



Worship

Worship services will be recorded and posted on the church website. Online worship will continue until the restrictions for large group gatherings are lifted.



Church Council 2021

Wes Aylsworth
Carmen Hanson
Jennifer Hinker
Jon Holzer
Derek Horeis
Elizabeth Kohlhof
Tom Sebelien
Lisa Spencer
Stacy VanCura
Pastor Bruce Kuenzel

The Marks of Discipleship

- † *Pray daily*
- † *Worship weekly*
- † *Read the Bible*
- † *Serve at or beyond Light of Christ*
- † *Relate to others for spiritual growth*
- † *Give of my time, talents and resources*

Contact us!

Light of Christ Lutheran
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Delano, MN 55328
(763) 972-2400



LightOfChristLutheran.com
Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com

Food Distribution

Through the generosity of Second Harvest Heartland and in collaboration with Our Father's Lutheran Church/NourishingHOPE, Light of Christ volunteers again distributed assorted food items to area residents. Food entrees were loaded for transportation to Delano with the help of Wes Aylsworth, Lowell and Maxine Johnson, John McClelland and Paulette Podratz.

Distribution of food took place at Light of Christ on Tuesday, March 9th with nourishment being provided to approximately 75 families. Distribution was accomplished with assistance from Cheri Ashfeld, Wes Aylsworth, Wendy Caslavka, Jennifer Grant, Charlie and Lona Jose, Butch Priester, Dan and Sally Torfin, Jo Marie Williamson, Kim Wortz and Jinnelle Weis. The continued help of volunteers dedicated to this necessary ministry is a blessing and very appreciated! We were also appreciative of the beautiful spring weather we were blessed with that afternoon!

Light of Christ is grateful to be included in these efforts to assist area families in need. It is heartwarming to experience the willingness of so many to provide resources and assistance needed during this continued unsettling time of COVID pandemic.

A huge thank you to our Light of Christ volunteers and to all that continue to support community members in so many ways!



March Is Food Share Month

Every year Light of Christ designates March as *Food Share Month* for the Delano Food Shelf. LOC members are encouraged to donate items in need - monetary contributions are also appreciated. Items most needed include personal items, cleaning supplies, cooking/baking items although all items are appreciated. They can be dropped off at the Food Shelf on Thursdays 1-4, at the church Mon.-Thurs. 8:30-1:30 in the shopping cart inside the fellowship hall entrance, or at Jo Williamson's home at 536 Meadow

Food Shelf



Rose Ct in Delano. Thank you also for those who manage the Food Shelf including LOC's Jo Williamson and Sue Stahlke, and other LOC members who volunteer at the Food Shelf. Your service is so needed!

Call on the Light of Christ Prayer Chain

If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, please feel free to engage the Light of Christ Prayer Chain. Contact the church office either by email, which is preferred (Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com), or phone (763-972-2400; please keep in mind office hours are currently limited to Wednesdays, 9:15-11:30 am) with your request, which remains confidential. The LOC Prayer Chain will pray for you as requested. Feel free to call on this team in your time of need. Anyone wishing to join the Prayer Chain should contact the church office.



Caring Corner

(by Sue Fink with LOC
Healing and Wholeness Ministry)



Hello, LOC family. Well, I heard it on MPR, "The light at the end of the tunnel is growing larger and brighter" but "keep your seatbelts on until we get home." These statements are referring to the current state of the pandemic. Yes, we are on the home stretch with cases and deaths on the decline and vaccines to be available to all adults in the US by the end of May. Plus, spring is around the corner, and with that, the excitement of being freer to go outdoors for exercise and socialization!!! Yee hah! BUT: the "keep your seatbelts on" statement means we need to continue to respect and care for others by still wearing our masks and social distancing until given the OK to do otherwise.

We Lutheran Minnesotans are, by heritage, good rule followers, so we will prevail...

Our Healing and Wholeness committee has two new members for 2021. We are excited to welcome Julie Wischmann, who is a yoga instructor and will bring her skills in mindfulness and good self-care to the table. Also, Derek Horeis will be our Council representative.

