



Worship

- In-person worship—
9:00 am Sundays—
masks required
- Online worship
continues, and will be
posted on the [church
website](#) and [Facebook](#)
page



Church Council 2021

Steven Dickey
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
3976 County Line Road SE
Delano, MN 55328
(763) 972-2400



LightOfChristLutheran.com
Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com



Free Fresh Produce and Dairy

Monday, December 13th
4:00-5:00 pm

Boxes of fresh produce and dairy products will be available for drive through pickup on a first come, first serve basis at the following locations:

Corcoran

St. Thomas Catholic Church
20000 County Road 10
Corcoran, MN 55340

Rockford

Our Father's Lutheran
3903 Gilbert Ave SE
Rockford, MN 55373

Delano

Light of Christ Lutheran Church
3976 County Line Road SE
Delano, MN 55328

Buffalo

Buffalo Covenant Church
1601 Highway 25 North
Buffalo, MN 55313

St. Michael

Alleluia Lutheran Church
10401 30th St NE
St. Michael, MN 55376

For assistance locating a specific site or for questions, please contact us at nourishinghope.oflc@gmail.com or Facebook Messenger.

NourishingHOPE is a ministry of Our Father's Lutheran Church, in cooperation with four area churches. Our vision is to relieve area food insecurity and promote wellness in mind, body, and spirit for people East-Central Wright County. For information on you or your organization partnering with NourishingHOPE, please visit our website at www.ourfatherschurch.org/nourishing-hope.html

Thank you for supporting the 2022 Stewardship Campaign



Giving is a spiritual discipline! Much as we think about praying, for instance, as an important ingredient in our faith walk, generosity is right alongside it. We give because we've been given much. We give because we see that it is an act of love. We give because we are part of something bigger than ourselves. We give because we want to do our share. We give because it is in our best nature to do so. And, of course, we give because we love our church and believe in what we do together.

Thanks to all who have made a giving commitment for our shared ministry for 2022! And, if you haven't as yet done so, please consider how you can give your best gifts for Christ's work and ministry in and through Light of Christ. You can do so by filling out a pledge card or by going online and doing so electronically by clicking [here](#).

It is both a privilege and a responsibility we share to partner in and fuel what the Holy Spirit is up at LOC. Thank you for being generous with what God has entrusted to you!

For a final word of thanks from our Stewardship Committee, please follow this link: <https://youtu.be/4Aif2eqy54c>

Feed My Starving Children Event



The Community Life Committee invites you to join them for fellowship as they gather together to pack life-saving meals at Feed My Starving Children on **Tues-**

day, December 7th from 7:00 PM-8:45 PM. We will meet in the church parking lot at 6:00 PM for those who choose not to drive and would like to carpool. This is a great opportunity for everyone, especially high school kids if you need some volunteering hours for confirmation or for school. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact either Kelly Harstad at 763-227-8246 or Heidi Goldbeck at 612-418-0111. We hope to see you there! <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A4AA5A62CA64-feed>

Help Friends 4 A Cause this Christmas

Light of Christ will be pairing up with **Friends 4 A Cause** for the 2nd year, to help spread Christmas joy to local families who may be going through tough times. They are a local nonprofit with the mission statement "To teach others that giving is greater than receiving through the power of friendship and community." Friends 4 A Cause will be helping over 200 families, mostly from Delano, as well as some from Wright county. Deadline for donations is **December 14th**. Please click [here for the sign up genius link](#).

If you would like to donate money but are unable to shop or have any questions, please reach out to Kim Wortz at 952-457-9253 or kimw1517@gmail.com.



Food Shelf Donations

This Christmas season, the Light of Christ Worship and Music Committee is asking for donations to the Delano Helping Hands Food Shelf, in lieu of poinsettias. You are invited to dedicate your donation in memory or in honor of a loved one. Please complete the form below **by December 20th**.

<https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/Christmas2021>

Caring Corner

(by Sue Fink with LOC Healing and Wholeness Committee)



Happy Thanksgiving and Advent Season from your Healing and Wholeness Committee: Lona Jose, Cat Borman, Julie Wischmann, Sue Fink and Derek Horeis.

It has been another year of ups and downs, which is pretty much life as usual, I guess. But we have so much to be thankful for, especially our Light of Christ Church Family. As we enter the Advent Season, please remember that this is **YOUR** family and we love and want to serve and support each of you in your times of sadness, difficulties and joys.

