



The Circuit Rider



DECEMBER EVENTS AT MAHOMET UMC

FAMILY ACTIVITIES SUNDAY NIGHTS BEFORE CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

DECEMBER 5 - 5:30 pm Kids can decorate a cookie and enjoy Nativity Walk
Then enjoy the Christmas concert at 6 pm

DECEMBER 12 - 5:30 pm Share Christmas Cheer and card making and bring in items
for the "Bagful of Christmas"
Then enjoy the Contemporary Band Christmas Concert at 6 pm

DECEMBER 19 - 5:30 pm Ornament decorating and dress up in Nativity costumes
with picture opportunity
Then enjoy choral and bell choir at 6 pm

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21 4:31 pm A service for those who are having a hard time going through
the holidays because of a loss or difficult year.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24

12 pm NOON Soup Meal for Seniors

5 pm Animals of Christmas - Outdoor, family friendly worship

8 pm Carols and Communion





Mahomet UMC Christmas Concerts Three Sundays in December

Are you ready to enjoy the Christmas season with holiday concerts? Each Sunday night in December at 6:00 pm, we will feature different musical groups from our church sharing Christmas music. Included in each concert will be congregational singing of favorite carols.

December 5, 6:00 pm Christmas with 8 Hands

Carlos Carrillo-Cotto, Dan Matthews, Jay Simpson, Kathy Tock
With the help of our friends Dave Byers and Greg Duitsman

You will hear wonderful arrangements of carols played by several pianists of our church. All genres of music are covered with these fun pieces. Come and enjoy and sing along with us!

December 12, 6:00 pm A Contemporary Christmas Featuring MUMC Praise Band

Enjoy many of your favorite contemporary Christmas songs by Amy Grant, the Martins, Lauren Daigle, Leonard Cohen and more. There will also be congregational singing included.

Dec. 19, 6:00 pm A Choral and Bell Christmas featuring MUMC Chancel Choir and Wesley Bells

Our choirs will present well-known Christmas music as well as sing-a-longs of your favorite carols. Come and join the excitement of the coming of Jesus Christ through music.



Christmas Letter

December 2021

The prophets of the Old Testament had a message that things were going to be difficult and God's people wondered where God was in the midst of the difficult times. The prophets called for change but also continued to point how God brings hope. Jeremiah was told to buy land and Hosea was told to get married. Isaiah and Micah pointed to the future hope for the people who are followers of God. We often use these scriptures during Advent as **we have hope** through the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

Thank you for your continued support of the ministry that happens through Mahomet United Methodist Church. **We have hope** and that is something we are called to share with others.

Our Christmas offering this year will go to support our connection to the community and our connection to the United Methodist church through designated special offerings. (See more information on these offerings on page 4). The Special Sundays of The United Methodist Church, celebrated annually, illustrate the nature and calling of the Church. These special

Sundays are approved by General Conference and include:

- Human Relations Day.
- UMCOR Sunday (formerly One Great Hour of Sharing)
- World Communion Sunday.
- United Methodist Student Day.
- Peace with Justice Sunday.
- Native American Sunday

These offerings help offer refuge in times of disaster, promote peace and justice, provide scholarships, reach out to the community, teach skills to encourage self-sufficiency and share the love of Jesus Christ with God's people everywhere. These offerings bring hope. **We have hope** to share.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. The new year will bring new worship times:

9 am Traditional worship

10:30 am Contemporary worship





SPECIAL SUNDAY

CHURCHWIDE SPECIAL SUNDAYS UNITE THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

1/16

HUMAN RELATIONS DAY
JANUARY 16, 2022

Supporting neighborhood ministries. Your gifts are part of building beloved community through faith-based volunteer programs, community developers and programs that work with at-risk teens.

ResourceUMC.org/HRD

6/12

PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY
JUNE 12, 2022

Finding peaceful resolutions together. Your gifts support the development of social justice ministries in every Annual Conference with half of the collections remaining within each conference.

