



# The Circuit Rider



Sharing the Good News in Mahomet since 1843

vol. 176

9/1/2019, Issue 9

## Sweet Thoughts...

As I was having a text conversation with someone the other day I shared something that I've been thinking about over the last few years: Life (no matter how long or short) is neither a sprint nor an endurance race, it is simply a good long walk with Jesus.

I say this because any kind of a race is more about what you are doing than what Jesus is doing in and with you. Let alone the reality that when you are running it is hard to have a conversation; walking on the other hand allows for both sides of a conversation (speaking and listening) to happen. And when you do it each day you get to start all over again, no matter what happened yesterday or last week or 20 years ago. The past is past and today you get to walk into your future with Jesus, who loves you and is with you, no matter what.

Which reminds me of a couple of things going on in our Mahomet United Methodist Church family that we each can participate in as we walk with Jesus.

If you've been in worship the last few weeks you know that I've begun a prayer circle before each service at 8:15 & 10:30 to prepare the place and all of us for worship together. Please come and share with us in prayer and preparation.

Another is that beginning in September I will be sharing a monthly prayer walk focus each week in the bulletin. This is a prayer focus for you as you walk around town, as you drive to and from places, as you look out your front window or across your back fence. Each month the focus will change a bit to reflect the different parts of the year but the challenge will always be on the others on your block, in your neighborhood and community.

Also beginning this month is our stewardship campaign for the new year, Our Three Gifts. I encourage you to share in each of the Magi's gifts to the Christ Child as we prepare ourselves and our faith family here in Mahomet for 2020. There is an overview of the campaign here in this month's Circuit Rider and you will be receiving other communications as the fall continues. I am especially excited about Myrrh Sunday and the goal to provide 80 families in the Mahomet area with a Thanksgiving dinner through Helping Hands; and Frankincense Sunday when we will have the chance to share with others some of the meaningful and devotional items we each have and use as we together walk with our Lord, and so lead others to Jesus and help us to all grow as disciples.

See you in Ministry & Mission,

Rev. Craig



mahomet + united  methodist + church

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



## Meet our new Programming Coordinator

Thank you for the warm welcome! It is truly my pleasure and privilege to be the new Programming Coordinator for the Mahomet United Methodist Church! I have met many of you and a common theme is that you want to know more about me and my family. So here is a brief glimpse! I was born and raised on a farm in Bloomington, IL and have attended church all my life. I came to the University of Illinois to earn a teaching degree and was blessed to meet my husband the first week of college. Jeff and I just celebrated our 20th wedding anniversary last week! We have 4 children, Paige (18), Kate (16), Gavin (11) and Megan (8). Being a parent to this large brood is the most wonderful blessing! I have worked in the Mahomet-Seymour School District in various positions since 1999. I spent several years as a teacher, a substitute and most recently as the program coordinator for after school enrichment. Jeff and I also own and operate Cramer Homes. Jeff comes from a Methodist family, as we came together in marriage and had a family of our own we have grown together in our faith, finding joy in watching our children discover God's love! Before moving to Mahomet we attended Faith United Methodist in Champaign for many years. As my children became involved in church, I followed, becoming the director of Vacation Bible School for 10 years. This position cemented my passion for leading young hearts to Christ and a love for surrounding myself in a community of faithful disciples. When we moved to Mahomet we were blessed to find a church home at Mahomet United Methodist Church! I am truly grateful for the opportunity to serve the members of the Mahomet United Methodist Church and the families in our community! I look forward to working closely with the staff, elected leaders of our church, our congregation and community to "lead people to Jesus and help them grow as disciples". I pray that God will guide all of us on our journey together so that we may continue to grow, supporting one another and spreading the word of God along the way!



Many Blessings until we meet again!  
Kelly Cramer  
Programming Coordinator  
Mahomet United Methodist Church

P.S. I want to know more about all of you! Please take the time to introduce yourself. I look forward to getting to know you all!

