June 15.

One card wishing Rev. Sweet well in his retirement and thanking him for his service!

And one card welcoming Rev. Harvey. Please include your names and a recent photo in the card to Rev. Harvey.

Thank you for your help in supporting our Pastors who are a vital part of our church!



THANK YOU

To the many volunteers who hand wrote cards of gratitude for our teachers. 400 cards were delivered from our church to be part of the local teacher appreciation baskets. We appreciate your help!
MUMC Staff

THANK YOU

To Margaret and Alice for the more than 130 "Cookie Ministry" deliveries during our shelter in place order. Their efforts were just the warm, caring and yummy support that we needed!

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

To Pastor Sweet and his wife Kathy on June 4th.

WONDERFUL OUTREACH WEDNESDAY'S

W.O.W. IS AN AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR KIDS KINDERGARTEN-5TH GRADE.

The W.O.W. After-School Program successfully completed its first year with more than 60 kids and 20 amazing volunteers! We even managed to keep going virtually when we were unable to be together in person.



Please keep an eye out for information for summer W.O.W. activities and W.O.W enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year!

We can't wait to see your smiling faces in person and to meet new friends!



You belong here and you are LOVED!

ALMOST

IT'S TIME FOR



**SAVE THE DATE FOR:
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

JULY 27TH-30TH

9AM-NOON

**FOR AGES 4 YEARS OLD -ENTERING 4TH GRADE
YOUTH HELPERS ENTERING 5TH GRADE-12TH GRADE
FAMILY PARTY JULY 9TH PM**

**VOLUNTEER INFORMATIONAL MEETING
APRIL 19TH AT 9:30AM
REGISTRATION OPEN APRIL 26TH AT NOON**

**WE WILL NEED MANY BOXES TO TRANSFORM THE
CHURCH INTO A CASTLE, SO PLEASE BREAK DOWN
YOUR BOXES AND SAVE THEM FOR US.**

Mahomet Food Assistance



Helping Hands

As all you know, our church usually volunteers to help work at Helping Hands in June. However, things are different this year. Helping Hands is not accepting clothing and household donations as they usually would, and the third Saturday giveaway is being handled differently. What's happening is that Helping Hands is boxing food for the families ahead of time and placing the boxes into their cars for them. Helping Hands appreciates all the ways that our church has been in ministry with them over the years and anticipates that there will be other times and ways we can participate with them. Please remember that you can still give a donation that Helping Hands can leverage to feed families by purchasing food through the Eastern Illinois Food Bank. Checks can be sent directly to Helping Hands at PO BOX 250 Mahomet, IL 61853. Their food distribution times are the third Saturday of every month from 9-11:30 am.

Mom's Pantry

Summer Hours for Mom's Pantry will be Monday and Thursday mornings from 9:00 - 11:00am and Thursday evenings from 5:30 - 7:30pm. Food can be picked up and donations can be dropped off to Mom's Pantry located behind the high school during these hours.

Mahomet Area Youth Club Sack Lunch Program

Starting May 26th, 2020. Sack lunches will be available at the Mahomet Area Youth Club (MAYC) 700 W. Main St. Mahomet, IL. Lunches will be available for pick up from 11am-12pm every weekday at MAYC. Pick up will be at the Club in the parking lot, just pull in for no-contact pick up. Every youth under 18 is eligible, no paperwork, no restrictions, no questions. This is possible because of a summer meal program through the C-UPHD.

Summer Lunch at Candlewood

Summer Lunch at Candlewood will begin June 1st. The churches of Mahomet have once again partnered to provide lunches for the residents of Candlewood. MUMC will provide lunches the 2nd week of July...6th-10th. Lunches will look a bit different this year as we will be providing take out meals only (at least to start). Instead of baked goods, provided by the congregation. We would appreciate a few volunteers to help provide meals and to help serve. We would also like monetary donations, sent to the church and put into the Summer Lunch fund. If you are willing to help, please contact me by email...lmeachum22@gmail.com. Donations can be sent directly to the church. Any ideas or suggestions for easy "box" lunches will be appreciated. We are pleased that lunches will be provided from June 1st thru Aug. 7th, Thanks in advance for all your help and support.