ResourceUMC.org/PWJS

3/27

UMCOR SUNDAY MARCH 27, 2022

Responding globally to persons in need. Your gifts ensure that UMCOR can respond quickly and in compassion to disaster and devastation. You support the daily business allowing UMCOR to keep the promise that 100% of any gift will go toward that project.

ResourceUMC.org/UMCOR

10/2

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
OCTOBER 2, 2022

Providing global education and vocational impact. Your gifts equip racial and ethnic students through scholarships for national and international graduate students who will transform communities around the world.

ResourceUMC.org/WCS

5/1

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY MAY 1, 2022

Recognizing and supporting Native Americans. Your gifts allow us to collaborate with existing native ministries, create programs and support seminary scholarships for United Methodist Native Americans.

ResourceUMC.org/NAMS

11/27

UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY
NOVEMBER 27, 2022

Investing in our students. Your gifts underwrite scholarships for United Methodist undergraduate and graduate students allowing them to achieve education goals with a financial freedom.

ResourceUMC.org/UMSD



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®



DECEMBER CALENDAR

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

- 1 pm United Methodist Women
- 7 pm Staff-Parish Relations Committee

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

- 9 am Bazaar, Bake Sale & Nativity Walk

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5 - 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 9-11 am Bazaar, Bake Sale & Nativity Walk
- 9:30 am Worship
- 5 pm Bazaar, Bake Sale & Nativity Walk
- 5:30 pm Cookie Decorating
- 6 pm Christmas Music Concert 8 Hands Group

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

- 1 pm M&Ms

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

- 6:30 pm Handbells
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8

- 7 pm Band Rehearsal

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9

- 6 pm Trustees

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12 - 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 9:30 am Worship
- 10:30 am Youth Group Way to Live Lesson
- 2 pm Bridlebrook Chapel Service
- 5:30 pm Card Making
- 6 pm Christmas Contemporary Music Concert

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13

- 1 pm M&Ms
- 6 pm Christian Yoga

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14

- 6:30 pm Handbells
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15

- 7 pm Band Rehearsal

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19 - 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 9:30 am Worship
- 10:30 am Youth Group Way to Live Service
- 5:30 pm Ornament Making & Picture Taking
- 6 pm Christmas Concert featuring the Mahomet Choral and Handbell Choir

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21

- 4:31 pm Blue Christmas Service
- 6:30 pm Handbells
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22

- 7 pm Band Rehearsal

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE

- 12 pm Noon Soup Meal for Seniors
- 5 pm Animals of Christmas - Outdoor, family friendly worship
- 8 pm Carols and Communion

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25 - MERRY CHRISTMAS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

- 9:30 am Worship in comfy clothes/PJs - Almond Joy: Traditions of Christmas

DECEMBER 27, 30 & 31 OFFICE CLOSED

JANUARY 2022

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 2022

- 9:30 am Casual Worship followed by board games & pizza

BEGINNING SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2022

- 9 am Traditional Worship
- 10:30 am Contemporary Worship



WAY TO LIVE LESSON DECEMBER 12 - 10:30 AM

WAY TO LIVE SERVICE DECEMBER 19 - 10:30 AM



UMW NOVEMBER MEETING

The next UMW meeting will be held on Thursday, December 2 at 1 pm. Bette Lape will present the Christmas program and Karen Wilkinson is the hostess. We invite all women of the church to attend. Masks are encouraged.

NATIVITY WALK



We would love to share a variety of Nativities for people to enjoy as they shop on **December 4 and 5**. Would you be willing to bring your Nativity set(s) in for display? Call the church office to let us know that you would like to participate.

Set up will be open on **Friday, December 3 from 9 am to noon and Saturday morning 8 to 9 am.**

JANUARY: *The Nightingale* by Kristen Hannah (564 pages)

With courage, grace, and powerful insight, bestselling author Kristen Hannah captures the epic panorama of World War II and illuminates an intimate part of history seldom seen: the women's war. *The Nightingale* tells the stories of two sisters, separated by years and experience, by ideals, passion, and circumstances, each embarking on her own dangerous path toward survival, love, and freedom in German-occupied France – a heartbreakingly beautiful novel that celebrates the resilience of the human spirit and the durability of women. It is a novel for everyone, a novel for a lifetime.

