

The Circuit Rider

Sharing the Good News in Mahomet since 1843

vol. 215

12/1/2022, Issue 12

Warmest greetings in Christ!

With Christmas just days away, I extend my very best wishes to you and your family as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The staff, leadership, and I thank you for the outpouring of love and support you extended to Mahomet UMC throughout the 2022 year.

As we consider the new year, we ask you to pray that more people know Jesus. As more opportunities come our way, your continued gifts of time, talent, and finances will help us to fulfill our mission: Leading people to Jesus and helping them to grow as Disciples of Christ.

Here's a great idea - Invite your friends to church this Christmas season. Four opportunities:

Christmas Concert, Melodies of Christmas - 7 p.m. December 11

Blue Christmas Service - 6 p.m. December 21

Christmas Eve Services - 5 p.m. Outside Nativity stations and 7 p.m. Inside with scripture and music December 24 (Saturday)

Christmas Morning Service - 9 a.m. Carol Sing and Story sharing December 25 (Sunday)

Here's a great opportunity - Help us support ministry near and far. Our Christmas offering will be shared three ways: United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), Wooden It Be Lovely, and replacement of our church's HVAC units.

UMCOR provides assistance in places that have experienced disaster.

Wooden It Be Lovely offers hope and employment to women healing from lives of poverty, addiction, and abuse. They do this by providing transitional employment, mentoring, recovery tools, education, community networking, and a safe community.

HVAC: In the last 3 months we have paid over \$34,000 to replace 3 units. We have an estimate for \$30,000 to replace 3 additional units. There are 3 more units slated to be replaced in the next year for an additional \$35,000. They were all installed when the building was new and now we have seen them fail within a short time period.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Rev Lori Harvey
Directing Pastor
Mahomet UMC

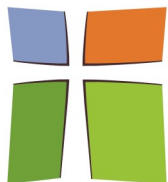


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UPCOMING CHURCH SERVICES

ADVENT SUNDAYS 2022

November 27th
December 4th
December 11th
December 18th

Christmas SERVICES

DEC 21 @ 11:30 AM - 1 PM

Spicy Seniors Luncheon & Worship

anyone can attend, no matter your age

DEC 21 @ 6:00 PM

Blue Christmas Service

For those that have lost someone and are having a
hard time during this season

DEC 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE

5 pm -- Family Service (outside)

7 pm -- Traditional Service (inside)

DEC 25 @ 9:00 AM

Christmas Service

**MAHOMET UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

PRESENTS

*Footprints to the
Manger*

A CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

**DECEMBER 18TH
@ 10:30 AM SERVICE**

*Blue
Christmas Service*

*Wednesday,
December 21st
@ 6:01 pm*

JANUARY 1ST- NEW YEAR MORNING- Yes, it is a Sunday morning. We will have a service at 10:30 a.m. and it will be streamed for those who are unable to attend. This service will include communion and focus on what we hope the new year will bring..

UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS



Mahomet UMC Invites Everyone to Come for...

Family Holiday

DINNER & MOVIE NIGHT

FREE for everyone

Friday, Dec 2nd @ 6:00 pm

Featured Movie title:
"It's a Wonderful Life"

Bring the family and friends and enjoy an evening of fellowship, laughter and fun while having dinner along with movie & popcorn.

Mahomet UMC
1302 E South Mahomet Rd, Mahomet
217-586-2147
ministrydir@mumc.org



CHRISTMAS CONCERT

MELODIES OF CHRISTMAS

11
DECEMBER
7:00 PM

MAHOMET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1302 E SOUTH MAHOMET RD, MAHOMET
217-586-2147 MUMC@MUMC.ORG



December

Soul Squad

Sprinkles and sparkles

WEDNESDAY, DEC 14, 2022

MYSTERY DINNER
4 COURSE DINNER - DINNER DETERMINED
BY THE MUSICAL CHOICES YOU MAKE
FOLLOWING WITH A GAME FOR
YOUR CHRISTMAS GIFT.