*"May the road rise to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sun shine warmth upon your face. The rains fall soft upon your fields. And until we meet again may God hold you in the palm of His hand." ~ An Irish Blessing*



## Thursday Reading Circle

The United Methodist Women's "Reading Circle" will begin their year on September 12 at 1:30 pm with a discussion on *Eleanor: A Spiritual Biography* by Harold Ivan Smith.

More than fifty years after her death, Eleanor Roosevelt is remembered as a formidable First Lady and tireless social activist. Often overlooked, however is her deep and inclusive spirituality. Her personal faith was focused on Jesus and fueled her commitment to civil rights, women's rights, and the rights of all "little people" marginalized in American society. *Eleanor: A Spiritual Biography* provides insight into one of America's most famous women, particularly the spiritual influences that made her so active in social justice issues.

Thanks to Harold Ivan Smith's marvelous book, we now see Eleanor Roosevelt as a whole, spiritual person, as opposed to a person shaped by politics. A well-written page turner that is also impeccably researched, *Eleanor: A Spiritual Biography* fills a large gap in the existing Roosevelt literature. After reading this book, you will never again look at Eleanor Roosevelt the same way.

Contact Janet Thompson, [janetkthompson@yahoo.com](mailto:janetkthompson@yahoo.com)

## Healing Hands International Update

You may remember that between the children at Vacation Bible School and the generous response of members in worship our church family contributed \$2,468.93 to Healing Hands International. Your giving was matched by another donor to Healing Hands which means that not only will there be a workshop at Esther's school in the Mombasa area of Kenya but there will be 3 other workshops your gifts will sponsor.

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

"Shawls...made for centuries universal and embracing, symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving, God. They wrap, enfold, comfort, cover, give solace, mother, hug, shelter and beautify. Those who have received these shawls have been uplifted and affirmed, as if given wings to fly above their troubles..." Written in 1998 by: Janet Bristow.

Each shawl begins with prayers and blessings for the recipient and continues throughout the creation of the shawl. These shawls are meant to be given away unconditionally. Shawls can be given as a comfort after a loss, during bereavement, during an illness and recovery, a difficult pregnancy or any situation where one needs comfort and support. There are endless possibilities. The shawls are not only for our congregation but anyone you know that would benefit from its comfort and love. We also have smaller ones that would be great for a child.

The shawls are located in the hall by the library. Please feel free to take one and sign our book on the table.

The Mission Monday Team





## **Our 3 Gifts**

This year our Mahomet United Methodist Church Council has decided to present to our church family the stewardship campaign *Our Three Gifts: A Program of Faithfulness*. This is a campaign that will bring us through a season of stewardship focusing this fall on the model of the Magi's gifts to the Christ Child as we prepare for the new year, 2020. *Our Three Gifts* has three distinct but related themes: Gold, Myrrh and Frankincense. Gold, represents our wealth and connects us to the financial aspect of our Annual Pledge Campaign. Myrrh, an important ingredient of sacred anointing oil, communicates our need as followers of

Jesus to reach out in ministry and mission to those in need around us even as we grow and sustain God's house. Frankincense, an incense burned before the Holy of Holies in Jerusalem's temple, provides the spiritual, devotional emphasis for the campaign, as our prayers rise to God.

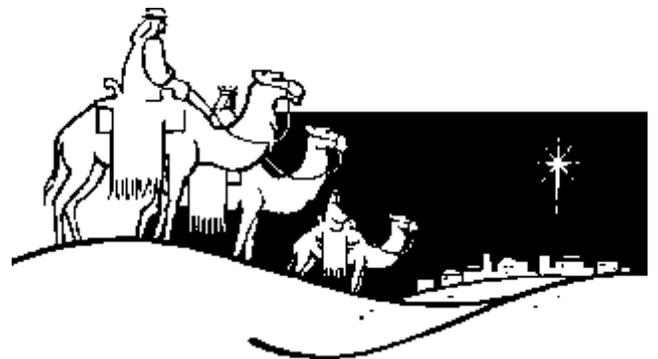
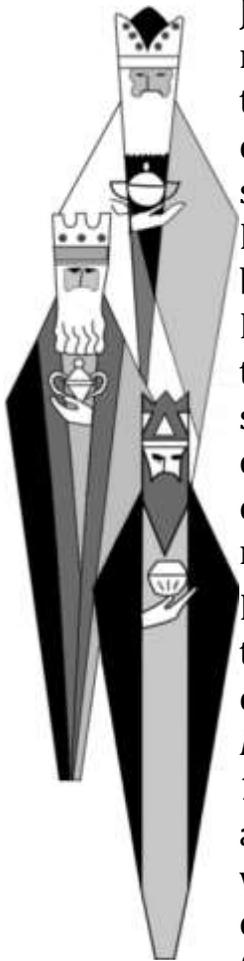
Each of the *Our Three Gifts* themes will culminate in its own special Sunday. On *Myrrh Sunday*, November 10, we will dedicate at the altar the gifts of food that we have been accumulating over the previous weeks for people in our area on

