LIFE Co-Op is an educational day of classes that focuses on core academics to provide parents with the opportunity to complete these subjects in a group setting, with students accountable to other teachers. We endeavor to provide challenging classes, which will prepare each student for the next step in their life. While we do hope this will lessen the load on busy homeschool families, we do expect parents to assist their children as needed to complete assignments and grasp difficult concepts. Co-Op can't happen without parents. Our classes are designed to be full year curriculum allowing parents to "count co-op for that subject."

With the generosity of our parent teachers and our host church, **Maple Avenue Bible Church**, we are excited to be able to provide a full day of quality programming. Co-Op Classes will be held on Thursdays from 9am-1pm, September 2025–April 2026. We are excited to be able to provide 3 classes for each grade level. Co-Op is *not a drop-off activity*. All parents are expected to stay on site and help in making co-op run smoothly; teacher, helper, clean up...

There is an **Annual Family Fee of \$40 per family** to cover administration and facility costs. When students register for their appropriate age/grade level, they register for all classes in that level. The class fees are calculated and published by level. We try to keep costs low. Class Fees are based on class supplies needed, such as copy costs, books, folders, art supplies or other materials needed for class. These have yet to be determined by teachers but will be available no later than July 15th, so parents can make **final payment by registration deadline of August 15th**. Textbooks required for each class are indicated in the class description where applicable. These are the responsibility of the parent and should be on hand before the first week of co-op.

We have an age cutoff date of September 1, 2025. This is to help make our classes more age appropriate and will be strictly adhered to. Please note the age cut offs. Classes are broken up into Nursery (under 4 yrs.), Pre-K (at least 4 yr. old), grades K-2 (at least 5 yr. old), grades 3-5 (at least 8 yr. old), grades 6-8 (at least 11 yr. old), and grades 9-12 (at least 14 yr. old). Please carefully consider your child's grade level and ability to be successful. Please see the "Minimum Class Expectations" Page for more information, as this is helpful in making sure your child is successful in their classes. If you have any questions regarding the placement of your child, please call and discuss it with Karen Saxton or Jackie O'Connor.

This year we have pre-determined class sizes, so space is limited. Due to the high demand for co-op classes, priority is given to current Co-Op Families until April 30, 2025. Registration will then open to All LIFE members until May 31, 2025. Then registration will open to new families. All Co-Op Registration closes August 1, 2025, or when classes are filled.

Additionally, our lunchtime will provide students with a chance to build friendships and socialize. In addition, this year we are hosting mini-informational sessions for parents during lunchtime. Topics such as, subject specific curriculum, organization, teaching multiple levels, "What's a credit," extracurricular options, and more are planned.

NEW THIS YEAR is a MANDATORY PARENT MEETING on August 15, 2025 @ 6:30pm. This meeting will cover expectations, parent duties, clean up/set up protocols, meet and greet for new families, and more. *This meeting is <u>not optional</u>*. At least one parent from each family must be present at this meeting to participate in co-op. All co-op fees are also due on this day. Failure to pay class fees by August 15, 2025, and/or attend this meeting may result in losing your spot in co-op, with no refunds.

To register and secure your spot for co-op 2025-2026, please return the registration form completely filled out, your Liability Waiver, and your non-refundable annual family fee of \$40. (this is the last 2 pages of the packet) As class fees for individual classes become available, those fees will be communicated to families and due by August 15th, 2024.

If you have any questions regarding schedules or class offerings, please don't hesitate to reach out. We are happy to explain any class further or help you decide on the best placement for your child. The attached class descriptions will explain the goals and plan for the classes this year.