When you're comfortable, please join us for in-person worship and church activities, as the personal connection is vital to getting to know and feel close to one another through our mutual beliefs and God-centered lives.

Remember to access resources for the prayer chain, mental health resources and education found on our website at lightofchristlutheran.com. You can also contact Pastor Bruce or any of the committee members if you need support.

Thank you to all who attended the NAMI event titled "In Our Own Voice" on November 13th. We had a small in-person group of about 20 but over 200 have viewed the recording of the livestream since then. **It is still available to view on Light of Christ's Facebook page.** We had two wonderful speakers, Joelle and Sierra, who shared their personal stories with mental illness. They were so amazing and demonstrated that people with mental illness can recover and lead very full and successful lives if they learn how to manage it.

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. [Email the church office](#), which is preferred, or call 763-972-2400 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.



CHURCH NEWS

Join us as we celebrate the birth of Christ!

We will offer three worship services on Christmas Eve: **2:00, 4:00, and 10:00 pm**. The 2:00 and 4:00 services are “family-friendly” and will incorporate traditional Christmas Eve elements, along with elements geared toward children. This service will host a variety of music styles as well; from boisterous organ music to our children singing beloved Christmas carols. Please note, while the service may be more family friendly, there are elements that everyone can enjoy!

The 10:00 service is a candlelight service. This service will have a more meditative atmosphere but will still bring the absolute joy of Christmas. All services will be livestreamed on our Facebook page for those who choose to worship with us online. Christmas blessings to all!



Thank you's for local support

Thank you for your generous donation to support students in the Delano School District. *Rachel Schultz, DES Principal* (Light of Christ donated \$5000 to the Delano School District for local families in need.)

Thank you for your support, volunteerism and donations to Delano Helping Hands. We have served our neighbors in need since 1985. The local churches have always supported DHH. Please invite your parishioners to come celebrate with us. It is truly a dream come true. *Jeanie Pilarski, Board of Directors President*


Light of Christ Church family,
We come to you with thankful hearts for the Coborn's gift card. Our sweet Eddie is making some great progress. We give God all the glory for keeping Eddie wrapped in his arms through this horrific accident. We have seen God do amazing things for Eddie over the past 6 weeks. Our prayers now are for him to start walking on his own with the walking boot. Again, thank you and may God bless you all during the holiday season! *In Christ, The Goede family*
(The Goedes are neighbors of Paul & MJ Pearson. Their son, Eddie, was hit by a bus which resulted in broken hips. LOC donated a \$200 Coborn's gift card to the family.)



2021 Annual Reports are due **before December 10th**. Please submit them to [Terri in the church office](#) when ready. Thank you!



“Like” us on Facebook to get news, info and updates.

 [Click here](#) to visit our Facebook page.

Don't have a Facebook account? No problem! You can still access our Facebook page and watch our live videos by clicking this [link](#). You *do not* need to sign into an account to view our Facebook page.

Columbarium niche price discounted through end of the year

The Columbarium Committee is now working with our identified suppliers to prepare for construction to begin in the spring and beginning pre-sales of niches.

If you are interested in learning more, and/or purchasing a niche, please contact Amy Bigot at 763-443-3750 or amybigot@gmail.com. She can answer any questions you may have and can help you initiate the purchase process. The cost to acquire a niche is \$3800, and one niche can hold up to two urns. **A pre-sales discount price of \$3610 is available for niches purchased through 12/31/21.**

We look forward to having a space at Light of Christ to honor our loved ones who have gone before us.





Word for the Week from Pastor Bruce

Carols

I love Christmas carols. Of all the music that we sing during the church year, the Christmas carols are my favorite.

I love the melodies and the harmonies. They are so lush and beautiful. And I love them even more when they are set in great choral arrangements. I'm a choral music nerd. I love singing and hearing great choral music all through the year, but especially at Christmas. The great choral settings touch my soul deeply.

But I'm drawn even more to the words of the Christmas carols because they express one of the deepest mysteries of our faith: that in the Christ Child, the Creator became a creature, the divine became fully human, the Word became flesh.

For example, in *O Come, All Ye Faithful* we sing: "born of a virgin, a mortal he comes . . ." and "Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing . . ." In *What Child Is This* we sing: "Hail, hail, the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary." In *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* we sing: "Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail incarnate deity!"

