

The Circuit Rider

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LETTER FROM REV. LORI HARVEY

At my sister's house, Christmas songs are not allowed until the day after Thanksgiving. In my car, Christmas songs are always allowed. I love to hear songs with a new arrangement. Recently, I listened to Carrie Underwood and John Legend's new song, "Hallelujah". It's not the one you would expect. Let the angels sing, Hallelujah. Let there be peace on earth. Let the children know there is a brighter day ahead.

What is your favorite Christmas song? I think the message of God's break through to our world is worth singing about in this season. We may not be in the sanctuary singing together but we still need to sing or listen to the music of this season. It brings joy and hope which we need, especially in the year 2020.

HERE IS THE WORSHIP PLAN FOR DECEMBER WITH A PLAN A AND PLAN B

We are live streaming our services of December 6, 13, and 20. This means that you join us at 9:30 on Sunday morning and worship with us from the comfort of your home. We are able to have a small technical crew here to help make this possible. We are recording and will premiere the services of December 27 and January 3. Although I will not be in the sanctuary those Sundays, I will join you on Facebook/YouTube while I am away from Mahomet until January 5. Rev. Lana Robyn is preaching on January 3 from the Congo. We are so excited to hear about her ministry in Africa.

CHRISTMAS EVE NOON SERVICE

Plan A is to offer an in person noon service for our Seniors. You will self-identify, not me. If the conference and the health department say this is not recommended, we will need to cancel this service.

CHRISTMAS EVE: 5:15 P.M. SERVICE

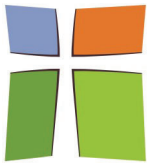
Plan A is to offer an in person service for families with children. The children and youth will collect items from our volunteers as they hear the Christmas stories. This service will take place outside on the baseball field so dress warmly. We will conclude with everyone in a large circle to sing Silent Night and light our glow sticks. We plan to conclude at 6 p.m. when everyone in Mahomet is invited to go outside and ring a bell. We will ring a bell along with the community. **Plan B** is to have the items in a gift bag for families to pick up before Christmas eve and we will have the volunteers recorded to tell the Christmas story.

CHRISTMAS EVE: 8 P.M. SERVICE

This service is a concert and communion service and will be recorded so everyone can worship with us on Facebook/YouTube. This service will make your Christmas Eve special. You will want to enjoy this service with your family so invite them to view from the warmth of their home.

David and I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year. The staff and leaders at Mahomet UMC want to thank you for your support and love. May you feel the Spirit of God in your life. Light the candles of hope, peace, joy and love as we worship this December.







State of Illinois
Illinois Department of Public Health

COVID-19

Know the Difference

Is it a COLD or FLU or COVID-19?

Signs and Symptoms	COLD	FLU	COVID-19
Symptom onset	Gradual	2 days	2-14 days
Body Aches	Slight	Common	Common
Cough	Common	Common	Common
Diarrhea	Rare	Sometimes	Sometimes
Fatigue/Weakness	Sometimes	Common	Common
Fever/Chills/Shaking	Rare	Common	Common
Loss of Taste or Smell	Never	Never	Sometimes
Shortness of breath or Difficulty Breathing	Rare	Common	Common
Stuffy nose	Common	Common	Rare
Sneezing	Common	Sometimes	Rare
Sore throat	Common	Common	Common
Headache	Rare	Common	Common



Questions about COVID-19?
Call 1-800-889-3931 or email dph.sick@illinois.gov
Illinois Department of Public Health - www.dph.illinois.gov

MINISTRY VISIONING RETREAT

Retreat and zoom meetings don't seem like they go together, however, we would like for all the programing committees to meet on January 17, 2021 to vision for the year. Our goals:

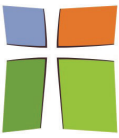
1. To live our mission of leading people to Jesus and help them grow as disciples
2. To create spaces of diversity and unity through table discussions, study and workshops
3. To be flexible and creative in worship, fellowship and caring ministry

Who: Worship team, Missions team, Education team, Memorial committee, Discipleship ministry team, Committee on Nominations

When: January 17, 2021 at 10:30 am–Noon through a zoom meeting, we will meet together then break into small groups and end together.