THANK YOU

We received a "Thank you" note from Lessie Bates Neighborhood House for our annual donation.

UMW MEETINGS

Next general meeting is scheduled for **September 3rd at 12:00pm.**

UMW will not meet in June. We will plan to meet on September 3 at noon for a potluck. Evelyn Epperson will be our Hostess. Hopefully we will all be able to get together by then.

THURSDAY READING CIRCLE

On Thursday, June 11th we are inviting the members of the Reading Circle to join together on the porch of the outbuilding at MUMC, to discuss the book, *The Long Flight Home* by Alan Hlad. Even if you have not read the book, please join us for some social distancing time. Bring a lawn chair or we can use the picnic benches. We will be gathering at 1:30 pm. I hope you are all doing well and we will see you then.

Sheryle Carpenter

The Long Flight Home by Alan Hlad.

Inspired by fascinating, true, yet little-known events during World War II, *The Long Flight Home* is a testament to the power of courage in our darkest hours—a moving, masterfully written story of love and sacrifice.



Mission Mondays

Monday Mission Team has been busy sewing masks. We have donated 170 masks to Clark-Lindsey. We have also provided the Mahomet school district with 114 adult masks and 31 children masks. We have a supply of masks so if anyone is in need of one please contact Janet Thompson 898-4001. We would be happy to deliver one to you.

VIRTUAL QUILT SHOW

Cunningham Children's Home will hold a Virtual Quilt Show June 1-5. They will have over 100 quilts to bid on. Gift shop items will also be for sale. You can view the quilts by going to the website: www.cunninghamhome.org Please visit this website to support Cunningham Children's Home. They were not able to have their regular quilt show in April and rely on this fundraiser as a major event to help fund the home.



SERVING TOGETHER IN WORSHIP

When we can join in Worship in person again, please consider volunteering. Your efforts are needed and greatly appreciated!

ALTAR FLOWERS:

June 21: Dennis and Janet Thompson's 49th Anniversary. Flowers in honor of all fathers.

BULLETIN SPONSORS:

June 14: In honor of Rae Dalton's Birthday.



Please note that we have created a Prayer tab on our website, mumc.org. When you click on this tab it will open a form that you can fill out and submit for your prayer requests. Prayer requests can also be e-mailed directly to us at mumc@mumc.org. Let us be in prayer for you!

May Attendance

May 3rd Worship
153 VIEWS

May 10th Worship
154 VIEWS

May 17th Worship
147 VIEWS

May 24th Worship
110 VIEWS

May 25th Memorial Day
Worship
110 VIEWS

May 31st Worship
100 VIEWS



COMMUNICATION

Facebook

Find Daily Devotionals, Worship Videos and church updates on our MUMC Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/MahometUMC/>

YouTube

Subscribe to our MUMC YouTube channel to see Church Videos including Worship, Devotionals and more.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCP5XgdmXybxOKaiuiqjZ0KMQ>

Newsletter

Read through our monthly newsletter publication "The Circuit Rider". It can be found electronically on the News Page of our Website. Paper copies can be picked up at the church or we are happy to add you to the list of people that receive the newsletter in the mail.

Website

www.mumc.org

There is so much to see on our website. Take the time to look through all of tabs. You can find the newsletter on the news page. Also, there is a calendar of events tab that is updated regularly.

E-mail

If you do not receive our church e-mail listing please send an e-mail to mumc@mumc.org and we will get you added. We send 1-2 emails a week.

Phone & Voicemail

217-586-2147

Our office hours are Monday-Friday 9AM-1PM or by appointment. As of April 1, 2020 the office is currently closed, but voicemail will be checked daily.

TEXT ALERTS



Remind App:

Want a new way to stay connected to events happening at MUMC? Use your smartphone or cellphone to receive notifications with important updates and events.

Smartphones: Open your browser and go to the following link rmd.at/fd2h62. Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.

Cell phone (non smartphone): Text the message [@fd2h62](https://www.textnow.com/text/@fd2h62) to the number 81010. If you are having trouble with 81010 try texting [@fd2h62](https://www.textnow.com/text/@fd2h62) to (972) 776-2460.