Thanksgiving and our goal is Thanksgiving for 80 families. On *Gold Sunday*, November 17, there will be a traditional pledge card campaign during worship with a catered lunch following the second service. On *Frankincense Sunday*, November 24, you will receive our annual Advent Devotional booklet to help us each prepare our lives during this Advent for Christ's coming at Christmas and have the chance to share pictures, statuary, or stories of who Jesus is for you.

You will be hearing more about *Our Three Gifts* during the coming months by letter, in Sunday worship, and through the *Circuit Rider*. Please prayerfully consider each communication you receive and take the time to actively participate in this program of stewardship, growth and giving with our Mahomet United Methodist Church family.

Yours In Christ,

Jeff Bunting	Scott Yeazel	Rev Craig Sweet
Church Council	Finance	Pastor





United  
Methodist  
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

### **Mahomet United Methodist Women welcome you.**

We invite you to share in our fellowship, become Involved in our mission and service projects, and join with us as we support one another in our Christian faith journeys. All women are welcome to any of the following events.



Thursday, September 5, Noon—Potluck  
Bring a dish to share. Drinks and table service are provided. M & Ms will give an update on all of their ongoing projects.

### **United Methodist Women Sunday**

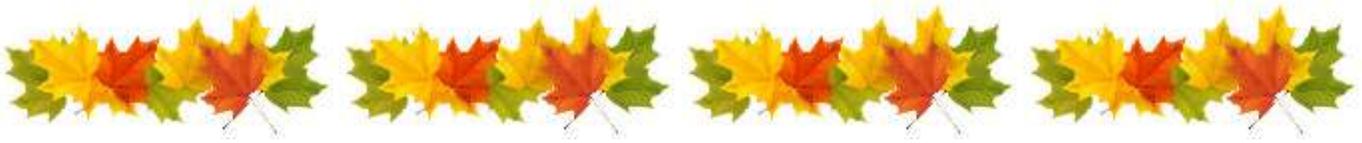
Sunday, September 22, 8:30 and 10:45 am  
Presentation of 2nd Grade Bibles and Announcement of Mission Recognition Pin Recipient

### **UMW District Meeting Tuscola UMC**

Saturday, September 28  
9:30 am—2:30 pm

## **YOU'RE INVITED TO THE CUNNINGHAM CONNECTION**

*A fundraising event for Cunningham Children's Home*



## ***Thankful for Your Connection***

**Sunday, October 27**

**NOON** Come enjoy a **FREE BRUNCH!**

Breakfast Casseroles, Biscuits & Gravy, Fruit, Coffee Cakes, Quick Breads, Drinks

Witness the presentation of quilts from our M & Ms group

Get an update on Cunningham Children's Home

**Please bring Monetary Donations** (*checks should be made out to Cunningham Children's Home*) **or Gift Cards/Certificates for the Cunningham Children's Home. Here are some suggestions from any of the following stores:**

- Barnes & Noble • Bath and Body Works • Best Buy • Burger King • McDonald's • Arby's • Taco Bell
- Wendy's • Meijer • Jimmy Johns • Casey's • TJ Maxx • Family Dollar • iTunes • Old Navy • Gordmans
- Market Place Mall-Champaign • Savoy & Champaign Movie Theatres Gift Certificates • Walmart
- Shoe Carnival • Amazon.com • Dollar Tree

*Sponsored by the Mahomet United Methodist Women*



# SUNDAY SCHOOL FALL 2019



October 6th 9:30AM

November 3rd 9:30AM



December 1st 9:30AM

Parents, to enroll in text reminders:

MUMC KIDS text @mahometu to the number 81010.