In His Grace, 2025-2026 Co-Op Committee Karen Saxton, Jackie O'Connor, Jessica Nash, & Rebekah Towerton

We want co-op to be a positive and enriching experience for all our students. We understand that each child is unique and learns differently and at different paces. This is why we want parents to make the best decision for their children when placing them into classes. Parents are responsible for checking with their children and teachers, making sure assignments are complete. If assignments are confusing, unclear, or too difficult, parents should discuss this with the teacher as soon as possible to prevent the student becoming more frustrated or falling behind. While it is important that we challenge our students to excel and do their best, we do not want to create frustration for children who find themselves out of their depth. To help parents with placement decisions we have compiled a list of expectations for your child at each grade level. If you are a current Co-Op parent and questioning whether to move your student up or not, feel free to ask their current teachers and/or Co-Op Committee members if they are ready. We pray this is informative and helpful as you make the best decision of where to place your child to maximize their success in co-op.

Minimum Class Expectations:

Kindergarten – 2^{nd} **Grade** (at least 5 yr. old) – These students should be able to sit and listen to the teacher for up to 10 - 15 minutes at a time, follow instructions, take turns, and engage appropriately with the other students and class information. There is no homework for these classes.

Grades 3rd - 5th (at least 8 yr. old) – These students should be able to sit in class and engage with the teacher appropriately and follow instructions. Students should be able to wait their turn and work on in-class activities in a group and individually. They should be able to write sentences and be able to put 3-5 sentences together into a short paragraph. Students should be able to read at a 2^{nd-} 3rd grade level. There is a minimal amount of homework for some of these classes.

Grades 6th-8th (at least 11 yr. old) – These students should be able to sit and listen to the class teacher with appropriate classroom behavior. Students should be able to stay in class/seat for the duration of class time. They should be able to follow directions and written assignments, write full paragraphs, read, and comprehend at a 6th grade level. Students should also be able to handle basic thematic concepts in class material, for example a hero's journey, character development, good vs. evil, war, what makes a good citizen, etc. Students will have weekly homework and semester projects, including brief oral presentations. This coursework will require students to work daily on assignments to complete all the work each week. Students should be responsible for turning in homework and assignments on time, as well as following a syllabus with parent assistance. We encourage parents to come alongside their children, especially at this level, and assist them in developing good study skills and work habits. Middle school years are a great time to partner with your child in learning time management, organization, project planning, notetaking and more to maximize success in all their future endeavors.

Grades 9th – 12th (at least 14yr. old)– These students should be able to sit and listen to the class teacher with appropriate classroom behavior, preparing for class and engaging in class discussions appropriately. They should be able to follow directions and written assignments, as well as follow a syllabus and adjust, as necessary. Students should be able to read and comprehend at a 9th grade level, write a 1-2 page paper, work independently and in group settings. Students should also be able to handle more mature thematic concepts in class material, for example slavery, holocaust, good vs. evil, justice, power, corruption, etc. Students will have weekly homework and several projects each semester, including oral presentations. This coursework will require students to work daily on assignments to complete all the work each week. Students should be responsible for turning in homework and assignments on time. Students should have well developed study skills and work habits, such as organization, time management, notetaking, and project planning.

Nursery (under 5 years) - No Fee

Amber Sixkiller & Rebekah Towerton

Loving moms will nurture our smallest learners in our nursery room where they will be able to enjoy free play and exploration. This class is open to all siblings of our older students.

<u>Kindergarten - 2nd Grade (at least 5 years)</u> Class Limit: 12 students

<u>Hands-On History</u> – Betty Miller-Barnett

Following famous people through history, students will travel through time learning about each person and their impact on history. Through crafts and activities, students will engage with the past.

Hands-On Science - Betty Miller-Barnett

Following up each week from our history class, students will learn about scientific advancements and scientific concepts these historical figures have given to the world.

Art, Music & Games – Kathleen Boley

Students will have the opportunity to build relationships, while engaging in structured music lessons, art projects and games. Students will use rhythm sticks and bells to learn to play music. Various art mediums will be used throughout the year for students to create fabulous masterpieces. Students will enjoy large motor activities and fun games with their friends.