If you are interested in growing and developing a caring congregation model, we'd love to have a couple more members. Email Sue at billandsue2931@gmail.com.

My husband and I have relied on NAMI Minnesota for many years to help us navigate mental illness in our family. If you or someone you love is struggling with anxiety, depression or other mental illnesses *I encourage you to check out their website: namimn.org.*

Here is a sampling of their upcoming Zoom classes:

In Our Own Voice, Tuesday, March 16, 4:00-5:00 PM or Monday, March 29, 3:00-4:00 PM

Two trained speakers share compelling personal stories about living with a mental illness and achieving recovery.

Hope for Recovery 1, Saturday, March 20, 9:00-12:30 PM

Gain information on the following mental illnesses: schizophrenia, depression, anxiety, and co-occurring disorders. Learn about treatments, crisis management, suicide prevention, the mental health system, and local resources along with practical strategies for helping a loved one or friend. This includes learning the LEAP strategy or Boundary Setting to improve communication. This workshop is for family and friends of a teen or adult living with a mental illness.

Hope for Recovery 2, Wednesday, March 24, 6:00-9:30 PM

Information on: bipolar disorder, borderline personality disorder, anxiety, and co-occurring disorders.

Family-to-Family Eight-Week Course, Wednesdays, April 7 – May 26, 6:30-9:00 PM

Learn about mental illnesses, the brain, treatment, and resources to help a loved one living with a mental illness. Participants will also build communication skills, reduce stress, find support and discover the common Stages of Emotional Responses when supporting someone with a mental illness.

Nahum 1:7 "The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and He knows those who trust in Him."



Please join us for our virtual Holden Evening Prayer Lent services, posted every Wednesday at 8 AM on our [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) pages. They will also include faith statements from our tenth graders.

2020 Contributor Statements

Your contributor statements are now available to print at your own convenience from the Light of Christ online member portal (click on **Member Portal** icon on the [church website](#)). Due to this electronic conversion, we will not be mailing out statements. If you have any questions, or do not have internet



Connect and Converse during Zoom Bible Study

Sundays 5:00-6:00 p.m. via Zoom

Come to explore what God's Word says for life today. Each week we take a portion of Scripture. All are welcome!

To get your Zoom link for the study, email Tim Johnson at tdale57@gmail.com.

You may be as active in the discussion as you like. We all learn a little something from each other as we ponder the power and beauty and truth of God's Word.

"I joined this group at the height of COVID unknowns and fear. More than anything, it has given me a new group of Light of Christ friends I feel connected to. I learn from each of them and their life experiences," shared one participant.

Fun! Fellowship! Food!

Are you ready for a great night of entertainment, food and fellowship? On Sunday, March 21 at 7:30 pm, you are invited to gather with other LOC members on Zoom for a great event to raise money for our youth! Since we cannot safely have our annual Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction fundraiser, this year we are being creative and are having a different sort of event. The night will begin with a short "program" which will include entertainment (by the youth and Marcus Hanson), youth mission trip "testimonies," and a slide show. And while this is going on, you will be able to share some great food and drinks with your family which will be delivered to your door by our youth. Money raised will help support youth going on the HS Mission Trip (those who still need to raise funds) and the Youth Room remodel project. For more info and to register, please follow the link below:

<https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/c64c9a>.

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS
BY NOON ON THURSDAY, MARCH 18.**





Do You Enjoy Spreading God's Love to Children?

We are looking for help with worship Children's messages. It's only a short 5-minute video lesson that can make a big

impact to our LOC children. Please contact Kirsten, Kim, or Catherine if you're interested.