MUMC YOUTH text @mumc2018 to the number 81010.



Pictured above: Kristina welcoming the W.O.W. after school program kids off the bus on Wednesday!

### Children's Worship:

Parents of children ages 3-6 years old we have something special for you! All this talk about W.O.W. has left you thinking "but what about my little?" Each week during the 10:45 service we hope your kids will start worship with you and after "Children's Time" with Pastor Sweet they will be dismissed with a teacher to enjoy an age appropriate Bible lesson.





## NATHAN'S ALL STAR SPORTS EXPERIENCE



# SAVE

# THE



# DATE

# 9/22



# 12-2PM

A FUNDRAISER FOR  
SALT AND LIGHT  
MINISTRIES

HOSTED BY NATHAN STABLER  
AT THE MAHOMET UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH

Nathan Stabler is learning at 8, what leadership is and the passion it takes to raise money for a worthy cause. Lisa Sullivan, the Director of Development for Salt and Light, gifted Nathan and his parents with a tour of the Urbana facility. The family were all impressed with the focus Salt and Light has regarding empowering people. Nathan confirmed with Lisa the financial donation received from his event would be allocated to supporting people without addresses. Lisa confirmed Salt and Light would honor his request. The tour was heartwarming. Nathan left with mixed feelings (sadness and joy) which is driving this young man to raise as much funding as possible. He is passionate about uplifting and empowering people in a time of struggle. Keep an eye out for Nathan's designer tickets. There is a suggested donation of \$5.00 per ticket but we are grateful for any amount given. Bring the ticket to the event and have fun participating in soccer, football, basketball and other fun activities. We will have a drawing for prizes sponsored by families and businesses.

100% of the donations, concession profits, and ticket sales will be presented to Salt and Light immediately following the event. Only monetary donations are being accepted at this event. Other items can be donated at the Salt and Light Champaign or Urbana locations.

If you would like to volunteer sign up using this link:

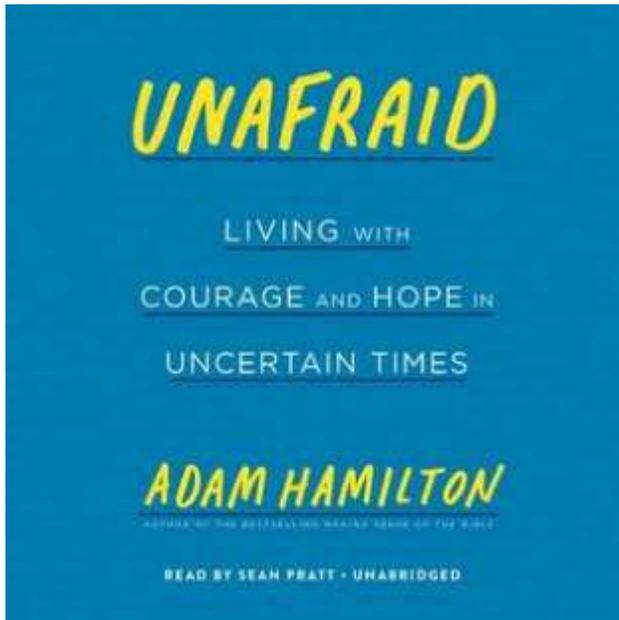
<https://signup.com/go/VUDSkTY>



## New Adult Study

Writing with generosity and intelligence, Hamilton shows how believer and unbeliever alike can develop sustaining spiritual practices and embrace Jesus's recurring counsel: "**Do not be afraid.**" For anyone struggling with fear or wondering how families and communities can thrive in troubled times, *Unafraid* offers an informed and inspiring message full of practical solutions.

