

FAMILY OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH

2020 Coulter Blvd
Chanhassen, MN 55317

www.familyofchristonline.com

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Tabletalk

Our Family Calendar

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OCTOBER 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Blessing of Lifeguides 8:00 AM Hymnal Worship 9:15 AM Church School 9:15 AM Worship led by ROJ/PFH 10:45 AM Church School 10:45 AM Worship led by ROJ/PFH 12:00 PM Family Picnic & Silent Auction 12:00 PM HS SNL (Sunday Night Life) 12:15 PM FoC Fun Run/Walk 7:00 PM Soccer club board meeting	26 6:18 AM Bible Study (Chan Amer Legion) 11:30 AM Caring for Kids Worldwide Charity Golf Classic & Silent Auction 3:00 PM School of Music Lessons	27 G 11:30 AM Staff Meeting 1:30 PM Women's Bible Study 3:00 PM School of Music Lessons 7:00 PM PFH Rehearsal	28 District 112 Late Start 5:00 PM Praise Unlimited Rehearsal 5:30 PM 40:3 Rehearsal 5:30 PM Christos Food Drive! 6:30 PM Confirmation Kick-Off!! 8:30 PM Lux Aeterna Rehearsal	29 6:00 PM Call Committee Meeting 7:00 PM FoC Singers rehearsal	30 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study 1:00 PM Quilters 7:00 PM Our Saviour's Shelter	1 8:00 AM Exec Team rehearsal 9:00 AM PFH rehearsal
2 Seeds of Hope Sing and Serve 8:00 AM Hymnal Worship 8:45 AM Town Hall Meeting 9:15 AM Church School 9:15 AM Worship led by PFH 10:15 AM Town Hall Meeting 10:45 AM Church School 10:45 AM Worship led by PFH 6:30 PM HS SNL (Sunday Night Life)	3 6:18 AM Bible Study (Chan Amer Legion) 3:00 PM School of Music Lessons 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study	4 10:00 AM Off-site ministry staff meeting 1:30 PM Women's Bible Study 3:00 PM School of Music Lessons 7:00 PM ROJ Rehearsal	5 5:00 PM Praise Unlimited Rehearsal 5:30 PM 40:3 Rehearsal 6:00 PM Christos 6:30 PM Confirmation 8:00 PM Lux Aeterna Rehearsal	6 7:00 PM Book of Faith Bible Study 7:00 PM FoC Singers rehearsal	7 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study	8 9:00 AM ROJ rehearsal 5:00 PM Men's Group "Octoberfest" 6:45 PM Lickety Splits Bowling League 7:00 PM Feed My Starving Children
9 Mission Trip Thank you and Registration Kick-Off Seeds of Hope 8:00 AM Hymnal Worship 9:15 AM Church School 9:15 AM Worship led by ROJ 10:45 AM Church School 10:45 AM Worship led by ROJ 6:30 PM HS SNL (Sunday Night Life)	10 6:18 AM Bible Study (Chan Amer Legion) 3:00 PM School of Music Lessons	11 11:30 AM Staff Meeting 1:30 PM Women's Bible Study 3:00 PM School of Music Lessons 7:00 PM Church Council Mtg (CR) 7:00 PM ROJ Rehearsal	12 5:00 PM Praise Unlimited Rehearsal 5:30 PM 40:3 Rehearsal 6:00 PM Christos 6:30 PM Confirmation	13 7:00 PM Book of Faith Bible Study 7:00 PM FoC Singers rehearsal	14 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study	15 FoC Preschool - Staff Conference
16 "Behind the Wheel" blessing Creation Care Day 8:00 AM Hymnal Worship 9:15 AM Church School 9:15 AM Worship led by FoC Singers/Church school choir 10:45 AM Church School 10:45 AM Worship led by FoC Singers/Church school choir 12:15 PM New Member class with lunch 6:30 PM HS SNL (Sunday Night Life)	17 6:18 AM Bible Study (Chan Amer Legion) 3:00 PM School of Music Lessons 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study	18 11:30 AM Staff Meeting 1:30 PM Women's Bible Study 3:00 PM School of Music Lessons 7:00 PM ROJ/PFH Rehearsal	19 No Wednesday Night Activities	20 FoC Preschool closed MEA 3:00 PM Walnut Grove Homeowner's Association 7:00 PM Book of Faith Bible Study 7:00 PM FoC Singers rehearsal	21 FoC Preschool closed MEA	22 9:00 AM ROJ/PFH rehearsal 6:45 PM Lickety Splits Bowling League
23 8:00 AM Hymnal Worship 9:15 AM Nathan Stoa Baptism 9:15 AM NO Sunday School 9:15 AM Worship led by ROJ/PFH 10:45 AM NO Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship led by ROJ/PFH 6:30 PM No SNL (Sunday Night Life)	24 6:18 AM Bible Study (Chan Amer Legion) 3:00 PM School of Music Lessons	25 11:30 AM Staff Meeting 1:30 PM Women's Bible Study 3:00 PM School of Music Lessons 7:00 PM ROJ Rehearsal	26 5:00 PM Praise Unlimited Rehearsal 5:30 PM 40:3 Rehearsal 6:00 PM Christos 6:30 PM Confirmation 8:00 PM Lux Aeterna Rehearsal	27 FoC Preschool fall classroom party 7:00 PM Book of Faith Bible Study 7:00 PM FoC Singers rehearsal	28 District 112 - no school FoC Preschool fall classroom party 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study	29 9:00 AM Lux Aeterna/40:3 Rehearsal 10:00 AM Fall KICK's Party 11:30 AM Feed My Starving Children
30 8:00 AM Hymnal Worship 9:15 AM Church School 9:15 AM New Members Sunday 9:15 AM Worship led by LA/40:3 10:45 AM Church School 10:45 AM New Members Sunday 10:45 AM Worship led by LA/40:3 6:30 PM HS SNL (Sunday Night Life)	31 FoC Prechool closed - Fall Conferences 6:18 AM Bible Study (Chan Amer Legion) 3:00 PM School of Music Lessons	1 FoC Prechool closed - Fall Conferences 10:00 AM Off-site ministry staff meeting 1:30 PM Women's Bible Study 3:00 PM School of Music Lessons 7:00 PM PFH Rehearsal	2 5:00 PM Praise Unlimited Rehearsal 5:30 PM 40:3 Rehearsal 6:00 PM Christos 6:30 PM Confirmation 8:00 PM Lux Aeterna Rehearsal	3 7:00 PM Book of Faith Bible Study 7:00 PM FoC Singers rehearsal	4 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study	5 Make a Difference Day 7:00 AM Men's Group 8:00 AM Exec Team rehearsal 9:00 AM PFH rehearsal 11:30 AM Middle School Event 2:00 PM Christos Event 6:45 PM Lickety Splits Bowling League 7:00 PM Leadership Reception

