

From the Pastor . . .

Dangerous Church

I have been watching the Netflix series “Lost in Space” and have been pleasantly surprised at this remake of the show from the late 60’s, although the new version is nothing like the original except for the robot’s phrase “Danger, Will Robinson”. In some sense I think we come to church to escape the danger of the world, but what if instead God’s spirit invites us to embrace those dangerous parts of our world and life?

On May 20th we will celebrate the church holiday of Pentecost. This is when we remember that the Holy Spirit comes into our lives and reminds us of God’s presence with us. Yet God’s advocate doesn’t come in with some feelings of peace and comfort, it comes in as burning flame and mighty rushing wind that pushes us into the world to create and proclaim change in the name of the risen God. As much as we need God to enter into our lives and congregation with hope, peace and love, we can’t forget that God also invites us to join God in changing the world by intervening, interrupting, and interceding with justice and love for all people and God’s creation.

So join us on May 20th as we celebrate with a Pentecost Party during worship and after church with a picnic. Let’s embrace the hope, peace, love, and joy that God has for all of us as a community of Christ, but let’s also begin to see that God’s Spirit is about bringing disruptive change and maybe even a little danger to our lives and this world. That may be exactly what we need to live into God’s call to “Love one another as I have loved you.”

Peace,
Pastor Brent



PENTECOST PICNIC

On Sunday, May 20th we will celebrate Pentecost and our Sunday school program with a PENTECOST PICNIC for the whole community!!

Please join us for worship and a picnic on May 20th. **WEAR RED!** We will provide outdoor games, hot dogs and beverages. We invite you to sign up to bring buns, side dishes and desserts to share! And did we mention to wear red?

We would also love your help planning and leading games. If you are interested, please talk to Sherry Goodman.



Daily Readings for May

Follow along with us as we live in a post Resurrection world. Read one a day or spend a couple hours with a whole week. Each of the readings leads to worship on upcoming Sunday.

Sunday, April 29

Sun: Acts 17:16-31, *Paul's Sermon at Athens*
Mon: Acts 18:1-17, *Paul in Corinth*
Tues: Acts 19:1-10, *Paul in Ephesus*
Wed: Acts 21:27-36, *Paul Arrested in the Temple*
Thurs: Acts 21:37-22:5, *Paul Defends Himself*
Fri: Acts 23:12-22, *The Plot to Kill Paul*
Sat: Acts 28:23-30, *Paul Preaches in Rome*

Sunday, May 6

Sun: Philippians 1:1-18a, *Partnership in the Gospel*
Mon: Philippians 1:18b-30, *Partnership in the Gospel*
Tues: Philippians 2:14-30, *Timothy and Epaphroditus*
Wed: Philippians 3:1-11, *Breaking with the Past*
Thurs: Philippians 3:12-4:1, *Pressing toward the Goal*
Fri: Philippians 4:2-9, *Exhortations*
Sat: Philippians 4:10-23, *Acknowledgment of the Philippians' Gift*

Sunday May 13

Sun: Philippians 2:1-13, *The Christ Hymn*
Mon: Acts 1:1-5, *The Promise of the Holy Spirit*
Tues: Acts 1:6-11, *The Ascension of Jesus*
Wed: Acts 1:12-26, *Matthias Chosen to Replace Judas*
Thurs: Acts 2:37-42, *The First Converts*
Fri: Acts 2:43-47, *Life Among the Believers*
Sat: Acts 3:1-10, *Peter Heals a Crippled Beggar*

Sunday, May 20

Sun: Acts 2:1-21; Philippians 4:4-7, *Pentecost; Rejoice in the Lord*
Mon: Acts 3:11-16, *Peter Speaks in Solomon's Portico*
Tues: Acts 3:17-26, *Peter Speaks in Solomon's Portico*
Wed: Acts 4:1-12, *Peter and John before the Council*
Thurs: Acts 4:13-22, *Peter and John before the Council*
Fri: Acts 4:23-31, *The Believers Pray for Boldness*
Sat: Acts 4:32-37, *The Believers Share Their Possessions*



Living Your Strengths, Growing Your Faith

Want to grow in your faith? In order to begin it's helpful to know who God created you to be. We are hoping that every person at Family of Christ will join us in identify and affirm their talents and begin to use them for growth and service using StrengthsFinder. Cost is \$20 and includes the test and a book. If you already know your StrengthsFinder themes then there is no cost. 25 people have already gone through this program and now we want you! A new group is starting soon. Contact Pastor Brent if interested.



