



FISH "FRYDAY"

**Come one! Come all!
to FOC's
famous fish fry!
Nov. 3
4:30-7:30pm**

**\$15 for All You Can Eat
\$12 for 2-piece dinner
\$5 for kids 10 and under
Fish, baked potato, coleslaw,
dessert & beverage**

**Invite your friends and
neighbors... don't let this
"Fish Fryday" get away!**

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What Does the Bible Tell Us About Salvation?

We continue our eight-part series that is built around key questions that every believer should be able to answer. The Bible tells us in 1 Peter 3:15b to, "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect." This series is not meant to be confrontational, but will explain and hopefully encourage you to contemplate the true meaning of the Gospel for yourself.

I pray it will create a fuller appreciation for the great love of God's grace and mercy through His plan of salvation for believers. It is what gives believers such confidence, great joy and peace in knowing their final destiny.



So, what does it mean to have "faith" in Jesus Christ?

Well, let's first discuss what faith is not. It is not just trusting Him for blessings and the things you need to sustain life here on earth, like food, clothing, house and family, etc. It's not just believing there is a god an all powerful

creator. The Bible tells us, "... you believe there is one God.

Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and tremble in terror." (See James 2:19 NLT)

So, what is faith? Faith is more than "believing" there is one God. We must believe and completely trust, in our heart and mind, that Jesus paid for the sins of all people.

An example: Say you go to watch a tight rope walker transcend from one end of the rope to the other, high above the ground? Oh, by the way, there is no net! He does this several times to prove his ability, gain your confidence. You now believe (are confident) he can do it because you've seen it yourself. But, now he asks you to offer yourself to allow him to push you across the same tight rope in a wheel barrel. Do you have enough "faith" to put your life in his hands to get you safely over and back?

That is what true 'believer's faith' is like, putting your 'eternal life' in His hands and trusting in what Jesus did to bring you to heaven safely.

Remember Ephesians 2:8? "... it is by grace you are saved through faith..." God no longer sees your sins because of faith in Jesus!

So why is this important? (See *Salvation provided elsewhere in this newsletter.*)

Youth & Education

Trunk or Treat Success!



Thank you, FOC, for helping make Trunk or Treat a success! This is such a wonderful community event, and it couldn't happen without you. From decorating trunks, taking pictures, serving food, to helping



with games, and donating candy, every gesture made a difference.

Feed My Starving Children Event

Family of Christ has 30 spots reserved to volunteer at Feed My Starving Children in Eagan MN, on Wednesday November 22nd from 11:30-1:15pm. The address is **990 LoneOak Road, Suite 136, Eagan, MN 5512**. If you are interested, please sign up on the bulletin board or contact Annie McConaughey at (amcconaughey1@gmail.com).

Children 5 and up are welcome, with an adult. If you have never been, this is an amazing experience to help those in need and work together as a team.

We would love for you to join us! Feed My Starving Children allows us to have fun while we work together as a team to help those in need. I promise you, this event creates a lasting memory.

Thanksgiving/Christmas Families

We will again help local families in need during this Thanksgiving and Christmas season. We will soon ask for donated items so we can provide a Thanksgiving dinner and gifts for Christmas.

Stay tuned for more information to come.

By Annie McConaughey

Education Times

Wednesdays

Confirmation 5:30-6:30pm

Supper 6:30-7:00pm

Youth Group 7:00-8:00pm

Sundays

Fellowship Follows Worship Service

Sunday School 10:45-11:45am

Pastor Leads Adult Bible Study
10:45-11:45am

Third Sunday of the Month

Jingle Offering for Samuel

Youth/Sunday School Greeters, Readers

Elders' Corner

Special Services

Nov 5 - Baptism for Raleigh family

Nov 12 - Baptism for Gehring family

Nov 12 - Recognition of Veterans

Nov 12 - Congregational Meeting

Nov 22 - Thanksgiving Service 6:00pm

Dec 3 - First Advent service

Secretary Five candidates have declined our offer for various reasons. Will post an ad in the Hudson Star/Observer. We considered extending office hours, but opted to reduce days with live coverage to Mondays and Thursdays only from 9am to noon. We also off-loaded the prep of slide decks to Liz Whitchurch.

Release/Transfer None at this time. Baptisms are being recorded and updated in membership roles.

Extra Hymnals We received an email Sept, 11, offering to supply as many hymnals as we need. We asked for 50 and requested verification of correct edition before shipping. Unfortunately, they were not the same edition we have. We will run the ad one more time, in November.

New Member Sunday Tentatively set for December 10.

Veteran's Day Service Nov 12. We will place the US flag in the Narthex on the right side of double doors as you enter the Sanctuary.

Cindy Leonard will play a short version of the theme from each branch of the Armed Services that is represented in our congregation.

Other Movie: October release of "Ordinary Angels." We suggest a family movie night at church, possibly during an upcoming school break (Wed., Fri., or Sat.) with popcorn or pizza. We will promote the free movie as open to community. Rated PG.

(Possibly not appropriate for children under 8 years of age, due to young girls pain and life/death situation. Initial alcoholic theme.)

Good Samaritan Opportunity

- ◆ We received a voice message at church for financial support. Susan lives alone at St. Croix Mobile Home Park. She's facing eviction, Oct. 31. She was provided with a list of community resources to assist where needed, and a free will appeal was made to the congregation Oct. 22 and 29. We also collaborated with St. Patrick's about a joint effort. Collectively, it appears we may be able to stay Susan's eviction. **Update:** A heartfelt thank you to those who contributed to this charitable opportunity. The total contributed amounted from FOC was \$490.

