



mahomet + united + methodist + church

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

12/31/2014 Volume 20, Issue 1

From John,

The adage is, “you never discuss politics or religion” at a social occasion.

The intent is to avoid the inevitable disagreement or argument and hard feelings, particularly at a time when people are expected to act nice. Currently, it seems like we discuss politics and religion, and readily mix the two. And, we have disagreements, even some very mean-spirited ones. Sometimes people wrap their political agenda in religious language and call it faith.

There is a difference between ideology and spirituality. Most of us have both. The key would be in the ability to distinguish between the two and to not let the influence of our spirituality be diminished.

A person dominated by their ideology seems to define other people by who is with them or against them. You are an ally or an adversary (and they treat adversaries in any non-Christian way we want). They take an idea or stance of theirs, jack it up and drive a scripture or religious belief under it.

A person dominated by their spirituality relates to people out of the virtues of faith, like humility and compassion. Arrogance and meanness are not Christian virtues; humility, compassion, grace and kindness are. You know when you are experiencing these virtues from another **person’s conduct.**

I have a cherished friend who is a pastor in my denomination. We are very different in theology. Yet, time together is delightful, because our differences never compromise friendship. You spend a little time with him, and you sense that his spirituality has grown the virtues of faith in him.

One of the most troublesome people I have been exposed to has ideas very close to mine. Yet his ideology and his sense of what stances and actions you ought to take dominates him. His spirituality seems to suffer. He is arrogant (albeit veiled), mean-spirited and lacks integrity. Someone who disagrees in theology gets bad-mouthed behind their back. Humility and kindness take a back seat to his agenda.

The point is that what ideas people have or what stances they take should not necessarily makes us adversaries. If we relate to people out of the virtues of faith (because we have a healthy, dynamic spirituality), we can find common ground and celebrate that. Where there are differences, we can dialogue respectfully.

When has mean-spirited arguing won someone over? Can we hate those who are different out of existence? Has the polarization of our country over political ideas brought us progress?

When we can dialogue respectfully with those not exactly like us (and are there a lot of those people), we find that true friendships transcend differences. When we engender the virtues of faith, people sense it in us. I would guess that more people are won over to us with thoughtful listening. Maybe they are not won over to exactly the way we believe, but they are at least won over to friendship.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, January 4

COMMUNION SUNDAY

- Blood Drive 9:00 am - noon
- Blood Pressure checks 9:30 am-noon
- Fellowship feast at noon
- Helping Hands Food Drive
- Diaper Tree Drive

Wednesday, January 7

W.O.W. RESUMES

Wednesday, January 27

MAHOMET SENIOR CITIZEN’S CLUB

Chapin Rose will be the featured speaker at 9:00 am at the IGA

*No UMW or Joanna Circle Meetings in January



Revival

Wesley's message and his faith continue to speak to 21st-century Christians - calling for a revival of our hearts and souls so that our world might be changed.



- Begins January 4 and January 7
- 9:45 am Sunday morning Adult Class
- 6 pm Wednesday Evening Adult Class
- Books are at the Welcome Center
- Donation is \$10 per book

Join Adam Hamilton for a six-week journey as he travels to England, following the life of John Wesley and exploring his defining characteristics of a Wesleyan Christian. Wesley's story is our story. It defines our faith and it challenges us to rediscover our spiritual passion.

From the Finance Committee

The November update includes: revenue for November \$41,815 and expenses \$27,353. At the end of November, the year-to-date income exceeds expenses by \$66,147. All expenses are within the budgeted range and relatively flat through year end. The Finance Committee is grateful for your faithful **response to God's blessings. Thank you and may God continue to bless you and our beloved church.**

Blood Drive

Our quarterly Blood Drive for Community Blood Services will be Sunday, January 4 from 9 am to noon. The Bloodmobile will be parked out in the lot. Please try to eat breakfast before you donate. It takes about 20 minutes, you can talk to your friends during the process, and have a snack before leaving. Let your donation be a gift of love to help save a life.



W.O.W WONDERFUL OUTREACH WEDNESDAYS

Wednesday Evening Schedule

- 5:00-5:30 pm **Children's Choir** (Grades 2-5)
- 5:30-6:00 pm Dinner
- 6:00-7:00 pm Group Time for Children & Adults

- *W.O.W. resumes on January 7*
- *Volunteers are still needed to help with cleanup after the meal. Please sign up.*

COMMUNION STEWARDS NEEDED FOR 2015

- Sign-up sheets are on the Welcome Center, or email or call the office to sign up (mumc@mumc.org, 586-2147).