Community Garden

Looking to grow your own food this summer? Family of Christ has several plots available for rent in our new Community Garden. Plots are 10' x 10' and can be leased at \$20 for one or \$30 for two plots. The garden will be ready to plant in the middle of May. Registration and information is available on the bulletin board or in the church office.

Summer Outdoor Renovation

We are a blessed and growing community of Faith, and as we look to our future we are in need of some updates to prepare us for the ministry God has in store for us. We have been blessed with an amazing building and we did an incredible job with the interior. Now its time to do a little exterior work - there is need for basic repair, painting, landscaping, and general sprucing up. Be on the look out for summer work sessions and opportunities. Let's keep this renovation going.

Windows Update



The windows have been ordered and the work will begin soon on the North windows in the church. These will be replaced as the ending of our remodel project from last year. Thanks for your generosity. Funds are paid from our building account and are from our rental income and extra collected renewal funds.

Giving Tree

Please make sure to take a look at the giving tree in the narthex. The giving tree is a list of needs that helps us serve one another better. You can help by donating for these non budgeted items. Take a tag from the tree and make a donation or bring back the item listed on the tag.



Bachman's Gift Cards On Sale through May 6

The Tanzania Medical Group will continue to sell Bachman's gift cards through Sunday, May 6. The Tanzania Medical Scholarship team will have gift cards available to purchase directly during the fellowship hour (no ordering and waiting for your gift cards).

For those who would like gift cards in amounts different from those that will be available during the fellowship hour, please contact Kathy Derner (kmderner@hotmail.com) or Vickie Heggen (vlheggen@hotmail.com). Please make your checks payable to Family of Christ.



Profits from the gift card sales will go into the Tanzania Medical Tuition account.

SOUL SISTERS' EVENT



Nail and String Art Project

May 19 - 10am to Noon

Meet at the church at 9:30am

Cost: \$20



Please bring your own beverage and a snack to share

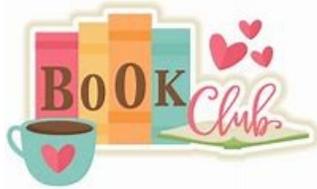
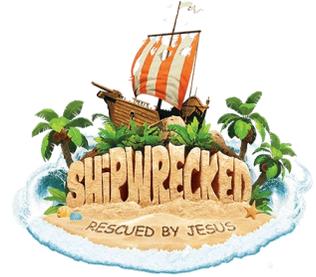
Additional information and sign-up on the bulletin board!

(Note: if there is a snow storm, the event will be canceled!)

SAVE THE DATE

VBS

July 22-26, 2018



Family of Christ Book Study

All meetings are at 7:00pm

May 14 - *Strangers in Their Own Land*
by Arlie Russell Hochschild
hosted by Sheila Ehrich at church

June 11 - *Streets of Eternal Happiness*
by Rob Schmitz
hosted by Tammy Gilmore at her home

VOLLEYBALL COURT

The Youth Ministry Team is planning to renovate the sand volleyball court this spring. Our existing court has served us well, but the sand is so mixed with soil that we can't keep up with the weeds! This time we want to build a more permanent solution. Our plan is to dig out the existing court, lay down a weed block base, build a container box, and fill it back in with fresh sand. The project is expected to cost roughly \$2,000 and we want to break ground on May 25.

If you'd like to support this project, we are looking for donations and/or Thrivent grants as well as volunteers for the build effort. Please contact Shannon Flegel or Nick Hendrickson with any questions. As always, donations can be dropped in the offering basket or the office; please specify the Volleyball court when donating.

Interested in Membership at Family of Christ?

Family of Christ is a very active church with lots of opportunities for all age groups, ranging from toddlers to senior citizens. Membership is not a requirement for involvement but membership will enhance your experiences here. We are a member-driven congregation where new ideas from members often generate new ministries and opportunities for growth and service.