Bring a guest that has never come before and you each get a gift card!

RSVP TO:
217-586-2147 OR MINISTRYDIR@MUMC.ORG



Come One, Come All

YOU ARE INVITED TO:

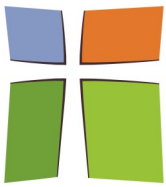
Our Spicy Seniors' Christmas Lunch & Worship

WEDNESDAY, DEC 21

11:30 am - 1:00 pm
Mahomet United Methodist Church
1302 E South Mahomet Rd, Mahomet
217-586-2147 ministrydir@mumc.org

WWW.MUMC.ORG

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A MONTH AT A GLANCE

FALL FEST / CHILI COOK-OFF



Want to Join in the fun?
Go to www.mumc.org
and leave us a message.

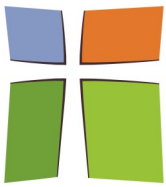


SOUL SQUAD TEEN YOUTH GROUP PROGRAM DUCT TAPE WARS



Next
Meeting:
December 14th
Come join us!





MORE MONTH AT A GLANCE



**Sunday
Services**



**Yellow
&
Blue
Make
Green**



**TODDLER TIME
ACTIVITES**



**Blue
&
Red
Make
Purple**



W.O.W.

**ARTS & CRAFTS, PLAYING HARD,
AND SOME SCIENCE**





CHURCH MISSIONS

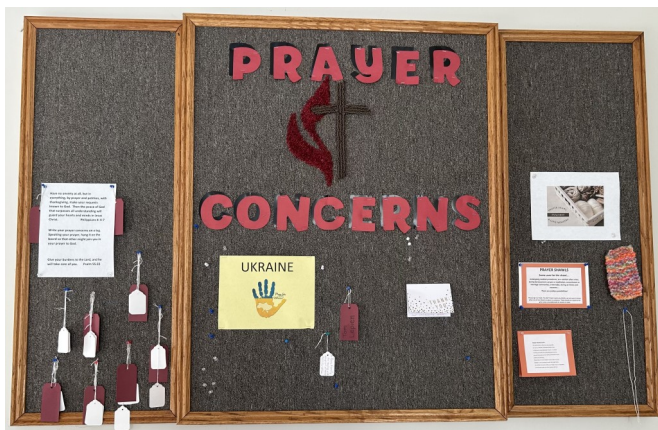
Bags of Joy Recipients

Carl Bateman
Lois Bodeen– Cards Only
Lynn Bobzin– Cards Only
Betty Brainerd
Eileen Bunting– Cards Only
Juanita Grove
Bob & Norma Hible
Linda Kennedy
Marline Kesler– Cards Only
Lorena McClain– Cards Only

Marilyn Mohr
Christina Parnell
Sandy Rourke
Beverly Schroeder
Bob Sinclair
Carolyn Shoot
Ralph & Anita Specht
Christa Steeves
Norma Tharp

*If you know of anyone else, contact Leslie in the Church Office.
All contributions due by: December 18th.

Prayer Board



The Prayer Board in the atrium near the Prayer Shawls was started so that we can share our needs and rejoices with the church family. One of the things that bring us closer to Jesus, God and each other is to pray for each other. We can pray fervently for one another when someone is ill or going through a difficult time. As well as share in our rejoices that God is working miracles through us. Just go to the board and fill out a tag to hang on the board. These can be strictly anonymous if you want or you can add your name to them. We will then add those prayers to our weekly prayer list that goes out in the Monday email as well as the worship bulletins.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

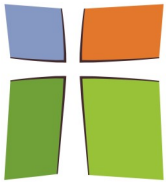
" Shawls...made for centuries universal and embracing, symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving, God. They wrap, enfold, comfort, cover, give solace, mother, hug, shelter and beautify. Those who have received these shawls have been uplifted and affirmed, as if given wings to fly above their troubles..." 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 narthex by the church pews. Please feel free to take one and sign our book on the table.