God's Saints/Ministers at FoC



A few weeks ago, our seven-year-old granddaughter Sara asked me if, since I was retired, I was still a pastor. Now I can go back and tell her that I am a pastor, because retirement is on hold.

After an absence of six years, I am again back in the saddle with FoC. As you await a new called senior pastor, I promise, having picked up the relay baton, to carry it forward as best I can. It is indeed a privilege to be at FoC and work with you.

If there is one thing that is a mark of my work it is that of challenger. God is always calling us forward as disciples. This means keeping our focus upon hearing and doing the Gospel. This hearing and doing is summarized best for me by Jesus in the Great Commandment (Matthew 22:37-39) and The Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20). Responding to the grace of God given us in Jesus, we respond as faithful and obedient servants.

Recently, as we laid my mother to rest beside my father, I was again reminded of the mark of the challenge for me as God's child. On a tombstone is information about name, and dates of birth and death. What gets my attention is the dash between the dates. There is contained the story of my life. What does that dash reveal about me as a person? More importantly, what does it say about one whose life is given, saved, and restored? What does it say about how I used the gift of life and the resources (goods, money, energy, abilities, time and the like) God gave to me to carry out the two great living orders I mentioned above?

We join together as God's people to do God's work.

Good to be here.

~ Pastor Ken DeFor

*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
and with all your soul, and with all your mind.*

~ Matthew 22:37

OCTOBER BOUNTIFUL BASKET ITEM: Cans of soup

Early First Communion Class

Tuesday, November 15, 6:00 PM

All 4th-graders go through a comprehensive study of Holy Communion. We also provide an opportunity for those who, together with their parents, find themselves ready to take communion at an earlier age. If this is your child, please consider taking our Early First Communion class, taught by one or both of our pastors. To register or get more info, contact Leann at leann@familyofchristonline.com.