**Beginning on Sunday September 8th in between worship services (9:45am) a new 5 week study is beginning UNAFRIAD by Adam Hamilton.** You are welcome to buy the book and follow along but it is not required. As a group you will watch a short video and engage in discussion. **We hope you join in!**



*Pub Theology*

JT's Brewery  
402 E. Main Street  
Wednesday's 7:00-8:00PM

We'll talk with one another about God, the Bible, the world around us, and our lives. If you have been before, come on back. If you haven't been yet, come join us!



## ANNIVERSARIES

- ◆ Robert & Norma Hible ,12 years
- ◆ Larry & Eileen Waters, 52 years
- ◆ Dick & Joyce Livesay, 53 years
- ◆ Craig & Kristyn Kempher, 12 years
- ◆ Jason & Terri Hunt, 19 years
- ◆ Joel & Katie Jessup, 13 years
- ◆ Andrew Chamberlain & Maureen Brothman, 5 years

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# PRAYER



If you or someone you know is hospitalized for illness or going to be in the hospital for tests or surgery, please notify the church office so that Rev. Sweet may provide pastoral care.

**Prayer requests must be updated after two weeks.**

Please contact Judy Ash (217-417-6611) by email at [jash@prairieinet.net](mailto:jash@prairieinet.net) or fill out a prayer form during worship.



## SEPTEMBER, 2019 CALENDAR

### COMMUNION SUNDAY, 9/1

8:15 am Prayer Circle  
8:30 am Worship  
9:45 am Discipleship  
10:30am Prayer Circle  
10:45 am Worship with Praise Band  
5 pm AA

### MONDAY, 9/2

LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED

### TUESDAY, 9/3

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

### WEDNESDAY, 9/4

3-5:30pm Wonderful Outreach  
Wednesdays  
7 pm Praise Band Rehearsal  
7 pm Pub Theology JT's Brewery

### THURSDAY, 9/5

8:30 am Women's Small Group at The  
Hen House Family Restaurant  
1 pm UMW Meeting  
7 pm Staff-Parish

### SATURDAY, 9/7

12 pm AA

### SUNDAY, 9/8

8:15 am Prayer Circle  
8:30 am Worship  
9:45 am Discipleship  
9:45 am Nominations Committee  
10:30 am Prayer Circle  
10:45 am Worship with Praise Band  
12 pm Confirmation  
5 pm AA

### MONDAY, 9/9

1 pm Mission Monday's  
6:30 pm Missions  
7pm Discipleship

### TUESDAY, 9/10

1 pm Wesley Spirit Singers at the  
Glenwood  
6:30 pm Wesley Bells  
7 pm AA  
7:30 pm Chancel Choir

### WEDNESDAY, 9/11

3-5:30 pm Wonderful Outreach  
Wednesdays  
7 pm Praise Band Rehearsal  
7 pm Pub Theology JT's Brewery

### THURSDAY, 9/12

8:30 am Women's Small Group at The  
Hen House Family Restaurant  
1:30pm Thursday Reading Circle  
6 pm Finance Committee  
7 pm Church Council

### SATURDAY, 9/14

12 pm AA

### SUNDAY, 9/15

8:15 am Prayer Circle  
8:30 am Worship  
9:45 am Discipleship  
10:45 am Worship with Praise Band  
2 pm Glenwood Nursing Home Service  
5 pm AA  
6 pm Jr/Sr High Youth Group

### MONDAY, 9/16

1 pm Mission Monday's

### TUESDAY, 9/17

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

### WEDNESDAY, 9/18

3-5:30pm Wonderful Outreach  
Wednesdays  
7 pm Praise Band Rehearsal  
7 pm Worship Committee  
7 pm Pub Theology JT's Brewery

### THURSDAY, 9/19

8:30 am Women's Small Group at The  
Hen House Family Restaurant  
7 pm Trustees

### SATURDAY, 9/21

9 am Healthy Congregations Workshop  
12 pm AA

### SUNDAY, 9/22

8:15 am Prayer Circle  
8:30 am Worship  
9:45 am Discipleship  
10:30 am Prayer Circle  
10:45 am Worship with Praise Band  
12 pm Nathan's All Star Sports  
Experience  
5 pm AA