The Mission Monday Team





AREA MISSIONS

Mahomet Helping Hands
203 E. Adams Street
P.O. Box 254
Mahomet, IL 61853



Established in 1983, Mahomet Helping Hands is sponsored by local churches, organizations, and businesses and made possible by the generous donations of thousands of individuals in our community. Our mission is to serve those in need.

Individuals or families in the Mahomet community who are experiencing financial difficulties or personal disasters, whether employed or unemployed, are encouraged to participate in the food giveaway held on the third Saturday of every month at 9:00 a.m. at the Helping Hands Center located at 203 E. Adams Street.

New clients are asked to register and show proof of income and address when they come to the Center on the giveaway Saturday. Mahomet Helping Hands clients must also reside within the Mahomet-Seymour School District. Income guidelines for eligibility to receive assistance from Mahomet Helping Hands are based on guidelines received from the Illinois Department of Human Services.

Income Eligibility Based on 185% of the Federal Poverty Guideline
Maximum monthly gross income per eligible household

Household Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Monthly Income	\$1,967	\$2,658	\$3,349	\$4,039	\$4,730	\$5,421	\$6,111

For households with more than 7 persons, add \$373 for each additional person.

The public is invited to attend Mahomet Helping Hands meetings on the second Thursday of every month at the Center. To volunteer, call Ann Paul at 586-3392.

Donations

Monetary donations may be made to Mahomet Helping Hands at Busey Bank of Mahomet or mailed to P.O. Box 254, Mahomet, IL 61853. Food and paper products may be dropped off at the Center at 203 E. Adams Street on the second Saturday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Sponsoring Organizations

Bahai Faith, Boy/Girl Scouts, Church of The Cross, Community Evangelical Free Church, First Baptist Church, First Mid-Illinois Bank and Trust, Fitness Center, Grace Church, Home and Community Education, Lake of the Woods Church, Lion's Club, Lutheran Church of Mahomet, Mahomet Christian Church, Mahomet United Methodist Church, Mt. Vernon United Methodist Church, New Beginnings Lutheran Church, Our Lady of the Lake Church, Rotary Club, Sangamon Valley Christian Center, Seymour United Methodist

Mom's Pantry in Mahomet, IL

FREE food items, hygiene products and clothes for those in need that have a student(s) in the Mahomet-Seymour school district.

Open Monday and Thursday mornings 9-11 and Thursday evening 5:30-7:30.

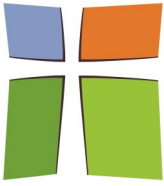
Call 217-586-7672
or email cbrumfield@ms.k12.il.us
to help out or make a donation.



It Takes a Village in Mahomet, IL

"And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased". Heb 13:16 It Takes a Village Central IL is dedicated to providing free clothing, cleaning, and household items to those in need in Central IL. We also host an annual free Christmas Giveaway to those in need during the holiday. Located at 601 E Main St, Suite 107, Mahomet. They can be contacted at 217-637-2881 or help.itav@gmail.com.





Trustee Committee Report

Construction on the Parsonage is moving along steadily. The roof has been shingled, interior walls are framed, windows and most of the doors installed, the plumbing and HVAC has been roughed-in and the concrete driveway and sidewalk is complete. You can watch the progress of our parsonage by going to this website: www.nelson.builders/MUMC.

The reconstruction of South Mahomet Road is complete, along with the bike path, and the Village is working on finishing the ditch grading.

As heating season has gotten underway, we found three more furnaces with significant mechanical problems. These are in addition to the 3 we recently replaced earlier this fall. One had a cracked heat exchanger and the other two needed expensive repairs, leading to the recommendation by our preventative HVAC maintenance contractor to replace all 3 units. Since we also had two AC units of the same type and vintage fail earlier this summer, the trustees voted to replace all 3 furnaces along with their corresponding air conditioners striving for a minimum high efficiency SEER rating of 16. Like the previous units we recently replaced, the new AC units will be considerably more efficient than the units they are replacing. Two of the units have already been ordered and the availability of the third is being checked.