New Driver Blessing

We'll bless our new drivers during worship October 16. If you have, or someone you know has, just received a drivers' license or is currently taking drivers' training, please plan to attend worship that day & receive special prayers and a blessing token from your FoC congregation.

El Salvador Student Sponsorships

270 K-12 students and 30 university students need sponsoring through the Seeds of Hope program in 2012. Ron and Elaine Larson will be at FoC on two Sundays, October 2 & 9, to answer any questions.



J-Term, a great success in 2011, will be offered again in 2012, and we're looking for YOUR ideas! J-Term provides educational, spiritual, and personal growth opportunities for FoC members & friends of all ages. Last year, we offered classes in yoga, videography, photography, scrapbooking, knitting, cooking, Lutheran basics, parenting, finances, college planning, and more! This year, we're looking for *your* great ideas. If you have a fun idea and/or would be willing to teach a class this January, please contact Leann Thompson, Dir. of Faith Formation: leann@familyofchristonline.com

E-COMMUNICATIONS:

Keep up with Family of Christ online. On the home page of our website (familyofchristonline.com), you'll find links to our blog ("Family of Christ Conversations"), Twitter, and facebook (you don't need to join facebook to view our page).

Make a Difference Day

Our first confirmation **Make a Difference Day** for this school year will be Saturday, November 5. Our students are ready to make a difference and are looking for opportunities to do so. If you have a need (or know someone who does) for yard work, cleaning, a meal, etc., please contact leann@familyofchristonline.com.



Book of Faith Bible studies resume in Oct. with an 8-week session on the book of Genesis led by Pr Kristie & others. The

group will meet in the youth room on Thursdays from 7:00-8:30 PM: October 6, 13, 20, 27; Nov. 3, 10, 17; Dec. 1. There will be a small fee for materials, and Book of Faith study Bibles will be available for purchase for those who want them. Contact: Pam Schumacher (952-934-5659, ext. 29)

Publicity Team

We're looking for energetic, creative people to help with publicity and promotion for our 2012 all-church musical. If you have gifts/interests in this area, contact leann@familyofchristonline.com.

Wine & Dine Common Thread Event

(for those 50 & better) Saturday, October 15 • 3:00 PM — Visit Parley Lake Winery; 4:00 — Visit Sovereign Estate Winery; 5:30 — Dine at Lola's Lakehouse in Waconia. RSVP to Ron or Elaine Larson by Oct. 12: 952-442-2881 or lars710@mediacombb.net.

Coming in November:

- Fellowship Dinner for Grandparents, Nov. 19, 6:30 PM, featuring as guest speaker our own Pastor Ken DeFor — joy-filled grandfather of 10 (including two sets of twins!) ages 12 down to 1.
- Adult Option for Make a Difference Day, November 5. Will involve hands-on project and fellowship. Watch Family News and our website for details.

Music ... & Other Notes

Join Us!

Do you like to sing or play an instrument? Share your musical talents at FoC! We welcome all experience levels, ages, and time commitment capabilities. Come to any rehearsal!



MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

River of Joy & Praise for Him *Adult contemporary*

Praise for Him (PFH) leads worship the first Sunday of the month. River of Joy (ROJ) leads worship the 2nd Sunday of the month. ROJ & PFH combined lead on the 4th Sunday. Rehearsals are only the weeks that the specific groups lead. Groups rehearse Tuesdays 7:00-8:15 pm and Saturdays 9:00-10:30 am. Singers and instrumentalists welcome.

Family of Christ Singers *Traditional music*

Family of Christ Singers are lead by Ron Larson. FoC Singers lead worship the third Sunday of the month. Rehearsals are Thursdays at 7:00 pm. Singers welcome.

Lux Aeterna *6th-9th grade, contemporary*

Lux Aeterna sings anthems and helps to lead worship throughout the school year. Rehearsals are Wednesdays 8:00-8:30. Singers and instrumentalists welcome.

40:3 *10th-12th grade, contemporary*

40:3 rehearses Wednesdays 5:30-6:00 pm. They help lead worship and sing anthems throughout the school year. This is a student-led group. Singers and instrumentalists welcome.

