



10970 185th Street West ♦ Lakeville MN 55044 ♦ 952-435-5757 ♦ www.familyofchrist.com



God's work. Our hands.

Join us September 8th as we kick off the fall with a day of service, food and fun. We will be participating in some local service activities and then ending the morning with a picnic lunch at 11:15. Come and be a part of this amazing event. We will be looking for people to lead stations and to bring food to share.

All are welcome!

Play and Praise!

A group for parents and children 3 and under focused on building relationships and faith within and between families.

Please join us for songs, play, a story, and snacks in the Nursery, room #108, following worship on September 22nd.

Questions?

Contact pastormegan@familyofchrist.com



SUNDAY SCHOOL!!

Join us starting September 15th as we kick off another year of amazing Sunday School. We will meet immediately following church, sing a little, and break into classes to learn about God's love for all of us. Sunday School is for 3 year olds - 5th Grade.

Register online or at the table in the entry.



CONFIRM NOT CONFORM

All 6-9th graders are invited to join us for Confirmation and a time to learn more about their faith and daily life. This is a chance to continue to develop faith foundations in a safe environment where our youth can bring their questions, doubts, and real selves. There will be a brief orientation on September 11th @ 6:30pm and class will start on September 18th. This year classes will run from 6:30pm-7:40pm. Register online or in the entry.



September Worship Series

The Parables of Jesus can both comfort and challenge us. Join us this September as we look at Jesus' parables in Luke and understand how these teachings can both remind us of how loved we are, but also what we are to do with that love.

From Pastor Brent..... In early August I had the opportunity to represent the South Metro churches of the Saint Paul Area Synod at the ELCA's Churchwide Assembly. The theme was "We ARE Church" and this was an opportunity for the larger church we are part of to gather in the Holy Spirit and move into the future of God's Kingdom. We listened to the stories of what we are doing as 3.5 million people, uplifted programs that are making an impact in the lives of those struggling around the world, worshipped, celebrated 50 years of women in ministry, and made guiding decisions as we move into the next few years.

As they often are, some of these decisions were somewhat controversial, in particular the call for the ELCA to be the countries first "Sanctuary Church Body". The word "Sanctuary" can be interpreted in many ways, and each congregation will be invited to examine what it means for their context. This fall I invite us into conversation about what being sanctuary means for Family of Christ. Join us in this journey to become Christ in the world in ways that are a part of who we are and who God hopes us to be.

* See highlights for the assembly on the next page

From Pastor Megan.....

We Have a Deal, Remember?

We have a deal, remember? During my first sermon at the end of July, you, my Family of Christ, promised to walk with me on my journey of faith and vocation as I work to discern who I am as a pastoral intern, developing my sense of and skills for ministry here and through my education at Luther Theological Seminary. Therefore, I thought I would give you a little update on where I am at in this journey: I feel wonderful! And inadequate...I am wonderfully inadequate. Let me explain:

The wonderful part is I absolutely love is my role as your intern and as an MDivX student at Luther. Coming to church each Sunday and interacting with you all is one of the highlights of my week. I feel so profoundly welcomed and supported here, so thank you for that! I also am greatly enjoying my studies and my cohort. I can feel my theology being challenged and shaped in positive, constructive ways that I am excited to put into practice in my ministry at FoC.

The inadequate part comes from the great tension between all I would like to do for your congregation and our neighbors and the little I feel capable of actually doing. The national epidemic of gun violence, for example, has been weighing heavily on my mind, and locally, I look at our friends and neighbors struggling with chronic issues like grief, mental illness, and homelessness, and I feel powerless to relieve their suffering.

However, the thing I am learning about Christian public leadership, with the help of Pastor Brent and my seminary professors, is that the very nature of ministry is inadequate. Never complete. Never good enough. Always in of our attention and effort. In an ever-changing world, where the needs of the neighbor are always shifting, Christian leaders are always developing, and the church's resources and abilities are always transforming, it is critical to live in a constant cycle of discerning and acting, asking oneself and one's church community what the needs are of our neighbors and how we can best serve those needs. In order to fully and responsibly answer these questions, we need to reflect on our past discernments and actions, asking ourselves what we can learn from previous experiences and apply to future ministry endeavors.