The fire suppression and alarm system continue to require our attention. The alarm system is being upgraded from a 3G cellular system to a 4G (upgradable to 5G). The nitrogen generator, which is part of our fire suppression system continues to require frequent maintenance.

Finance Committee Report

Dear Friends,

Pledged giving for the month of October was approximately \$20,000 and non-pledged giving was approximately \$4,000 making total unrestricted income about \$24,000. Total operating expenses were approximately \$41,000 generating a net operating loss for the month of \$17,000. Year to date operating income was about \$290,000 (\$230K pledged giving, \$26K non-pledged giving and \$34K from employer tax credits) versus expenses of \$342,000. Operating expenses are running higher than normal this year due to replacement of HVAC units, higher utility rates, and fire suppression system costs. Unfortunately, there are some additional HVAC units that are failing, and these will need to be replaced before year end.

The 2023 pledge cards are being returned and as of the end of October we have received 66 pledges for a total of approximately \$275,000. We expect to generate a few more pledges and will finalize our 2023 budget in December. I thank the congregation for this strong response. God's Work, Our Hands!

Thank you for supporting our church ministries!

Financial reports are always available upon request.

Doug Beckmann
Chair, Finance Committee

Missions Committee Report

Here are the focused missions for the remaining months of 2022

- **December** — Giving Tree / Helping Hands



United Women in Faith

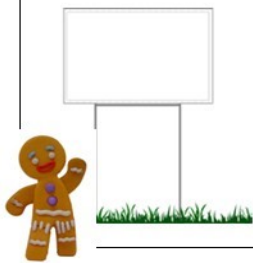
WOMEN'S READING GROUP - JANUARY, 2023

The Woman They Could Not Silence by Kate Moore (454 pages) Kate Moore has hit another one out of the park. In the best tradition of The Radium Girls, Moore recounts the stunning true account of one woman who fought back against a tyrannical husband, a complicit doctor, and nineteenth-century laws that gave men shocking power to silence and confine their wives. In Moore's expert hands, this beautifully written tale unspools with drama and power. You will be riveted.

The Woman They Could Not Silence tells the captivating story of Elizabeth Packard, a forgotten heroine whose harrowing ordeal in an insane asylum seems straight from the mind of Stephen King – except every word is true. Blending impeccable research with novelistic flair, Kate Moore brings the indomitable Packard to brilliant life and proves she belongs among our most celebrated women leaders.

The next UWF meeting will be held on **Thursday, December 1 at 1 pm**. Linda Meachum will present the program and hostess is Karen Wilkinson. We invite all women of the church to attend.

United Women in Faith do not meet in January but will resume in February.



YARD SIGNS - If you have a Cookie Walk & Bazaar yard sign please place it in your yard beginning **Sunday, December 4 through Saturday, December 10**. If you do not have a sign but would like one they will be available in the church narthex Sunday, December 4. Thank you!

We need you all to help make this Cookie Walk and Bazaar successful. You can do any of the following to help us:



- Bake six dozen or more of your favorite cookies
- Bake candies or other baked goods
- Create handmade items
- Bring them to the church no later than Friday, Dec 9.
- Share a Nativity set for the Nativity Walk (Label with your name)
- Shop at the Cookie Walk & Bazaar on December 10.

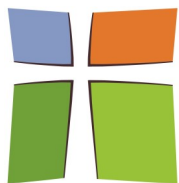
All proceeds go to various mission programs.