Upcoming Sunday School Lessons

- 3/21—The Last Supper
- 3/28—Jesus is Crucified
- 4/3—NO SS - Easter

Sunday School

Sunday school continues to be available online. The 3yr-2nd grader lessons are on YouTube and the 3rd-6th graders are using Wakelet. The lessons are available all week and can be viewed when it works best with your family schedule. Going away for the weekend? Great car ride activity! Even though we cannot meet in person, we would like to stay connected as much as we can with your children and help them grow in their faith. We want kids to know that God's love for them is everlasting. If you are not signed up for Sunday school and would like to receive these links, please contact Kim at Kim.Wortz@locdelano.com.



Sunday School Packet Pick Up

March SS materials will be available for pickup. The church doors are open Mon-Thurs from 8:30-1:30. Contact Kim at Kim.Wortz@locdelano.com with any questions.

HS Mission Trip

We currently have 13 youth registered for our HS Mission Trip to Denver, CO through **Service Learning Camps!**

Assuming it is safe to travel, the trip will take place July 10-17 and we plan to fly.

Registration is open to youth currently in grades 8-12 and we have 20 spaces total. Registration and more info can be found online [through this link](#). Please contact Kirsten with any question and **sign up soon!**



10th grade Confirmation Fellowship Event

On Wednesday, May 12th (time TBD) we are going to have a fellowship event for all 10th grade youth who will be getting confirmed this spring. We will meet in the parking lot for a bonfire and grill some brats and hotdogs. We'll hang out, play some games and also get a group photo of this year's Confirmation class... don't miss it! Note: in case of bad weather, we'll move it back to 5/19.

Don't Let It Expire!

We still have plenty of fair trade coffee, chocolate, tea and hot cocoa mix for purchase to support our summer youth trips! Items purchased can be delivered to your home, picked up at church or even purchased as a gift and then we will deliver it for you (within our community)! We hope to sell these items soon so that we don't have to worry about the expiration date. Go to our [online store](#) for more information on what's available. Thanks for your support (of our youth and the farmers)!



Register for Summer Camp!

Lake Wapogasset Lutheran Bible Camp (<https://lakewapo.org/>)

All church “blocks” have now been released to the public. We currently have 14 LOC youth registered for camp: 7 for the week of June 27th and 7 for the week of July 25th. There are only 4 spots left for the week of July 25th, but there are 30 spots left for the week of June 27th.

- June 27-July 2- completed grades 4-HS
- July 21-23 (Wed-Fri)- Wapo Seeds, completed grades 1-3 Use this link to register: <http://lwlbc.com/loc> for these camps. If these dates are not available, find a friend and pick a week that works best for your family.



Green Lake Lutheran Ministries (<https://www.gllm.org/>)

- We did not reserve any spots specifically for LOC this summer. Youth are welcome to register for any week that works for them. Currently, we do not have any LOC youth registered for this camp.

We will offer scholarships to any youth who attends Bible camp. \$100 will be given to those who attend week-long camp and \$50 for those who attend an “abbreviated” camp. Families are encouraged to register for the camps even if it means getting on a wait list since they are hoping to open up more spaces for each week at camp as it gets closer to summer. Please contact our staff with any questions you have.



EVERY MEAL FIGHTING CHILD HUNGER

Sunday School Offering Project

Over 200,000 children in Minnesota do not always have access to the nutrition they need to learn and grow. Without reliable access to food – such as free and reduced meal programs at school – the risk of hunger is very real. Every Meal focuses on the weekend food gap, summers, and extended breaks when children are not able to receive meal programs at school.

STUDIES SHOW:

- One third of students have shown better grades as a results of backpack programs.
- About two thirds of participating students appear less worried about food and healthier.
- Over 50% of students demonstrate high self-esteem after receiving food from a backpack program.

Our Sunday school offerings will be collected from now until the end of the school year to help support Every Meal Fighting Child Hunger (formally Sheridan Story). ***Their mission is to help stop child hunger across Minnesota.*** Children can find a container to use at home, print this label [SS Offering project printable](#) and attach it to your container. Throughout the next couple of months, we will have drop off dates to bring your offerings to church. More details to come. If you have any questions, please contact Kim or Catherine.

Click here to learn more about Every Meal Fighting Child Hunger- <https://vimeo.com/282676484>