Join us for an informational meeting on Wednesday, May 23rd, 6:30pm to 8:00pm.

Contact Pastor Brent pastorbrent@familyofchrist.com or 952-435-5757 with any questions regarding our membership process.



Art in Fellowship Space

Thank you to Kitty Soderberg for her art exhibit in the fellowship space.

HAVE YOU EVER WANTED TO PIE YOUR PASTOR OR OTHER CHURCH MEMBERS?



Ladies and gentlemen, there's a new fundraiser in town. It's called "Pie in the Face".

Here's how it works: Kick-off will be Sunday, May 6 with your first opportunity to put money in the jar representing someone at church who you would like to see get a pie in the face!!



On Sunday, May 20 there will be an outdoor picnic for our church community. Games for the kids, hot dogs, desserts, and fun will be plentiful... plus there will be winners of the Pie in the Face contest. The jars holding the most money will mean one or more people will be center stage with a complete and total spotlight on them and then...BAM! a pie straight in the face! WOW.... who wants a piece of that action??

Bring your change... your cash.... and let the fun begin!

LAST DAY OF WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH CLASSES & PIZZA

On May 16 will have an awesome outdoor party celebration for all of you who have been attending our Wednesday education night!! This is a great time to say, "THANK YOU" to all the M & M Small Group leaders as well as the teachers who faithfully led classes throughout the school year!!

So, come and celebrate with some crazy outdoor teambuilding games and the super fun **Ten Foot Sundae!**

LUTHER PARK CAMP!

Summer Bible camp registrations are in full swing! Family of Christ camp week is June 17-20 (half week) and June 17-22 (full week).

Family of Christ is providing scholarship money for all who register!!

To register, go to lutherpark.com.



Don't miss out on this super awesome week!

PEER MINISTRY LEADERSHIP MINI RETREAT

Every day youth are aware of friends who feel hurt, are lonely, bullied, and left out. Young people have been turning to their trusted friends with problems for a long time. We asked them, "Do you know how to help them? Do you wish you could do more? Would you like some tools to help you?" They said, "Yes!"

Our high school leaders have taken some training using PML material. We hope to build confidence with caring and welcoming skills through our peer ministry mini retreat. Very often, these students find out that learning some of these everyday skills soon become part of their lifelong "toolbox".

WE are inviting students in grades 6-9th who are interested in learning some peer ministry tools to sign up on the bulletin board at church.

The retreat will be Friday, May 4th from 6-10:30pm. Dinner will be provided. Sessions will be led by our high school youth leaders and Sherry Goodman. Resources provided by peerministry.org

Mission of the Month - THE OPEN DOOR



Hunger isn't just an issue in the inner city. Many of our neighbors here in Lakeville and the surrounding communities are in desperate need of Food resources. Please help us support these ministries with your loose change and Food donations.

Our noisy offering goes to support local, regional and international missions. Thank you for your generosity.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

March 2018

Total income for the month was \$32,638

Total expenses for the month was \$29,309

YTD Giving: \$93,186 - Budgeted YTD: \$96,528
(as of March 31, 2018)

April GIVING TO DATE

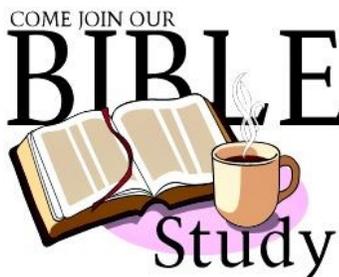
Date	Attendance	Sunday Giving	Electronic Giving	GENERAL FUND
04/01/2018	198/123	\$4,739	\$2,131	\$6,870
04/08/2018	151	\$3,478	\$4,989	\$8,467
04/15/2018	N/A	N/A	\$1,655	\$1,655
04/22/2018	194	\$4,800	\$5,695	\$10,495

Women's Bible Study

Monday, May 7

10:00am

Join us the first Monday of each month.



Men's Bible Studies:

Join us on Tuesday and Thursday mornings as we come together for fellowship, food and a chance to look at the scriptures and our lives.

- Tuesdays – 6:30 a.m.
- Thursdays – 8:00 a.m.

