

CHAOS

CHOOSING HIM ABOVE OUR SINS

Volunteer Handbook

Faith Community Church

Last Updated September 2022



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Our Ministry

Our Mission

To reflect and extend the ministry and mission of Faith Community Church in the lives of students, parents, and leaders. We seek to worship Jesus, live out the gospel, and build a community where discipleship flourishes. Our desire is to partner with parents and with our larger church family in helping students go deeper with each other, their leaders and Jesus Christ.

How We Live it Out

Weekly Gatherings

Middle School AND High School | Wednesday Nights from 6:00-8:00 pm.

Weekly Schedule:

5:45- Snack Shack Opens

5:50- Food Arrives

6:00-6:30- CHAOS Meal

6:30-7:30- Games

7:30-7:50- Teaching

8:00- Dismissal

The weekly gathering is designed to serve as an evangelism-centered outreach to the youth of Faith Community Church, New Richmond and the surrounding area. The focus of the gathering is to provide a safe, fun environment for the largest number of students to hear a consistent and intentional Gospel message, and to connect youth responding to the Gospel to environments of more intentional discipleship.



Small Groups

CHAOS Small Groups will now meet throughout the week as determined by Small Group leaders and as coordinated with the CHAOS Pastoral staff. These groups are designed to foster relationships, to build up awareness and participation of other CHAOS ministries, and to rally students to attend Wednesday gatherings with an evangelistic mindset.

CHAOS Disciple6

CHAOS Disciple6 meets for 35 weeks a year on Sundays from 5:00-6:00pm in D2, or at a predesignated Offsite Location. The purpose of CHAOS Disciple6 is to provide a six-year, in-depth study of the word of God, biblical principles and applicable life lessons that will equip our students with a firm foundation as we send them out into the world in the name of Jesus.

Through smaller groups, students who have expressed a desire to “dig deeper” in God’s word will receive personal training in a wide variety of subjects on Sundays, while also receiving devotions and assignments to conduct outside group meetings, with family and friends. For more information on Disciple6, visit the website at <https://disciple6.com/>.

CHAOS Events

Our calendar is full of events designed to push students into deeper commitment to knowing and following Jesus. Some events are just fun, focused on bringing kids in to serve and to have a good time. Others (like the Winter Retreat) are designed to challenge students to participate in their ministry in a deeper way (i.e stronger personal devotion, attending a small group, or participating in Disciple6 or serving opportunities. And some events (like our conferences or mission trips) are designed for students who believe and are actively showing gospel fruit, to challenge and integrate them into the ministries of Faith Community Church as a whole.

In short, the events are not just about fun. Each one was designed to accomplish a purpose and **NEED YOUR PARTICIPATION AND BUY-IN TO SUCCEED!** All CHAOS events are released at the beginning of the school year allowing plenty of time for them to integrate into your family schedule. So while you will not be required to attend every event, CHAOS leaders must make attendance a priority. It will be worth it, and it is gonna be great.~)

Discipleship

Discipleship is a fuzzy term in the church today, applied loosely and often without a second thought. That is not the way we do things in CHAOS. So here are some principles of discipleship to consider as we embark on a committed year of ministry together:

Discipleship Happens in God's Word

God's Word has given us all of the knowledge that we need for spiritual growth. It is our compass and guide in the Christian life. If we get God's word wrong, we will get discipleship wrong. The way that we disciple teenagers is by faithfully teaching them God's Word and showing them how it applies to their every-day lives. However, it's not just about teaching them about Jesus - it's about modeling what faith in Jesus looks like. That's why our small groups will spend time together outside of church. Because discipleship isn't just taught in a classroom - it's modeled in everyday life.

Discipleship Happens in Community

We were never meant to go through life alone. Discipleship happens best in a community of people. That is why we will focus so much energy on getting teenagers plugged into our small groups, events and discipleship ministries, why we will emphasize the role of parents and families, and why we will seek to surround teenagers with Jesus followers. Discipleship happens best in community.