These are just a few of the lines that express the mind-bending, mind-boggling good news that the Creator of the universe—a universe that is far bigger and far older than our ancestors ever imagined—took on a human brain and body and became like us. The Creator of the galaxies, who holds the galaxies in the palm of his hand, galaxies that are millions of light years in size, became so small that he could be held within Mary's womb.

He became like we now are so that he might make us like he now is. One day, in glory, we will be like Christ. And that means, above all, that we will be able to love Christ, love others, and love ourselves as fully and freely as he has first loved us. Our love will finally be made perfect.

Is it any surprise, then, that the Christmas carols are permeated with a sense of wonder and joy? Not really. Because that's what Love Incarnate does—he surprises us and gladdens us, not just for time but for all eternity.



Passing along the 'Thank You!'

My job takes me all around the Twin Cities on a weekly basis, so I have ample opportunity to hand out our care bags to those in need. They are always received with the **UTMOST** gratitude, a smile and an occasional 10 second conversation. So, to those who helped supply and pack the bags of water, socks, lip balm, granola bars, I want to extend a sincere **Thank You** on behalf of those who have received them and said as much to me. But I am just the conduit...

In fact, now that I have your attention, I also want to share that I have had some personal struggles in handing these out. There are those who are desperate - whose voices are hoarse from dehydration and whose hands are terribly cracked from the weather - who clearly need these bags and so much more. They are the ones I try to talk to, to say a quick prayer with, to verbally remind that God loves them. These are the least and the lost of God's flock who need us the most.

Then there are the others who appear to have new shoes or who have a cell phone on the backpack beside them, or whose signs don't look worn. These are the ones I struggle with giving to. Are they scamming me? Are they scamming God? But who am I to judge their situation? I have been reminded that whatever has brought them to this intersection to solicit donations from total strangers is infinitely more complicated than the struggles I deal with on a day-to-day basis. It simply isn't my place to judge them, only to help be God's hands and feet in our community.

These bags are, and will continue to be, a gratifying and humbling experience. And on behalf of all those who have been given and received them - **Thanks and keep 'em coming!**

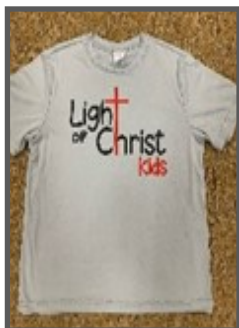


“Buy with Heart” this Christmas

We invite you to visit our Equal Exchange (fair trade) table in the Narthex or click [HERE](#) for our online store for some great gift options! Items for sale include:

- Chocolate
- Coffee
- Tea
- Cashews
- LOC coffee mugs
- LOC masks

All sales support our summer youth trips as well as small farmers around the world! These items make great gifts for teachers, friends or stocking stuffers. Our Light of Christ kids shirts are also available for \$10 each and would make a great gift for your kids, if they don't already have one! Items can also be delivered for free around the Delano area and you can include a note and even gift wrapping. Thanks for your support and for “shopping with heart” this Christmas.



The B-I-B-L-E, Yes, That's the Book for Me!

An invitation to help our young people connect with the whole church family and the Book that is so central for our lives...



Recently our young people received Bibles. I'm working on a project that hopefully helps them see why this book called the Bible is so important. If you would be so kind as to share your favorite Bible passage and briefly state why this verse is so important, I would greatly appreciate it. You can [email it to me](#), text or call me (320-212-2583), or put it in the basket by the Bibles in the church entry way.

Thanks much! *LaDonna*

High School Ministries

- **Donuts & Discussion** – We have started a new Bible study for HS youth called Donuts & Discussion (D&D). We will meet once/month on Sunday mornings, typically the first Sunday of the month, at 10:10 am in the newly remodeled space (The Living Room). We had originally planned to join the Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study group but changed this and now will be meeting just as a HS group. These mornings will be a chance to hang out, talk about our highs and lows (faith and life) and have donuts. We hope you can join us for this great opportunity!

⇒ **Sunday, January 9th, 10:10 am**

- **HS Fellowship** – Each week our 9th-12th grade youth will meet as a group on Wednesday nights from 7:30-8:45 pm (but come when you are able) in the new Living Room space to share time with friends, have food, fellowship and fun! Bring a friend and enjoy some time in a safe space where all are welcome!