ALTAR FLOWER & BULLETIN SPONSORS NEEDED FOR 2015

- Sign-up sheets are on the Welcome Center, or email or call the office to sign up (mumc@mumc.org, 586-2147).
- Each sponsorship is a \$20 donation. Make **checks to Mahomet UMC. Indicate "Flowers" or "Bulletin" in the memo line.**

Worship Attendance Figures for Nov./Dec. 2014

	8:30 am	10:45 am	Total
Dec. 7	141	101	242
Dec. 14	122	81	203
Dec. 21	128	91	219
Dec 25 & 28	Yet to be reported		
Dec. Total	390	273	663
Nov. Total	616	405	1021



THANK YOU

We thank you for remembering us this holiday season with good wishes, cards, gifts, and Christmas goodies. Even more so, we are grateful for thoughtfulness that includes us.

John and Patty McIntosh

Dear Mahomet U.M.C.,

Thank you for your generous donation to Austin's Place. Your gift will help First United Methodist Church's mission to serve the homeless in our community.

Sincerely,
Cathy Ehler

Thank you for the great bag of surprises and goodies. I appreciated it so very much for all of the effort that went into the gift.

Juanita Grove

Dear Friends,

I personally want to thank you again for the generous gift you **gave this past week to Restoration Urban Ministries. It's good to be able to do what you enjoy doing. We love to think that every hungry belly will be filled, every weary traveler will find rest, and every broken family can be healed. But we have also learned that without the faithful assistance of churches such as yours, it won't happen.**

You have helped us meet a number of serious needs in our community. We at Restoration hope that your church family had a great Thanksgiving and anticipate a great Christmas holiday.

God Bless!
Yours in Service,
Ervin T. Williams

The Illinois Great Rivers Conference of The United Methodist Church recognizes Mahomet UMC for faithfully supporting connectional giving through the payment of 100% of your apportionments for the year 2013.

Jonathan D. Keaton, Resident Bishop

Thank You, Thank You, THANK YOU!

The UMW would like to thank everyone who helped make the Cookie Walk a success: the bakers, the organizers, the helpers, the Girl Scouts, and our supporters (i.e., cookie eaters)!



IN SYMPATHY

Our sympathy is extended to the following families. Please keep them all in your prayers.

- **Dave and Ann Byers following the death of Dave's mother, Lauralea Fornwalt Byers on December 11.**
- The Parnell family following the death of Paul on Dec.4.

Jim Smith and his family following the death of Jim's brother Mark on November 26.

WELCOME

- Carl and Margadene Bateman into our membership.

Latest Addition to our Staff

The Staff Parish Relations Committee is pleased to announce the hiring of Ashley Little to the position of Administrative Assistant. We are thrilled to have her join our church in this important role.



She comes to us with experience as an **Implementation/Benefit's Specialist from BPC (Champaign)**. Her position involved giving presentations to HR groups, employees, & brokers needing information about their benefits, new IRS guidelines, and compliance regulations. Based on the type of plan, she would write the legal plan documents as needed. She also has experience as a Supervisor at CIB (Champaign).

In addition to her past work experience, Ashley has been involved with many groups committed to bettering our community such as Habitat for Humanity and Big Brothers Big Sisters. She enjoys volunteering for Empty Tomb and any other cause that comes her way.

Ashley has two beautiful sons, Tucker(2) and Reese(7 months). Because of this position, she is able to stay at home part time and enjoy making memories with her boys. Her computer proficiencies, great attitude, and love of community are all assets for this position.

To our Christmas Elves,

Thank you to everyone who participated with Bagful of Christmas. Each Christmas bag was gratefully received with joy. Thank you for your goodies and cards and for the taking the time to deliver them in person.





JANUARY 2015 CALENDAR



W.O.W.
WONDERFUL
OUTREACH
WEDNESDAYS

5:00 pm Children's Choir (Grades 2-5)
5:30 pm Dinner
6:00 pm Group Time for Children
6:00 pm Two Adult Bible Studies & a Parents Group

THURSDAY, 1/1 – OFFICE CLOSED

SATURDAY 1/3 - Noon AA

SUNDAY, 1/4 – Communion Sunday 8:30 am Worship; 9 am - Noon Blood Drive; 9:30 am –noon Blood Pressure Checks; 9:45 am Sunday School for All Ages; 10:45 am Worship Noon Fellowship Feast; 5 pm AA; 6 pm Sr. High Youth; 7 pm Disciple Bible Study