3rd Grade – 5th Grade (at least 8 years) Class Limit: 12 students

Hands-on Science - Jackie O'Connor

Students will complete two science units using the Good and the Beautiful science curriculum.

Marine Biology 14 weeks

Do you have a child who can't get enough facts about sharks, whales, and other mysterious creatures of the deep? We'll explore these animals and discover even more about the ocean in this Marine Biology science unit. Through engaging lessons, stunning videos, simple experiments, and interactive learning, children will explore and gain a greater appreciation for some of the smallest of God's creations as well as the largest creations on the planet.

Space Science 14 weeks

Journey through the Milky Way and gain a greater appreciation for the majesty of God's creations! Discover the wonders of our universe and the planets of our solar system, how astronomy has influenced our world, and much more.

History & Geography through the National Parks –Sara Petry

Students will join the Mayden Family on an exciting adventure as they explore the national parks of North America. Each week we will focus on a new national park, while learning about their geography, history, life skills, and important landmarks. Students will experience some hands-on activity by choosing one park a month to create a travel brochure for.

Play / Craft Time-(FIRST QUARTER-7 WEEKS) - Brittany Pyzik

Students will have the opportunity to build relationships, while engaging in structured play and crafts.

Play / Craft Time-(Second & Third Quarter-14 weeks) - Sara Petry

Students will have the opportunity to build relationships and logical reasoning skills while engaging in structured play and games, with the possibility of participating in an escape room experience.

Play / Craft Time-(Fourth Quarter-7 weeks) - Caila Spreeman

Students will have the opportunity to build relationships, while engaging in sewing and pottery crafts. Students will learn basic hand sewing and clay work, creating take home projects.

Middle School -Grades 6-8 (at least 11 years) Class Limit: 12 students

Experiential Science – David and Jessica Nash

Students will be exploring a variety of sciences including Biology, Chemistry and Physics, incorporating STEM throughout. There will be weekly labs/projects, the majority of which will take place in class. Parents should expect regular homework and some projects to be completed at home. At this time, we are not planning on students needing to purchase a book. Worksheets will be provided.

Study Skills and Critical Thinking - Karen Saxton

Students will stretch their minds and create good study habits in this class. We will use puzzles, games, and mysteries to improve critical thinking skills. What does it take to think critically and not be drawn into circular arguments? What is fallacy and how do you guard against them? We will study these, as well as crime scene investigation as we solve a crime using deductive reasoning. We will also discover different study strategies, and ways to get organized. Notetaking and project planning will also be included. Students will complete a multi week project during this class to implement project planning and organizational skills learned. No textbooks are required for this course. However, students will need a binder with dividers to use for organizing their handouts.

This class is being taught for both middle school and high school students. The class will be scaled to be appropriate for all levels.

<u>Creative Writing</u> - Sylvia Damon

Middle school students will dive into creative writing focusing on fiction writing and poetry in this class. Using the Good and the Beautiful notebooks, students will learn skills such as adding sensory descriptions, generating ideas, using gestures to show emotion, creating engaging characters and plots. Students will also practice writing dialogue, overcoming writer's block, and much more! Students will need 2 workbooks for this class, which is included in the cost of the course.

High School - Grades 9-11 (at least 14 years) Class Limit: 12 students

<u>Introduction to Anatomy & Physiology –</u> Johanna Keith

This high school Introduction to Anatomy & Physiology course explores the remarkable design of the human body, focusing on the structure, function, and regulation of key systems, including the musculoskeletal, cardiovascular, respiratory, and nervous systems. Students will gain insight into how the heart and lungs work, the complexities of the musculoskeletal system, and the mechanisms behind blood pressure regulation. The course includes hands-on learning experiences such as projects, presentations, and a fetal pig dissection.