Therefore, feeling inadequate actually that is the best feeling I could have hoped for myself and for any of you who might also be weighed down with the troubles of the world, because now our hearts are opened to the needs of our neighbors and our eyes are set on the promise the resurrected Christ made to us for a better life with justice and peace for all. We just have to journey forward towards that resurrection promise, continuing to discern and act together.

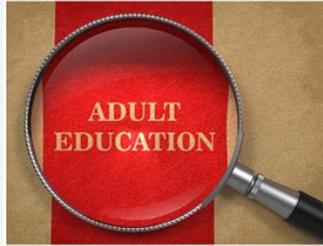
So what do you say: do we still have a deal?

Pastor Megan



CHOIR PRACTICE

Join us Sunday mornings beginning Sept. 8 at 8:45am for practice—no experience necessary. If you have any questions, please contact Deb Capener at poetsecho@gmail.com.



Adult Ed Being a Sanctuary Church

Join us beginning September 22nd as we look at the ELCA Churchwide's decision to be a Sanctuary Church and how

that looks in our context. This will be a time of biblical study, reflection, and looking at how we move into the future as a community of faith.

We will meet in the conference room on the West side of the building from 10:45am-11:30am.

All are welcome.



2019 ELCA CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY

AUGUST 5-10, 2019 • MILWAUKEE

Our denomination, the ELCA, holds a churchwide assembly triennially - to worship, vote on matters of governance and policy, and be church together for the sake of the world. This churchwide assembly was full of important votes and actions, including:

- Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton was reelected for a second six-year term on the first ballot.
- A declaration of apology to our siblings of African descent, which was received by the African Descent Lutheran Association with thanks and a call for accountability and living into the words shared.
- Approved resolution declaring the ELCA is a “sanctuary church body,” encouraging participation in the ELCA AMMPARO initiative for migrant children, discernment of care for our immigrant neighbors in our context, and the promise of forthcoming resources for this work.
- Approved support for the World Council of Church’s Thursdays in Black, awareness movement for a world without rape and violence.
- Voted to commemorate June 17 as a day of repentance, in honor and remembrance of the martyrdom of the Emanuel 9.
- Approved a declaration for inter-religious commitment, reaffirming ecumenical and interfaith partnerships.
- Approved the recommendations from a strategic taskforce which has been studying how to work toward authentic diversity in our church.
- Approved memorials: affirming but not “endorsing” the Poor People’s Campaign, care for immigrants and refugees, and other statements.
- Adopted a new social statement, “Faith, Sexism, and Justice: a Lutheran Call to Action,” and its implementing resolutions.
- Deacon Sue Rothmeyer was elected Churchwide Secretary, a full-time position which acts as executive administrator and leader on all constitutional matters and interpretation.
- Constitutional change for Deacons (rostered ministers of word and service) to be ordained, from the previous practice of consecration.
- Celebrated the milestones of 50 years of women's ordination, 40 years since the first woman of color was ordained, and 10 years since full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ clergy.



The 2019 FOC Mission Trip was a week I will never forget. Our months of preparing and generous gifts from the congregation went to great use. My favorite part was building relationships with the boys so they could see they are cared about and God loves them. I was reminded of how much I have vs. how much I really need in life. The Sunbeam boys do not have a lot of possessions, but they are still very happy and thankful. This was a life changing week and I am thankful to FOC for the experience.

Tabetha Mann

2019 Jamaican Mission Trip

Members of Family of Christ,

On June 18th, Nine youth and six adults set out on a mission trip to Sunbeam Boys Home in Jamaica. This was an experience that we will not forget and will remain in our hearts forever.

This journey was not about what we did, it was about what God did through us. We were able to share his love with the boys and staff at Sunbeam along with several members of the Kingston community at a homeless shelter, home for elderly and adults with disabilities and a home for children with disabilities. We also experienced God in the community of Jamaica. We saw God in the gratefulness the boys expressed for simple things like food and the time we spent with them. We saw God in the eyes and smiles of those we sang to and said hello to. We saw God in the friendliness and thankful gestures from strangers who supported us along this mission.