Trustees

Board of Trustees, Lee Zwiefelhofer

Getting Ready for Winter

Fall is upon us, and the Trustees have been busy getting things ready for winter.

- During the week of October 16, the outdoor water feature was shut down. The pump was pulled and stored in the mechanical room for its winter respite.
- The lawn was completely aerated to allow fertilizer and moisture to get to the roots of the grass and prepare it to thrive next spring.
- American Pest Solutions completed their third quarter exterior spraying for Box Elder Japanese beetles and general spider prevention to keep the little pests out of our beautiful church.
- There was a heat outage in the education wing and office area the week of October 9. A new carbon monoxide vent motor was installed, and the flame sensor needed to be cleaned in air handling unit # 4.
- On November 8, the exterior windows will be cleaned.

Other

The Trustees are working with our current insurance company, Church Mutual, to determine what effect the \$173,000 hail damage claim from repairs completed this summer will have on our yearly premium and potential ways to keep our costs down. We are also looking at another potential church-based insurance company to get competitive quotes.

Continue to enjoy our beautiful fall and keep yourself safe. *Lee*

This Friday!
Nov. 3 4:30-7:30pm



FOC Emergency Contacts

During the transition phase, please call Kyle Amundson at (715) 531-8315 or Steve Vannatta at (651) 261-8054 if you have an emergency situation. Or call the church office at (715) 549-6140.

Lutheran Women in Mission Update

LWML Bible Study and Fellowship

FOC LWML will meet on Thursday, November 9 at 1pm for fellowship and Bible study. This month's study will be looking at what it means



to **"Surrender"** our will as God works His will in our

lives. We will study what impact humility, trust, and

faith play in our lives as we, by the power of the Holy Spirit, surrender

all to Christ. If you are interested in becoming a member of this official

auxiliary organization of the LCMS since 1942, October-November is

our annual membership drive, and all women are WELCOME to join us,

as your schedule allows. If you need a ride or have questions regarding

LWML, please contact Joyce Banttari at 651-434-3261, Dorothy

Markling at 320-260-5204, or Judy Patraw at 612-723-7839.

MITE Donations Update

THANK YOU to all who contributed to the FOC Quarterly MITE offering!

A total of **\$155.85** was donated during the third quarter to support

the **\$2,350,000** mission goal for the District and National LWML Mission

Grants. Our next deadline will be **December 31, 2023**. MITE boxes,

cash, coins or checks (payable to LWML MN So District) may be submitted

in the large MITE Box located on the display cabinet in the Narthex area.

Thank you for your continued support!

Save the Date – Advent by Candlelight Dec. 3

Hello, Women of Family of Christ: Fall is here! And winter with its special holidays is just around the corner ... Are you ready?

The season of Advent begins on November 26. The "busy-ness" of preparing our homes and families for Christmas sometimes takes all of our energy. But, do we take enough time to reflect on the "why" of this season? This year we are once again offering "Advent By Candlelight," an opportunity for women of our congregation and their friends and neighbors, daughters, granddaughters to pause and focus their minds and hearts on the birth of Christ; through Scripture, Song and Prayer.

FOC Women: You're invited to join us on Sunday, December 3, at 6:30 p.m. for "Advent By Candlelight"

A reservation form for attending "Advent By Candlelight" is posted on the bulletin board. Please invite women friends and family to attend.

For this special evening we need women to sign up to serve as hostesses. The hostesses set a table for 6 -8 women and prepare a dessert to be served at their table. A more detailed explanation of hostess responsibilities is on the **second sign-up form** labeled "Hostesses for Advent By Candlelight" on the bulletin board.

So come, warm your hearts among friends, and focus your thoughts on Christ's birth as Advent season begins. God's blessings to you from Family of Christ's Lutheran Women's Missionary League. If you need more information, please contact Jan Gavin 612-618-3708.

By Joyce Banttari

Our Family of Christ Mission Statement

We are Christ's family, joined to him and to one another.
(*Ephesians 2:19-22, 4:16; 1 Corinthians 12:27; John 15:5-8*)

In following the direction of our Lord Jesus Christ and sharing his love with others (*Matthew 28:18-20*):

We are committed to ...

- learning, living and teaching the Word.
- seeking the need for God in each other.
- celebrating His presence in our lives.
- reaching out to touch the lives of others with God's love.

2023 Council Members

Kyle Amundson, Karen Heinecke, Annie McConaughey, Becky Volovsek, Lee Zwiefelhofer, Judy Patraw, Steve Vannatta

Worship Services

Family of Christ Lutheran Church, LCMS

Worship Services

Sundays: 9:30 am Worship with Communion
on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays
of the month
10:45am Fellowship

Education for All Ages Sept-May

Sundays: 10:45am Sunday School, Youth Group
11:00am Adult Bible Study
Weds: 5:30pm Confirmation
7:00pm Youth Programming

Salvation: How does the Bible define faith? "Faith is being sure of what we hope for (i.e. eternal life with God) and certain of what we do not see (i.e. God or heaven)." (See Hebrews 11:1) Emphasis added.

So what now? See the final part of our "Salvation" series in next month's newsletter.

Family of Christ Lutheran Church, LCMS

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