Books needed: <u>Introduction to Anatomy & Physiology 1 (Curriculum Pack):</u> which includes student text, Wonders of the Human Body Volume 1, and Teacher guide which contains worksheets, quizzes, and tests. It is found on the Masterbooks Website at this link: https://www.masterbooks.com/introduction-to-anatomy-physiology-1-curriculum-pack-revised-physical-set

Study Skills and Critical Thinking - Karen Saxton

Students will stretch their minds and create good study habits in this class. We will use puzzles, games, and mysteries to improve critical thinking skills. What does it take to think critically and not be drawn into circular arguments? What is fallacy and how do you guard against them? We will study these, as well as crime scene investigation as we solve a crime using deductive reasoning. We will also discover different study strategies, and ways to get organized. Notetaking and project planning will also be included. Students will complete a multi week project during this class to implement project planning and organizational skills learned. No textbooks are required for this course. However, students will need a binder with dividers to use for organizing their handouts.

This class is being taught for both middle school and high school students. The class will be scaled to be appropriate for all levels.

Job & Career Readiness (1st Quarter - 7 weeks) - Rebekah Towerton

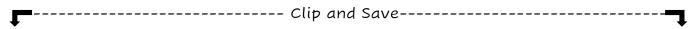
This comprehensive 7-week course equips students with essential skills to navigate the job market confidently. Through hands-on activities and practical lessons, students will craft a strong resume, develop cover letters, hone interview skills, and prepare for job interviews. By the end of the course, students will have a complete resume and participate in mock interviews, learn how to dress professionally, and present themselves confidently.

Lasagna Creations (2nd Quarter - 7 weeks) – Jackie O'Connor

Come join us as we cut, chop, bake, and create seven different lasagnas! Each week your student will learn how to make a different lasagna for your family! They will bring home their yummy creations and bake them for you each week!

<u>Biblical Application (2nd Semester)</u> – Pastor Andy Thurlow

In this engaging and interactive course, students will explore the Bible in depth, gaining a deeper understanding of its key themes and life-changing truths. Through guided study, discussion, and practical application, students will learn how to interpret Scripture and apply biblical principles to their daily lives. Students will be challenged to grow spiritually and gain practical tools for living out their faith. This class is dedicated to exploring the Bible as the ultimate source of truth, focusing on Scripture itself rather than denominational doctrines or traditions.



DUE DATES AT A GLANCE

Please see below for a list of important dates. These are shared to help you stay organized and on track throughout the process. If you have any questions or need clarification, don't hesitate to reach out.

	Upcoming Deadlines
June 1- August 1	Co-Op registration is open to all
June 30	Teacher Deadlines
July 14	Teacher Meeting
July 15	Class Fees will be out!
August 1	Registration Closes
August 15	Final Fees are due
August 15	Mandatory Parent Meeting
September 4	First Day of Co-Op
November 27	Thanksgiving Break
December 11	Last Day of Fall Semester – Christmas Party
January 8	First Day of Spring Semester
February 26	Mid Term Break
April 16	Last Day of Co-op - Party

	Age cut-off is September 1, 2025					
Class Times	Nursery Birth – 5 yrs	Lower Elementary Grades K-2 <u>AND</u> 5yr. old	Upper Elementary Grades 3-5 <u>AND</u> 8 yr. Old	Middle School Grades 6-8 <u>AND</u> 11 yr. old	High School Grades 9-12 <u>AND</u> 14 yr. old	
1 st Class 9:20-10:15am	Amber Sixkiller Rebekah Towerton	Betty Miller Science	Jackie O'Connor Science	Dave & Jessica Nash Experimental Science	Johanna Keith Introduction to Anatomy	
2 nd Class 10:20-11:15am	Playtime and Fun	Betty Miller History	Sara Petry History & Geography w/ National Parks	Karen Saxton Study Skills & Critical Thinking		
11:15am-12pm	LUNCH TIME Please bring a sack lunch for a social/lunch time between classes. New this year: Informational Sessions for parents!! During lunch, while volunteer parents are supervising kiddos, moms & dads are invited to participate in topical discussions. Pick the brains of our veteran homeschoolers, come ask questions, listen to those who've been there, done that. If you have a topic you would like us to host, let someone on the co-op committee know! 3 rd week of the month is Potluck! See a separate schedule for dates, themes, and dishes to bring by last name. For any dietary considerations, please bring a sack lunch and join us on potluck days! We still want to connect with you.					
3 rd Class 12-12:55pm	Amber Sixkiller Rebekah Towerton Playtime and Fun	Kathleen Art, Music, & Games	1st Quarter Brittany Pyzik Social Class 2nd & 3rd Quarter Sara Petry Logic, Deduction & Play 4th Quarter Caila Spreeman Intro to sewing and clay	Sylvia Damon Creative Writing	1st Quarter Rebekah Towerton Job Readiness Skills 2nd Quarter Jackie O'Connor Lasagna Creations 2nd Semester Pastor Andrew Thurlow Biblical Application	