We would not have been able to complete this journey without the support of YOU all. We sincerely thank you for attending our events, volunteering your time, donating items for us to bring to Jamaica and financial support.

We will leave you with a poem written about our Journey in Jamaica.

Peace & Blessings,
The Jamaican 2019 Mission Team



Our Journey In Jamaica

*We arrived in Jamaica to serve God's people
We tried to be brave, not afraid
We were here to share God's Love with them
We talked to them
We played with them
We cried with them
We ate with them
We touched them
We sang with them
We prayed with them
We laughed with them
We smiled with them
We hugged them
We came here to do what God called us to do
We were the hands and feet of God in Jamaica*

Wednesday Night Format Changes

As we are still in transition in our Children, Youth, and Family ministry, we are making some changes to Wednesday nights. Pastor Brent and Pastor Megan will lead both Confirmation and Youth group. Thanks for your understanding in this time of transition.

6:00pm Pizza

6:30-7:40pm Confirmation

7:20-8:30pm Youth Group

(During the 7:20-7:40pm time, we will have large group activity and worship)



FALL RETREAT

All youth Grades 6-12 are invited to join us for a weekend of faith, fun and friendship. It will be October 4-6th at Spring Lake Lodge in Rosemount.

SAVE THE DATE! and watch for further details.

YOUTH GROUP

We are trying a new format this year. All 9th-12th graders are invited to join us in the youth room from 7:20pm-8:30pm for a time of fun, discovery, and faith. Each week we will spend some time getting to know ourselves, God, and how we are part of community. This is a chance to be real and find hope in a world that often tries to push us where we want to go. Contact Pastor Brent with any questions.

First Youth Group will be September 11th.

KEEP
CALM
AND GO TO
YOUTH
GROUP



WHO IS
my neighbor?



Summer VBS

Special Thanks to all those who volunteered and took part in in our Summer VBS. Although it was a different format then we were used to, we still learned what it means to be a neighbor in God's Kingdom. Thanks for the blessings and the memories.



MISSION OF THE MONTH

Bega Kwa Bega, Tanzania Ministries

Bega Kwa Bega is the phrase we use to describe our companion synod relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania. In English, the phrase means 'shoulder to shoulder' and describes the way in which we accompany one another in a spirit of mutuality, inclusivity, and vulnerability. Through the work of this

partnership and the leading of God's Holy Spirit, we envision deeper faith and fuller life, accompanying one another as participants in God's ongoing mission in both America and Tanzania. Our partnership supports the Illula congregation, secondary school students, and a medical school scholarship.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

July 2019

Total income for the month was \$28,474

Total expenses for the month was \$29,965

YTD Given: \$217,151—YTD Budgeted: \$236,610
(as of July 31, 2019)

AUGUST GIVING TO DATE

Date	Attendance	Sunday Giving	Electronic Giving	GENERAL FUND
8/04/2019	104	\$1,928	\$3,599	\$5,527
8/11/2019	72	\$4,401	\$4,034	\$8,435
8/18/2019	103	\$2,843	\$5,647	\$8,490

Women's Bible Study

Monday, September 9 at 10:00 am

We will begin on Monday September 9, 2019 at 10:00am. Our lesson will be The Angst Of Anger, from the Gather Magazine. Following months will continue on the first Monday of the month. Hope to see you there. Any questions, contact Linda Bartz at lindabartz@charter.net.

All women are welcome.