### MONDAY, 9/23

1 pm Mission Monday's

### TUESDAY, 9/24

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

### WEDNESDAY, 9/25

3-5:30pm Wonderful Outreach  
Wednesdays  
7 pm Praise Band Rehearsal  
7 pm Pub Theology JT's Brewery

### THURSDAY, 9/26

8:30 am Women's Small Group at The  
Hen House Family Restaurant

### SATURDAY, 9/28

12pm AA

### SUNDAY, 9/29

8:15 am Prayer Circle  
8:30 am Worship  
9:45 am Discipleship  
10:30 am Prayer Circle  
10:45 am Worship with Praise Band  
10:45 am WOW Choir sings  
5 pm AA  
6 pm Jr/Sr High Youth Group

### MONDAY, 9/30

1 pm Mission Monday's



## August 2019 Finance Report

The Finance Committee voted to accept Our Three Gifts as the stewardship program this year. A Gold Sunday similar to a Consecration Sunday Celebration will be held in November 2019. The Finance Committee will be contacting church members asking for assistance with a number of activities to make Our Three Gifts a successful program. If you would like to help, please contact Pastor Sweet or any member of the Finance Committee.

July unrestricted total income was \$27,789 for our church and total expenses were \$35,567 for a negative \$7,778 for the month. January through July 2019 unrestricted total income was \$233,366 and total expenses were \$246,831 for a negative \$13,465. Last year January through July 2018 unrestricted total income was \$219,569 and total expenses were \$252,111 for a negative \$32,452.

As always, we are a transparent organization. The reports are always available on request. We thrive as a church because of our congregation's generosity and faithfulness.

Sincerely,

Scott Yeazel Chair, Finance Committee



Please be sure to check the church office if you are missing any items such as earrings, clothing, small children's toys, etc. and we would be happy to return your lost goods!

## Wesley Spirit Singers

Wesley Spirit Singers are people of Mahomet United Methodist Church who enjoy singing with folks at our local assisted living communities. We alternate between Bridle Brook and The Glenwood each month and sing old church hymns in a sing-a-long style with the residents.

We invite anyone who enjoys singing to join us.

Our next visit is:

**Tuesday, September 10 at 1 pm at Glenwood Assisted Living 1709 S Division St, Mahomet.**

For questions, contact: Alice Nelson at 369-6685



### Worship Attendance Figures for August, 2019

Date	8:30 am	10:45 am	Total
August 4	68	87	155
August 11	103	64	167
August 18	81	61	142
August 25	76	54	130
<b>August Total</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>594</b>



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](mailto:mumc@mumc.org) • [www.mumc.org](http://www.mumc.org)

[www.facebook.com/MahometUMC](https://www.facebook.com/MahometUMC)

### **Office Hours**

Mon.-Friday, 9:00 am– 1:00pm

### **Sunday Schedule**

8:15 Prayer Circle

8:30 am Traditional Worship

9:30 & 10:30 am Coffee Fellowship

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

10:30 Prayer Circle

10:45 am Contemporary Worship

### **Church Staff**

Rev. Craig Sweet, Pastor ~ [csweet@mumc.org](mailto:csweet@mumc.org)

Kathy Tock, Worship Music Director ~ [tockwoman@gmail.com](mailto:tockwoman@gmail.com)

Kelly Cramer, Program Coordinator

Kristina Robinson, Children and Youth Ministry ~ [krobinson@mumc.org](mailto:krobinson@mumc.org)

Dr. Carlos R. Carrillo Cotto, Organist

Jodi Allen, Substitute Organist

Emily Kuchenbrod, Choir Director

Eileen Waters, Parish Nurse ~ [enie@mediacombb.net](mailto:enie@mediacombb.net)

Carrie Roberts, Nursery Coordinator



## **Mahomet United Methodist Church**

1302 E. South Mahomet Road

Mahomet, IL 61853-3729

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Website: [www.mumc.org](http://www.mumc.org)