Discipleship is a Process

Discipleship is never really complete because learning to live out our faith is a life-long "sanctification" process. And because we know discipleship takes time, we want to put people in the lives of teenagers who are in it for the long-haul. Our CHAOS leaders are a team of committed, flexible and faithful people that are willing to commit to the long-term process of discipleship in the lives of students, parents, and people at Faith Community Church.

CHAOS Leaders

As a CHAOS leader, your mission is to develop Christ-centered relationships with students, equipping them to exalt the name of Jesus Christ. How will we do this?

Teaching The Word

The Word of God is central when it comes to discipleship. The way that we disciple teenagers is by helping them understand God's Word (keeping the Gospel central), showing them how it applies to their every-day lives, and teaching them to live out the word as a follower of Jesus. If all we ever give our students is a good time hanging out & chatting with friends, then we really have not offered them anything of value. Relationship building is important, but it must have an objective and motivation grounded in the Gospel and the Great Commission.

Building Relationships

God is the One who saves. But He often chooses to reach people through relationships. That's why it's so important for CHAOS leaders to build strong relationships with the teenagers they lead. You can't make a teenager believe, but you can build a relationship with that student that allows you to love them, present the Gospel effectively, and encourage their faith. So a CHAOS leader wins when they choose to love and embrace the teenagers God has entrusted to them. They win when they build relationships that lead teenagers to repentance. They win when a teenager sees their small group leader not as an authority figure they have to obey, but as someone they trust and want to follow.

Taking Jesus Seriously

It is crucial that leaders take Jesus and His Word seriously. It can be easy for CHAOS to turn into a social environment where the Gospel takes a back seat. While it's important to have fun, and know about the things going on in the lives of your students, it's crucial that we fight to keep our conversations Christ-centered and Christ-honoring. When Christ is at the center of our conversations, we can intentionally engage personally with students about the things going on in their lives, and teach them about how to live out the Gospel in everyday situations.



Qualifications

Committed to the ministry for at least one year

Our leaders must have a personal, life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ. Our desire to teach and disciple students ought to be a response to Christ's redeeming love displayed in our own hearts & lives. Christ has rescued us, cleansed us from our sins, and has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Therefore, we long to proclaim the excellencies of Christ to students so that they might put their hope in Jesus Christ, and walk in obedience with Him. Once you commit to this year, make this ministry a top priority to the finish line.

Committed to integrity, character and spiritual growth

Our daily lives should be a reflection of our new life and identity in Christ. It is our privilege and responsibility to represent Chris, CHAOS, and FCC wherever we go. Therefore, it is important that we maintain a personal devotion to the things of God, as expressed in His word and through His Holy Spirit. CHAOS leaders commit themselves to growing in the knowledge and love of God, for the purpose of being better equipped to serve Jesus and the people He has called us to lead.

We understand that any of us may go through seasons of personal struggle. If a member of the CHAOS leadership team is unable to work through a personal or sin issue within a restorative process through FCC, they will be asked to step down from serving. We care more about your heart than your service to student ministry.

Committed to Participation in the life of Faith Community Church

Our desire is for your involvement with CHAOS to be an expression of your heart's desire to worship and to serve, consistently expressed in the life of the church. This ought to include regular, committed, consistent attendance in the gathering of God's people. We also require that all student leaders are covenant members at Faith Community Church, or making progress towards that goal.



Expectations

Prepare For and Lead the Meeting

- Attend Sunday gatherings; get in the habit of taking notes
- Study the scriptures; to lead and for personal growth
- Read through the weekly discussion guide, and prepare answers
- Be prepared to answer small group questions & facilitate meaningful, gospel-centered discussions

Care for Students

- Get their contact information & start a group text (with parental permission)
- Hold them accountable to prayer and getting in The Word
- Track personal problems / needs of students
- Communicate special needs to director/pastor
- Visit students if in the hospital
- Attend their games/sports activities when able
- Reach out to students who have missed more than 1 week in a row

Attend Gatherings / Meetings

- Sunday service
- Covenant Member Meetings (if applicable)
- Wednesday night small groups
- Events
- Small group leader meetings

Safety Guidelines

As a member of our ministry team, it is absolutely essential that you practice healthy boundaries with teenagers at all times, for their safety and yours. These guidelines exist to protect teenagers from harm and to protect you from false allegations.