MAHOMET UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH PRESENT

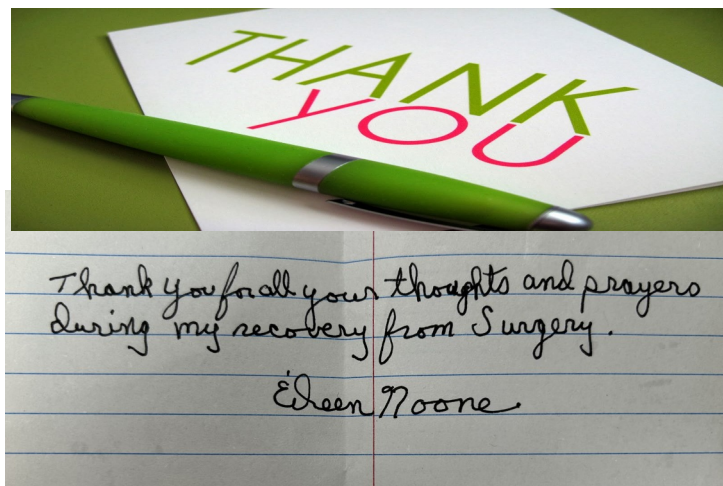
Cookie Walk, Bazaar & Bake Sale Nativity Walk



Come select cookies by the box and do some holiday shopping. There are home baked goodies and hand made items. Don't forget to stop in at the **Nativity Walk** to view the showcase of nativities.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



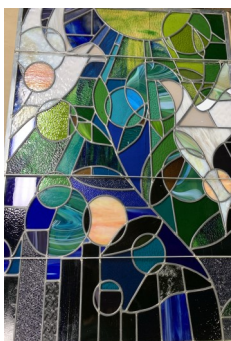
BELLS IN MOTION OF CENTRAL ILLINOIS PRESENTS

A RINGING CHRISTMAS

December 3, 2022 at 7PM First Presbyterian Church 302 W Church St Champaign, IL 61820	December 4, 2022 at 4PM Faith Lutheran Church 520 E US-50 O'Fallon, IL 62269
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Tickets Required. For more information visit us at Bellsinmotion.org

ABOUT THE NEW STAINED GLASS PICTURE.



The doves and olive branches can be interpreted traditionally as peace and forgiveness, but as in the story of Noah, they can be messengers of hope and new beginnings. They are flying toward the light and sending back bubbles of healing energy. The bright orange bubbles feel like the energy making positive connections—there is hope, there is a new tomorrow.

“Celebrate the Season”

Presented by: Gibson Area Music Foundation

3 p.m. on Sunday, December 4

Location: Gibson City Bible Church

The free program will contain Christmas carols, readings, and Messiah selections to tell the story of Christ's birth.



If you have any prayer requests, please make the office aware so that they can be added to the prayer lists. If stated, only circumstances will be included and names will be kept private.

Requests can be submitted via:

office@mumc.org or
by calling the office at 217-586-2147.

GOT

Have an announcement or news,
that you want to share with
everyone,

NEWS?

Please submit via
office@mumc.org or
call 217-586-2147.



DECEMBER 2022 CALENDAR

Thursday, December 1

- 9:30 am Toddler Time
- 1:00 pm UW in Faith Meeting

Friday, December 2

- 6:00 pm Advent Program– Dinner & a Movie
“It’s a Wonderful Life”

Saturday, December 3

- 12:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting

Sunday, December 4

- 9:00 am Traditional Worship Service
- 9:45 am Advent Study
- 10:30 am Contemporary Service

Monday, December 5

- 1:00 pm M & M’s Group
- 5:30 pm Craving to Lose Support Group
- 7:00 pm Disciple Bible Study
- 7:00 pm Scout Troop #25

Tuesday, December 6

- 9:30 am Toddler Time
- 6:30 pm Wesley Bell Choir practice
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir practice

Wednesday, December 7

- 12:30 pm W.O.W. (EO) After school Program
- 5:00 pm W.O.W. Dinner
- 7:00 pm Praise Band Practice

