

Blast from the Past

Thank you to our readers who helped in identifying the CFM people on our photos from last month. We will share them with you in a special website dedicated to our 75th Anniversary. We found more photos from our treasure chests in CA. Thankfully, some have dates and names of people. Please contact the national office at office@cfm.org and send us pictures of your past and current groups and activities. Thank you!



**CFM Picnic at Waller Park
in Santa Maria, CA
July 11, 1965**

*Gloria Foley leads yellow
book group with her hus-
band assisting.*



CFM turns 75 - a Diamond Jubilee!

No important event is too early to make plans for! Please put **August 3-4, 2024** on your calendar and join us for our 75th Anniversary Celebration at the Mundelein Seminary in Illinois. Come as a family or with your CFM group. For inquiries, photo submissions and other information, please mail to: Christian Family Movement National Office, P.O. Box 266, Dexter, MI 48130. Or email us at: 75thAnniversary@cfm.org.



Making Friends, Making Disciples, Making a Difference



CFM 75th Anniversary Graphic Design Contest

In honor of CFM's 75th anniversary celebration, we invite you to create a design that we will use for our posters, T-shirt and other promotional/souvenir materials.

Competition Details

1. Theme: Making Friends, Making Disciples, Making a Difference for 75 years
2. Must incorporate the CFM logo
3. Design Size: 600px by 2000px-3000px (electronic) or 8.5"x11" on paper
4. File Types: PDF or JPG
5. You may submit as many entries as you want and one winner will be chosen from each of the three categories: under age 12, ages 12-18, ages 18 and over.
6. Submit entries with your full name, age, email, and CFM parish.
7. Entries should be submitted by 01/31/2023 to 75thAnniversary@cfm.org.
8. Judging will be done by the CFM National Board.
9. Winners will be announced on 02/28/23.

Additional guidelines are available at: https://www.cfm.org/75th_anniversary



Presidents' Perspective: Brian & Mary Ann Thelen

Advent is upon us! December 2022 has the longest Advent possible, lasting four full weeks. The daylight hours are short and the darkness long escalating our hope for the light of the world to shine upon us. Jesus is that light! May our homes be filled with little reminders that turn our hearts to him. When we long for light may our hearts echo: Come Lord Jesus, be our light! When we are busy preparing our homes for family feasts, may our hearts echo: Come Lord Jesus, fill our hearts. When we are shopping for gifts for those we love, may our hearts echo: Come Lord Jesus, what can we offer to you? When we are beautifying our homes with decorations may our hearts echo: Come Lord Jesus, your standard of beauty is love! When we are exhausted and have nothing more to offer, may our hearts echo: Come Lord Jesus, you are our all! May God bless you this Advent as we prepare for His coming. May our hearts be ready! Praying for peace and joy for you and all families. Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus!



History of the Christian Family Movement

*Original article written in July 1955 by Ned & Louise Taylor
(2nd Federation Couple) for Los Angeles, CA Federation*

"In 1944, the Christian Family Movement (CFM) was started in Chicago, IL and South Bend, IN. It grew and expanded slowly until there are now 8,000 couples in the United States. The movement has also spread to 21 foreign countries, the most recent being Japan."

"CFM is a Catholic Action organization. Catholic Action is defined as the participation and collaboration of the laity with the apostolic hierarchy" by Pope Pius XI; in other words, a call to Catholic lay people themselves to get busy and not leave everything to the bishops and clergy. CFM seeks to promote happy family life in the home itself, in the neighborhood, and in the parish. It recognizes that the city, farm, state, and nation and our foreign neighbors affect family life also and these areas are given consideration in the program."

"A CFM parish group consist of 5-7 married couples. Meetings are held every two weeks in the home of one of the couples. The group discussion method is utilized and a leader couple presides who has previously prepared the meeting with a priest. If possible, the priest is present at the meeting but does not take part in the discussion though he always speaks briefly at the end of the meeting making suggestions, giving words of encouragement and correcting any doctrinal errors."

"Every group starts out following a 12-meeting outline presented in a small paper bound book, For Happier Families", published by CFM. After this book is completed, the annual CFM meeting schedule is followed which covers a different set of topics each year. These topics are collected by having each group prepare a meeting outline covering a neighborhood, community, or family problem which is particularly pertinent to them. These are sent to national headquarters in Chicago where they are assembled and then sent to each federation which checks its preferences. National headquarters compares the federation preferences and from them published a paper bound book of 25 meetings which are used the following year by every group in the country. Since the movement is expanding rapidly, this method is becoming too cumbersome and it is anticipated that a permanent committee will be formed to produce the yearly book." (*To be continued in next month's issue*).

CFM on YouTube

<https://youtu.be/oFa1k3OUrs>

CFM History by the CFM Youth (Philippines)

Marriage Moments & Parenting Pointers by Susan Vogt

Wednesday, Dec. 21, is the Winter Solstice - the longest night of the year. Dark nights can be cozy when warmed by love and candlelight. If this week finds you blessed with pleasant experiences of darkness, pray for those who aren't.



Dec. 30: Feast of the Holy Family. St. Paul encourages us to "put on compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience... forgiving one another...peace, gratitude." (Colossians 3:17) Discuss which of these virtues best fits each person in your family.

Raising a Catholic Family Today

Words of a seasoned family-life minister: "I am excited to know that John's wisdom for happy and faithful families, collected so beautifully in this new book, is now available to share with families in our parish's Christian Initiation ministry. What a great tool for newlyweds, new parents, parents accompanying their children to the sacraments, grandparents passing on the faith—anyone who wants to deepen their Christian life. The reflection questions after each short entry make great discussion starters for the dinner table, too."

Lauri Przybysz, D.Min, National Institute for the Family, Executive Team

We Want You!

Job Title: Christian Family Movement digital communications manager/webmaster

Job Description:

- Create content consistent with the objectives & direction of CFM social media review committee using marketing tools to increase CFM presence in social media
 - Demonstrated proficiency in graphic design and video editing
 - Post/advertise in Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, & other platforms used by CFM & appropriately interact with responders
 - Analyze CFM's digital promotion plan & social media strategy & identify strategic weaknesses & make recommendations for improvements
 - Research social media trends & inform CFM National Board of changes relevant to CFM's promotion activities
 - Set key performance indicators (KPIs) for social media campaigns, such as targets for a certain number of shares or likes and measuring a campaign's performance against the KPIs
 - Take on role as CFM.org website administrator
- Estimated work hours: 5 hours/week
Please submit letter of interest, resume, and samples of work to office@cfm.org.