Church School Choir *Ages 2 through 2nd grade*

Jackson Baril, Marissa Thorson, & Michaela Weispfennig lead this choir of children. They rehearse during the hour they are in church school, and sing at church services once a month. Please contact Teri Burns, Minister to Children and Families, with any questions: teri@familyofchristonline.com.

Praise Unlimited *3rd-5th grade*

[Mary Renz](#) directs Praise Unlimited, which rehearses every Wednesday from 5:00-5:30 PM

Chamber Players *Instrumental ensemble*

Chamber Players is an instrumental ensemble that assists worship. Mary Renz leads this group. Contact her with questions: MARY.RENZ@minnetonka.k12.mn.us.

Special Music During Requests for Prayers

Sign up to play or sing during our "collection of prayers" in worship. We welcome a wide range of abilities and ages to share your gifts with our church.

*If you have questions, contact Interim Director of Worship & Music Andrea Jeitz:
andrea@familyofchristonline.com.*

FAMILY FINANCIAL UPDATE

General Fund Balance <i>as of 7/31/2011</i>	+	August income	-	August expenses	=	Ending Balance <i>as of 8/31/2011</i>
(\$44,768)		\$79,173		(\$67,389)		(\$32,984)

News 'n Names



Update from the Call Committee

The call committee has begun interviewing candidates who have found our *Ministry Site Profile (MSP)* to be a good fit for them, and who we believe have great gifts to address our congregational needs & desires. The interview process will include first round interviews, visits to candidates' churches to hear them preach, second round interviews, & background checks. When we decide to extend a call to our new senior pastor, we will present our final selection & ask the congregation to vote. From there, we will be able to extend the call to our new pastor. The call committee thanks everyone who provided input in September on the survey to pick the top three attributes that you would like to see in our next senior pastor. It wasn't surprising that we are still very united in our beliefs about what is important. While the call committee will be considering all the attributes listed on the survey, it is important for us to know that the top 3 chosen by the congregation were: 'Bring joy and good humor to relationships,' 'Be a good communicator,' and 'Help people develop their spiritual lives.' Please continue to pray for us, and don't hesitate to contact us if you have questions. You'll find our contact info and most recent updates at www.familyofchristonline.com.

Opportunities for Newcomers at Family of Christ

- **Newcomers' Event** — Sunday, October 16 • 12:15 – 2:30 PM

If you're looking for a church home, we invite you to the Newcomers' Event. Join Pr Kristie, council leaders, and some staff for a light lunch in a casual social setting. Take a tour of the building and explore ways to get connected at FoC. Learn something about the Lutheran flavor of Christian faith and ask your questions, theological and practical. Professional childcare for children 4 and under will be provided. If you have older children who need supervision, let us know; we'll make every effort to accommodate them, too. Please contact Pam Schumacher, Connections Coordinator, at pam@familyofchristonline.com, or 952-934-5659, ext. 29.

- **New Member Welcome Sunday** — October 30 • 9:15 & 10:45 AM Services

Dear Family of Christ,

I thank you with all heartfelt gratitude and humility for the financial gift I have received for my seminary education. I am profoundly touched by the support of the congregation, and I am blessed to be able to continue my education with this congregation. I have grown up in this church, and to be able to journey with you and continue to grow with the people here is a blessing.

I am entering my second year at Luther Seminary, which makes me a "Middler." I am currently an intern chaplain at Fairview Southdale Hospital until December, as part of my Clinical Pastoral Education requirement. So far I am enjoying the challenge and learning a lot through visiting patients and from the staff chaplains there. I am also taking courses online. This year is a big year because I am going through the process for endorsement so that I can go on my internship for the next academic year. I will be interviewing with my candidacy panel in October and working with Luther to find a church to intern at.

Again, many thanks for your generosity and your support.

~ Laura Woods

Giving thanks always and for everything that God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

~Ephesians 5:20

Preschool News

Important Dates:

- Oct 5 – Field trip to Minnetonka Apple Orchard
- Oct 20 – MEA: No classes
- Oct 25 & 26 – Fall classroom parties
- Oct 31/Nov 1 – Conferences: No classes



Preschool is in session and we've had a great start to the year. We have loved seeing so many familiar faces return, and meeting new little ones as well. A big *thank you* goes out to our wonderful teachers and families!!