Thursday, December 8

- 9:30 am Toddler Time
- 6:00 pm Finance Meeting
- 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting

Saturday, December 10

- 8:30 am Bazaar, Bake Sale, & Nativity Walk
- 12:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting

Sunday, December 11

- 8:30 am Bazaar, Bake Sale, & Nativity Walk
- 9:00 am Traditional Worship Service
- 9:45 am Advent Study
- 10:30 am Contemporary Service
- 2:00 pm Bridle Brook Chapel Service
- 6:30 pm Family Crafts Night
- 7:00 pm Christmas Concert

Monday, December 12

- 1:00 pm M & M’s Group
- 7:00 pm Disciple Bible Study
- 7:00 pm Scout Troop #25

Tuesday, December 13

- 9:30 am Toddler Time
- 6:30 pm Wesley Bell Practice
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice

Wednesday, December 14

- 2:30 pm W.O.W. After school Program
- 6:00 pm Soul Squad meet Spicy Seniors-
“Mystery Dinner” Event
- 7:00 pm Praise Band Practice

Thursday, December 15

- 9:30 am Toddler Time

Saturday, December 17

- 12:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting

Sunday, December 18

- 9:00 am Traditional Worship Service
- 9:45 am Advent Study
- 10:30 am Contemporary Service with
Children’s Christmas Pageant

Monday, December 19

- 1:00 pm M & M’s Group
- 7:00 pm Scout Troop #25
- 7:00 pm Disciple Bible Study

Tuesday, December 20

- 6:30 pm Wesley Bell Practice
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Practice

Wednesday, December 21

- 11:30 am Spicy Senior Luncheon & Worship
- 1:30 pm W.O.W. After School Program
- 6:00 pm Blue Christmas Service
- 7:00 pm Praise Band Practice

Saturday, December 24

- 12:00 pm Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting
- 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Family Worship (outside)
- 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Traditional Service (inside)

Sunday, December 25

- 9:00 am Traditional Worship Service

Monday, December 26

- Office Closed

Tuesday, December 27

- Office Closed

Thursday, December 29

- Office Closes @ Noon



Subscribe to our MUMC YouTube channel to see Church Videos, including worship, devotionals and more.

www.youtube.com and look for **Mahomet UMC**



You can find Worship Videos and church updates on our MUMC Facebook page.

www.facebook.com/MahometUMC/



Hospital & Healthcare Facility Visits

If you, or a member of your family will be in the hospital or other healthcare facility, please let Pastor Lori or the office know so that she may visit them. Please provide the name that they were admitted under.

NOVEMBER WINNER ANNOUNCED

Winner of the "Search for Indian Corn" is

Lois Meerdink

Stop by office and pick up your prize

DECEMBER HIDDEN OBJECT CONTEST

This month, I have hidden a picture of Poinsettia somewhere in the pages of this newsletter. If you find it, please email MUMC@mumc.org the page # AND location (article) of the picture. All members who respond will be entered into a drawing for a small FILLED gift bag. Drawing will take place on December 21st and the winner will be notified via next month's announcement. Good luck everyone!



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



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 items!



Mahomet United Methodist Church

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

Office Hours

Mon thru Thurs 9:00 am –2:00 pm

Sunday Schedule

9:00 am Traditional Worship
10:30 am Contemporary Worship & Children's Church

Church Staff

Rev. Lori Harvey, Pastor ~ pastor@mumc.org
Michelle Petty, Director of Ministry ~ ministrydir@mumc.org
Leslie Heath, Office Administrator ~ office@mumc.org
Kathy Tock, Worship Music Director ~ tockwoman@gmail.com
Dr. Carlos R. Carrillo Cotto, Organist
Jay Simpson, Assistant Praise Band Leader
Carly Irvin, Toddler Time Instructor ~ toddler teach@mumc.org
Michelle Reed, Custodian ~ cleaning@mumc.org