YOUR DONATIONS NEEDED



UMW will be hosting a bazaar and bake sale on **December 4 and 5**. Would you be willing to bake some cookies, candies or other goodies for the bake sale? Do you like to make handmade items that you'd be willing to donate. We just ask that baked goods be wrapped and labeled. Cookies could be put on paper plates and then wrapped or placed in large baggies. Bring items to the church on **Friday, December 3 from 9 am to noon and Saturday by 9 am.**



Bazaar, Bake Sale & Nativity Walk

Saturday, December 4, 9 am - Noon

Sunday, December 5, 9-11 am & 5 pm

- Handmade items
- Homebaked Prepackaged Cookies
- Homemade Candies & Goodies



NATIVITY WALK - Enjoy an array of displayed Nativity sets



FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Dear Friends,

Pledged giving for the month of October was approximately \$24,000 and non-pledged giving was approximately \$5,000 making total giving about \$29,000. Total operating expenses were approximately \$52,000 generating a net loss for the month of \$23,000. Expenses for the month included \$22,575 for a nitrogen generator for the church fire suppression system. For the first 9 months of 2021 pledged giving was \$253,000 and non-pledged giving about \$54,000 making total unrestricted income about \$307,000 versus expenses of about \$319,000 through the end of October.

The pledge process to develop an estimate of giving for our church for 2022 is nearly complete. The theme for the campaign is "Together We Share" and you should have received a letter with the details from Dick Livesay, the Campaign Chair. It is our hope that through Service, Prayers, Gifts, Presence and Witnessing our congregation will continue its generous support of our church and its mission. Please turn in your pledge cards if you have not done so already. Thank you for supporting our church ministries!

Financial reports are always available upon request.

Doug Beckmann
Chair, Finance Committee

WEBSITE

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

FACEBOOK

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

SUBSCRIBE TO YOUTUBE

Subscribe to our MUMC YouTube channel to see Church Videos including Worship, Devotionals and more. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCP5XgdmXybxOKauiqjZ0KMQ>

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



Group Poinsettias of 6 ½ inch pots with foil and bows can be ordered. These poinsettias will decorate the Great Hall and Commons Area during the Christmas season. Please fill out the form below in honor and/or in memory of your loved one and note "Poinsettias" in the memo

of your check. Following the last Christmas Eve service, you may take them home. **The deadline to order is Sunday, December 5.**

Enclosed is \$ for poinsettias at \$12.50 ea.

Given by

In honor of

In memory of



To our Church Family,

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all that you have done to help make the memorial services for Harold so perfect. We thank you for help setting up, hosting, serving and cleaning up. You were truly the hands and feet of Jesus as you helped us navigate through these difficult days.

Thank you also for your kind and generous memorial donations to this church.

With Grateful hearts,
Beverly, Doug, Stacy and the Schroeder family

CHRISTMAS BAGS OF JOY

We will once again be filling Christmas Gift Bags for some of our church members. We want to let them know their church family has not forgotten them. These gift bags will be available in December.



A list of names is available at the church. *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.

Please let Eileen Waters know via email enie@mediacombb.net or the church office via email office@mumc.org if know of someone who should be included OR you would like to volunteer to help deliver these items.



Scripture pictures are easy to find on a cell phone or computer. They can be sent to those on our church's prayer list, family and friends. If you are interested in participating in the outreach mission of **ANGEL WHISPERS**, call Joyce Livesay, 217-369-1643.



Mahomet United Methodist Church

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CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Lori Harvey ~ pastor@mumc.org

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

Jay Simpson, Assistant Praise Band Leader

Kristina Robinson, Director of Inclusion ~ krobinson@mumc.org

Michelle Petty, Office Administrator ~ office@mumc.org

Dr. Carlos R. Carrillo Cotto, Organist

Eileen Waters, Parish Nurse ~ enie@mediacombb.net

SOME SCENES FROM HANGING OF THE GREENS