Co-Op Classes begin on Thursday, September 4, 2025, and run through April 16, 2026.

WAIVER & RELEASE OF LIABLITY FORM

FOR ADULTS AND YOUTH

for Lenawee Involved in Education and Maple Avenue Bible Church School Year 2025-2026

In consideration of being allowed to participate in any way in Lenawee Involved in Family Education, Inc. (LIFE) related events and activities, the undersigned:

- 1. Agree that the member(s), participant(s), parent(s), and/or guardian(s) of the participant(s) should inspect the facilities and equipment to be used, and if they believe anything is unsafe, he or she should immediately advise the leader (coordinator, supervisor, advisor, manager, etc.) of such condition(s) and refuse to participate.
- 2. Acknowledge and fully understand that each member/participant will be engaging in activities that involve risk of serious injury, including permanent disability and death, and severe social and economic losses which might result not only from their own actions, inactions, or negligence but the actions, inactions, and negligence of others, or the condition of the premises or of any equipment used. Further, there may be other risks not known to us or not reasonably foreseeable at this time.
- 3. Assume all the foregoing risks and accept personal responsibility for the damages following such injury, permanent disability, or death.
- 4. Release, waive, discharge and covenant not to sue Lenawee Involved in Family Education, Inc. (LIFE) or Maple Avenue Bible Church (MABC), its affiliated clubs, their respective administrators, directors, agents, and other employees of the organization, other members/participants, leaders, sponsoring agencies, sponsors, advertisers, and if applicable owners and lessors or premises used to conduct the event, all of which are hereinafter referred to as "releasers," from any and all liability to each of the undersigned, his or her heirs and next of kin for any and all claims, demands, losses or damages on account of injury, including death and damage to property, caused or alleged to be caused in whole or in part by the negligence of the releasers or otherwise.

I/WE HAVE READ THE ABOVE WAIVER AND RELEASE, UNDERSTAND THAT I/WE HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND SIGN IT VOLUNTARLILY.

Print Names of Youth Member(s)/Participant(s):				
Print Names of Parent(s)/Guardian(s):				
Print your relationship to Youth Members (mother, father, step-mother, step-father, grandparent, etc.):				
Signature of Member(s)/Participant(s)/Parent(s)/Guardian(s):				
Address of Member(s)/Parent(s)/Guardian(s):				
Telephone Number and Email of Member(s)/Parent(s)/Guardian(s):				

2025-2026 LIFE Co-Op Registration Form

Registration Deadline is August 1st and Payment Deadline is August 15th, 2025
Return registration form to Jackie O'Connor with the \$40 Family fee to secure your spot
Balance of class fees due August 15th at the Mandatory Parent Meeting.
For registration questions, contact Jackie O'Connor @ lifehomeschool20@gmail.com.

* \$40 Family fee is due with registration to secure your place in Co-Op. Class fees will be sent out no later than July 15th and are due by August 15th to keep your place in co-op. Classes do have class size limits and do fill quickly. Please note deadlines. *

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