Never Be Alone With a Teenager

If you need to have a private conversation with a teenager, have the conversation in a public place - not behind closed doors or in a room or vehicle alone. Here are some tips to help you navigate through this particular guideline...

- Do not set up one-on-one meetings with teenagers without the knowledge and consent of their parents.
- Avoid initiating one-on-one meetings with teenagers. Allow the teenager or their parents to be the initiators.
- Never transport a teenager anywhere alone. If a teenager needs a ride, arrange to have another adult or teenager ride with you. If that's not possible, say no.

Maintain Appropriate Physical Boundaries

Be wise. Maintain healthy and safe physical boundaries with teenagers at all times. This means setting boundaries for yourself, but it may also mean setting and enforcing boundaries with any teenagers who push physical limits. If you have any questions about what is or is not appropriate, talk to our staff, and always err on the side of caution.

Log Electronic Conversations

If you find yourself in the midst of a sensitive conversation with a teenager, keep in mind that words and intentions can be misconstrued - intentionally or unintentionally. Any time you are engaged in a serious conversation with a teenager, log your conversations (take screen shots, save text messages and emails). This may seem excessive, but if you're ever falsely accused of misconduct from a teenager or parent, you'll be glad you did it.



Report Dangerous Situations

As a member of our ministry team, you are a mandated reporter. That means you are legally required to report any dangerous or potentially dangerous situations to our staff immediately. Including...

- If a teenager is being harmed, neglected, or abused.
- If a teenager is harming or abusing someone else.
- If a teenager is harming or at risk of harming themselves.

Code of Conduct

As a ministry team, there are a few things we will all abide by.

CHAOS Leaders:

Work Hard: You are so important to our ministry! We need you! So please, show up on time, give it your all, and be faithful with the responsibilities entrusted to you.

“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.” (Colossians 3:23)

Be Kind: Ministry is all about people, so to be effective in ministry, you’ll need to reflect God’s heart for people. With teenagers, parents, other volunteers, and our staff, treat people with gentleness, forgiveness, patience, kindness, and love.

“Be at peace among yourselves. And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all. See that no one repays anyone evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to everyone.” (1 Thessalonians 5:13-15)

Live Above Reproach: More than any other volunteer role, small group leaders have the most responsibility because they have the most influence in the lives of teenagers. While we don’t expect anyone to be perfect, we do expect every small group leader to be striving to make wise decisions, to glorify God with their lives, and to strive to look more like Jesus every day - especially in key areas like their treatment of others on our team, social media presence, drug or alcohol use, and sexual behavior.

“Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children.” (Ephesians 5:1)

CHAOS Covenant

My name is _____ and I am committed to serving Jesus by ministering to the youth, families and people of Faith COmmunity Church and the surrounding area.

I promise to follow through on my responsibilities. If I cannot follow through at any point, for whatever reason, I promise to keep my leaders informed and to give them prior notice, so that a temporary or permanent replacement can be found in time.

I understand the mission and strategy of the CHAOS ministry and will support that vision, as well as the leaders God has appointed to carry it out.

I have read the Safety Guidelines and will abide by them, for my safety and for the safety of our teenagers. I will provide support in ensuring enough leaders are available to carry out our ministry safely.

I have read the Code of Conduct and will abide by it. If I fall short of this code, or of the commands and principles I know from Scripture, I promise to be honest with our staff about my actions and I will accept whatever consequences they think are reasonable and necessary, knowing that, while they must always act in the best interest of teenagers, they are committed to treating me with respect, love, and grace.

I understand the expectations of my role and will work hard to fulfill them. If I am having trouble fulfilling any of my expectations, I promise to communicate with my leaders and ask for help, knowing they're here to support me.

I promise to do my part in proclaiming the Gospel, and making a huge difference in the lives and faith of the teenagers, parents and people who walk through our doors. I promise to devote myself to prayer for our ministry, to personal attendance of the gathering on Sunday, to devoting myself to God's word, and to living out Jesus commands faithfully and repentantly as a servant of my Lord.

My Role: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____