MONDAY, 1/5 – 1 pm Mission Mondays; 6 pm Mission Team; 7 pm Discipleship Team

TUESDAY, 1/6 – 6:30 pm Wesley Bells; 7 pm AA; 7 pm AI Anon; 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

WEDNESDAY, 1/7 – W.O.W. (See shaded box for schedule)

THURSDAY, 1/8 – 8:30 am **Women's** Small Group at Mahomet Family Restaurant; 1:30 pm Thursday Reading Circle; 7 pm Church Council

SATURDAY, 1/10 – Noon AA

SUNDAY, 1/11 – 8:30 am Worship; 9:45 am Sunday School for All Ages; 10:45 am Worship; 5 pm AA; 6 pm Sr. High Youth; 6 pm Sunday Reading Circle

MONDAY, 1/12 – 1 pm Mission Mondays

TUESDAY, 1/13 – 6:30 pm Wesley Bells; 7 pm Finance Committee; 7 pm AA; 7 pm AI Anon; 7 pm Finance; 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

WEDNESDAY, 1/14 – W.O.W. (See shaded box for schedule)

THURSDAY, 1/15 – 8:30 am **Women's** Small Group at Mahomet Family Restaurant; 7 pm Trustees

SATURDAY, 1/17 – Noon AA

SUNDAY, 1/18 – 8:30 am Worship; 9:45 am Sunday School for All Ages; 10:45 am Worship with Praise Band; 5 pm AA; 6 pm Sr. High Youth; 7 pm Disciple Bible Study

MONDAY, 1/19 – 1 pm Mission Mondays

TUESDAY, 1/20 – 6:30 pm Wesley Bells; 7 pm AA; 7 pm AI Anon; 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

WEDNESDAY, 1/21 – W.O.W. (See shaded box for schedule)

THURSDAY, 1/22 – 8:30 am **Women's** Small Group at Mahomet Family Restaurant

FRIDAY, 1/23 - Noon *Circuit Rider* Deadline;

SATURDAY, 1/24 – Noon AA; ?pm Relay For Life Mystery Dinner

SUNDAY, 1/25 – 8:30 am Worship; 9:45 am Sunday School for All Ages; 10:45 am Worship with Praise Band; 5 pm AA; 6 pm Sr. High Youth; 7 pm Disciple Bible Study

MONDAY, 1/26 – 1 pm Mission Mondays

TUESDAY, 1/27 – 9 am Mahomet Senior **Citizen's Club at IGA with Speaker Chapin** Rose; 6:30 pm Wesley Bells; 7 pm AA; 7 pm AI Anon; 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

WEDNESDAY, 1/28 – W.O.W. (See shaded box for schedule)

THURSDAY, 1/29 – 8:30 am **Women's** Small Group at Mahomet Family Restaurant

SATURDAY, 1/31 – Noon AA

The staff at Mahomet United Methodist Church would like to wish you a Happy New Year full of love, health, and joy. May God Bless all of you!.

DONATIONS NEEDED!
Sunday, January 4

Helping Hands Food Drive

- Bring non-perishable food. Place in grocery cart in Commons.

Diaper Tree Drive

- Bring disposable diapers, wipes, ointment. Place in box in Commons.



STAY FOR FELLOWSHIP FEAST
Sunday, January 4, NOON

- Soups
- Sandwiches
- Cheese/Grapes
- Dessert





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Our Mission: To Lead People to Jesus and help them grow as disciples.

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Email: mumc@mumc.org • www.mumc.org

Office Hours

Mon.-Thurs., 8:30 am - 4:30 pm; Fri., 8:30 am-12:30 pm

Sunday Worship

8:30 am Traditional Worship

10:45 am Contemporary Worship

Sunday Schedule

9:30 & 10:30 am Coffee Fellowship

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

Church Staff

Rev. John McIntosh, Pastor ~ jmcintosh@mumc.org

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

Dr. Carlos R. Carrillo Cotto, Organist

Cathy Peters, Office Manager ~ cpeters@mumc.org

Ashley Little, Administrative Assistant ~ alittle@mumc.org

Eileen Waters, Parish Nurse ~ enie@mediacombb.net

Erika Mennig, Choir Director

Carrie Roberts, Nursery Co-Coordinator

Ciara Duitsman, Nursery Co-Coordinator

Marty Butts, Custodian



www.facebook.com/MahometUMC

Sunday Schedule

8:30 am Worship

9:30 am Fellowship

9:45 am Discipleship time for all ages

10:30 am Fellowship

10:45 am Worship with praise band

7:00 pm Disciple Bible Study

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, December 31 at Noon

Through Friday, January 2

For New Year's Day