Zoom Meeting ID: 928 3663 7954
Passcode: 2021

Please add this to your calendar. If you need help with logging on to zoom, let Rev. Lori know. We have people that can assist before that day so you are comfortable using the program.



SYMPATHY

Our sympathy is extended to:

Patricia Bennett following the death of her son, Jeff.

THANK YOU

Thank you for the beautiful sympathy cards and notes I received when my son passed away. They were greatly appreciated.

Patricia Bennett

Dear Friends,

I am amazed with your generosity!

On behalf of the staff and Board of Directors at the Mahomet Area Youth Club, we would like to thank you for your compassionate gift. Your support of MAYC's programming is essential to our success! MAYC programs like the **Jr. High After School Program**, which improves student's academic outcomes including attendance, grades and behaviors and the out of school programs that provide a safe, fun and low cost environment as an option for parents is reliant on donations.

Personally, I always feel blessed that we are in a community that is willing to invest in youth and ensure that they have been given the best opportunity to succeed.

Your donation plays a key role in making this happen. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Sara Balgoyen
Executive Director

PS Thank you for donating on behalf of Matt Difanis. We are blessed to have your support!

CHRISTMAS GIFT BAGS

We have 19 Christmas Gift Bags for 25 church members. We want to let them know their church family has not forgotten them. There will be a red and green storage tub at the Church front door where you can leave your gifts or cards. *Suggested items to contribute are small items like hand lotion, chap stick, note pads, small packages of Kleenex (etc). Small food items must be store purchased and individually wrapped.* Christmas cards are a real joy with notes of what is happening to you and your family.....maybe include a picture and add a prayer. I will leave extra Christmas cards in the red/green tub for your use to write a note if you wish.

The bags will be delivered Monday December 21st. Would you like to help deliver a gift bag? Contact me at email: enie@mediacombb.net

This is the current list of those to be gifted. (Please let me know if there is someone else that needs to be considered or included.)

Cards Only

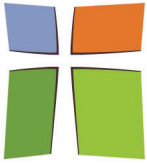
Ron Bates
Betty Brainerd
Helen Brown
Delores "Lorie" Christiansen

Gifts/Cards

Betty Clapper
Sherry & Randy Emerson
Juanita Grove
Susan & John Hesketh
Marline Kesler & Wally Silver
Bob & Norma Hible
Joyce Livesay
Louise Lusader
Marilyn Mohr
Jack & Lorena McClain
Pat O'Neal
Thelma Primmer
Sandy Rourke
Bev & Harold Schroder
Norma Tharp

Thank you for helping me try to connect and show our church members they are not forgotten.

Blessings to all, Eileen Waters



THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who provided a gift card for a Helping Hands child. Your generosity will make someone happy! Have a blessed Christmas!



Mahomet Helping Hands



Rev Lori in Kate Donahue’s living room worshipping with her and her children.

THURSDAY READING CIRCLE



Our next meeting will be January 14, 2021. We will be discussing *Traveling With Pomegranates* by Sue Monk Kidd. Sue Monk Kidd has touched the hearts of millions

of readers with her beloved novels and acclaimed nonfiction. Now, in this wise engrossing dual memoir, she and her daughter, Ann chronicle their travels through Greece and France at a time when each was on a quest to redefine herself and rediscover each other.

An absorbing book about spiritual growth and finding ones destiny. *Traveling With Pomegranates* is both a revealing self-portrait by a beloved author and her daughter, and a momentous story that will resonate with women everywhere.



Lisa, a working Mom, taking the morning “off” from work to proctor at Solid Rock Co-Op. Parenting in 2020 is interesting.

FIRE PITS NEEDED FOR FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE



We are in need of several portable fire pits for an outdoor Christmas Eve service. Do you have one we can use?" Contact Stacy 202-3068.



Valerie Wright led a Christian Yoga class via Zoom in our sanctuary. We had a full virtual class of participants that all left feeling loved and rested.