Class Offerings We offer classes for 2-, 3-, 4-, & 5-year-olds, an afternoon enrichment program for 4- & 5-year-olds, and an optional Lunch Bunch and Stay 'n Play program for afternoon care. For more information or a tour, contact Susan Schmidt: preschool@familyofchristonline.com; 952-380-9838.

Preschool/Church School Fall Party! Saturday, October 29 • 10:00-11:30 AM

All children ages 2 through 2nd grade are invited to come to church for a Fall Celebration party with a story, crafts, and treats. Costumes are encouraged!



Ministry to Children & Families

Church School

- October 2 • **Sing & Serve** Sunday: All children come directly downstairs to the Family Room (do not go into worship at all) for our singing time
- October 23 • MEA break: No church school classes

Christos

- October 19 • MEA break: No Christos classes

Looking Ahead

Church School

- November 6 • **Sing & Serve** Sunday
- November 27 • Thanksgiving break: No church school classes

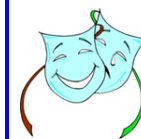
Christos

- November 5: *Make a Difference Day* event. All Christos kids are invited to meet at Feed My Starving Children and work packaging food from 2:00 - 4:00 PM with a fun event following. Watch for details.
- November 23: Thanksgiving break: No Christos classes
- November 30: *Families Advocating for Children in Crisis* shopping event for the 3rd graders from 5:30 - 7:00 PM. Details coming soon!



Confirmation

- Oct 5:** 6:30-8:00 PM • 6th-9th grades at FoC
- Oct 12:** 6:30-8:00 PM • 6th-8th grades at FoC; 9th grade at Lifeguide homes
- Oct 19:** MEA — No Wednesday activities
- Oct 26:** 6:30-8:00 PM • 6th-8th grades at FoC, 9th grade at Lifeguide homes



Like Acting? Join the Drama Team!

We're starting a confirmation drama team to perform skits once a month at confirmation. Contact Leann: leann@familyofchristonline.com

Middle School

Middle School Mission Trip Registration begins

October 9! The trip is June 17-22, 2012, and is being run by Luther Crest. The location is still being nailed down, but will most likely be either North or South Dakota. Open to 6th-8th-graders. Registration forms are available outside the Youth Room or online. Registration deadline is November 20. Questions? Contact lindsey@familyofchristonline.com

Middle School Ministry Fall Kick-off!

Sunday, October 16, 4:30-6:00 PM
Come for games, food, and fun with your FoC friends!

High School

2012 ELCA National Youth Gathering • July 16-23, 2012

Registration is going on NOW for the high school mission trip to the Youth Gathering! **Registrations are due by noon on October 9 to guarantee your spot.** They will be accepted through Nov 20th based on availability. Open to youth in 9th-12th grades. Contact Lindsey with questions: lindsey@familyofchristonline.com



To amp everyone up for the 2012 Youth Gathering, Agape is going on tour! He is performing with other great artists at Augsburg College on Sunday, October 9. Tickets are only \$10 and the proceeds support the ELCA World Hunger program. You don't have to be going to the Gathering to come and enjoy this great event! Please fill out a registration form by **Sunday, October 2**. Open to all 9th-12th-graders. Parents — let Lindsey know if you're willing to drive/chaperone.



Retreat Leadership Team

Time to start planning the winter confirmation retreat on January 14-15! The first leadership team meeting will be Wednesday, October 12, at 4:45 PM in Lindsey's office. If you can't make the meeting but want to be involved, please contact Lindsey.

Sunday Night Life!

SNL (Sunday Night Life) is open to all 9th—12th grade students. SNL meets Sundays from 6:30-8:00 PM for Bible study, service projects, and fun!!



Oct 2: Special event for Lindsey at Marissa Thorson's house. For more info, contact Marissa: 952-412-1806.

Oct 9: *Citizens with the Saints* tour (see info below) We'll leave FoC at 4:00 PM & stop for dinner on the way home.

Oct 16: LEARN — Ducky night! Bring your Bibles as we explore God's word and go home with a new rubber duck (that relates to our lesson) to add to your collection!

Oct 23: No SNL — Happy MEA!

Oct 30: SERVE — We'll do a service project at FoC. Watch Family News for more info.