Family of Christ Staff Ministry Team:

Pastor: Brent Erler, Pastor, Ext. 202
 Faith Formation: Sherry Goodman, Ext. 206
 Musicians: Mary Wescott, Laura Porter-Jones,
 Morgan Jones, Jessica Christensen
 Choir: Debra Capener
 Administrative Asst: Linda Bauer

Family of Christ Lutheran Church is a member of the ELCA

Email us at: office@familyofchrist.com
 Visit us at: www.familyofchrist.com

Telephone: 952-435-5757
 Office Hours: 9:00-3:30 Tues—Thurs
 Closed Monday & Friday

"FoCus" is a monthly publication of Family of Christ Lutheran Church.

Please contact the church office to submit items for publication in our newsletter.

May Family of Christ Servants

<u>Sunday</u> <u>05/06/18</u>	<u>Sunday</u> <u>05/13/18</u>	<u>Sunday</u> <u>05/20/18</u>	<u>Sunday</u> <u>05/27/18</u>
<u>AV Tech</u> Kris Smith	<u>AV Tech</u> Chris Flegel	<u>AV Tech</u> Donny Bergquist	<u>AV Tech</u> Jeremy Mann
<u>Closer</u> Mark Warner	<u>Closer</u> David/Vicki Lind	<u>Closer</u> David/Vicki Lind	<u>Closer</u> Sherry Goodman
<u>Communion Server</u> Kendra Flegel Quinn Hatlestad Angel Gramentz Youth Youth	<u>Communion Server</u> Kelly Benning Dan Benson Kathy Derner Becky Donner Paul Donner	<u>Communion Server</u> Cindy Carlson Jim Carlson Lisa Cecchini Kris Olsen Kevin Hatlestad	<u>Communion Server</u> Ed Hellier Josi Hellier Luke Hellier Brian Knoke Lori Knoke
<u>Communion Setup</u> Audrey Carlson	<u>Communion Setup</u> Janet Delperdang	<u>Communion Setup</u> Kathy Derner	<u>Communion Setup</u> Jenn Hatlestad
<u>Fellowship</u> Cheryl Wills Gerry Wills	<u>Fellowship</u> Audrey Carlson Vickie Heggen	<u>Greeter</u> Josi Hellier Luke Hellier	<u>Fellowship</u> Barb Buswell Martha Johnson
<u>Greeter</u> Kali Gilb Youth	<u>Greeter</u> Roger Gilb Janet Guerber	<u>Offering Count</u> Eric Eisenbeisz Renee Eisenbeisz	<u>Greeter</u> Ray Hall Jim Korsa
<u>Offering Count</u> Jim Schiprett Kris Smith	<u>Offering Count</u> Sandy Soukup Gerry Wills	<u>Opener</u> Gerry Wills	<u>Offering Count</u> Jeanne Miller Miles Miller
<u>Opener</u> Gerry Wills	<u>Opener</u> Sherry Goodman	<u>Reader</u> Luke Hellier	<u>Opener</u> Mark Warner
<u>Reader</u> Sydney King Fenn	<u>Reader</u> Bill Goodman	<u>Usher</u> Betty Peterson Marshall Peterson	<u>Reader</u> Bob Johnson
<u>Usher</u> Luke Hellier 2 Youth	<u>Usher</u> Carla Passon Scott Passon		<u>Usher</u> Beth Wacholz John wacholz

If you make any changes to the schedule, please contact Linda at office@familyofchrist.com



Family of Christ Lutheran Church
ELCA
10970 185th St W
Lakeville MN 55044
www.familyofchrist.com



Dates to Remember

- May 2—Confirmation/Youth Programs
- May 4 - PML Mini-Retreat
- May 6 - Sunday Worship and Education
Youth Sunday
- May 9 - Confirmation/Youth Programs
- May 13- Sunday Worship and Education
- May 16 - Confirmation/Youth Programs
- May 19 - Soul Sisters' Event
- May 20 - Sunday Worship Pentecost
Picnic and "Pie in the Face"
- May 23—New Member Class
- May 27 - Sunday Worship

Vision Statement

Family of Christ seeks to be a Grace filled family of God, living the Gospel through faith, love and compassion.



Our Core Values F-A-M-I-L-Y:

- Fait
- Acc
- Meaningful relationships
- Impact
- Love
- Youth