Men's Morning 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:	Pastor Brent Eler
Pastoral Intern:	Pastor Megan Eide
Interim Youth & Family Minister:	Amy McGrew
Interim Children's Minister:	Cary Whittington
Musicians:	Mary Wescott, Morgan Jones, Laura Porter-Jones, Jessica Christensen
Choir:	Debra Capener
Administrative Asst:	Linda Bauer
Custodian:	Kelly Kritsberg

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.*

September Family of Christ Servants

<u>Sunday</u> <u>09/01/19</u>	<u>Sunday</u> <u>09/08/19</u>	<u>Sunday</u> <u>09/15/19</u>	<u>Sunday</u> <u>09/22/19</u>	<u>Sunday</u> <u>09/29/19</u>
<u>AV Tech</u> Kris Smith	<u>AV Tech</u> Ken Davidson	<u>AV Tech</u> Chris Flegel	<u>AV Tech</u> Nathan Blilie	<u>AV Tech</u> Jeremy Mann
<u>Closer</u> Gerry Wills	<u>Closer</u> Brian Boroff	<u>Closer</u> Lisa Cecchini	<u>Closer</u> Brian Boroff	<u>Closer</u> Brian Boroff
<u>Communion</u> <u>Server</u> Mike Anderson Kathy Derner Debbie Warner Mark Warner	<u>Communion</u> <u>Server</u> Kathy Olson Sandy Soukup Chad Specht Kirstin Specht	<u>Communion</u> <u>Server</u> Rhonda Arnold Jean Bakken Annie Yolitz Brian Yolitz	<u>Communion</u> <u>Server</u> Karen Agee Linda Bartz Maury Bartz Dan Benson	<u>Communion</u> <u>Server</u> Becky Donner Paul Donner Kevin Hatlestad Vickie Heggen
<u>Communion Setup</u>	<u>Communion Setup</u> Kevin Hatlestad	<u>Communion Setup</u> Vickie Heggen	<u>Communion Setup</u> Janet Delperdang	<u>Communion Setup</u> Kirsten Specht
<u>Fellowship</u> Vickie Heggen Betty Peterson	<u>Coffee Setup</u> Angie Korsa Kathy Olson	<u>Fellowship</u> Karen Agee Audrey Carlson	<u>Fellowship</u> Barb Buswell Jenn Hatlestad	<u>Fellowship</u> Angie Korsa Kathy Olson
<u>Greeter</u> Betty Peterson Marshall Peterson	<u>Greeter</u> Dana Sahlin Jon Sahlin	<u>Greeter</u> Jean Bakken Annie Yolitz	<u>Greeter</u> Vickie Heggen Anna Simon	<u>Greeter</u> Linda Bartz Maury Bartz
<u>Offering Count</u> Chuck Halvorson Angie Korsa	<u>Offering Count</u> Ryan Basballe Lisa Cecchini	<u>Offering Count</u> Kevin Hatlestad Jim Schiprett	<u>Offering Count</u> Jeanne Miller Miles Miller	<u>Offering Count</u> Kris Smith Gerry Wills
<u>Opener</u> Mark Warner	<u>Opener</u> Lisa Cecchini	<u>Opener</u> Mark Warner	<u>Opener</u> Gerry Wills	<u>Opener</u> Mark Warner
<u>Reader</u> Jim Korsa	<u>Reader</u> Dave Olson	<u>Reader</u> Becky Nystuen	<u>Reader</u> Anna Simon	<u>Reader</u> Kris Smith
<u>Usher</u> Angie Korsa Jim Korsa	<u>Usher</u> Beth Wacholz John Wacholz	<u>Usher</u> Debbie Warner Mark Warner	<u>Usher</u> Jean Bakken Ryan Basballe	<u>Usher</u> Cindy Carlson Jim Carlson

Please notify Linda at the church office if you make changes to the schedule. THANK YOU!!!

If you would like to volunteer at worship, please contact Linda Bauer at the church office or linda@familyofchrist.com.



SEPTEMBER
SEPTEMBER
SEPTEMBER

Dates to Remember

- September 1 - Sunday Worship
- September 8– Sunday Worship
God's Work Our Hands
Picnic Lunch
- September 11 - Youth Programing and
Confirmation Orientation
First Youth Group
- September 15 - Worship and Education
- September 18 - Confirmation/Youth Programs
- September 22 - Sunday Worship and Education
Adult Ed and Play and Praise Begin
- September 25 - Confirmation/Youth Programs
- September 29 - Sunday Worship and Education

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:

Faitth
Accceptance
Meaningful relationships
Impact
Love
Youth