



Worship

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



Church Council 2022

Mike Boyack
Tim Current
Steven Dickey
Carmen Hanson
Jennifer Hinker
Jon Holzer
Derek Horeis
Lisa Spencer
Natasha Werner
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



NourishingHOPE

Free Fresh Produce and Dairy Monday, October 10th 4:00pm-until gone

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

Hanover

Influence Church @ City Hall
11250 5th Street NE
Hanover, MN 55341

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

Food boxes are for anyone at all! Please come by to get one. Or, pass on the information to someone else!

Monthly Food Distribution

The next distribution will be on **Monday, October 10th**. If you would like more information or would like to sign up to help, please reach out to Tim Johnson.... or click on one of the following links:

- **11:00 am at Our Father's** for packing boxes (register at this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-food>)
- **3:30 pm here at LOC** for distribution of the boxes (register at this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-food1>)

Thanks to all who help in this ministry!



The church office will be closed on **October 14th, 20th and 21st**.

Fifth Sunday Offering (October 30th): Birthday Ministry for Love INC



Light of Christ works in collaboration with Love INC to provide birthday gifts and birthday party supplies to families of children ages 12 and under. Families selected are vetted by Love INC and meet all requirements for assistance. The Light of Christ Birthday Ministry Committee is responsible for securing items needed including gifts, gift bags, wrapping paper, plates, napkins, balloons, cake mix, frosting, etc. Committee members then assemble the birthday bags, which are picked up by Love INC for distribution to the families for a great birthday party!

The Birthday Ministry is fully funded by Light of Christ congregation members, and our October Fifth Sunday Offering has been selected to help support this important ministry.

Two ways to contribute to this ministry:

- Donate through Light of Christ [Here](#) and click on the “**Donate now**” button under the **October Fifth Sunday offering** tile

OR

- Designate the offering you put in the October 30th collection plate for the **Fifth Sunday Offering/ Birthday Ministry**. Special envelopes will be located at the usher station.



Watch for information on **Light of Christ's Generosity Project**, a new outreach ministry designed to bless those in our Delano/Wright County who are a blessing to others!



Caring Corner

(from Lisa Hemmer of the
Healing & Wholeness Committee)



October is Depression Awareness month. This article brings awareness to support our youth, and education for our youth. There are links to resources included here for schools and parents. In addition, check the [Light of Christ website](#); under the *Support* tab, click on *Mental Health* for more resources.

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) published the following article that includes links to some of the many resources available through NAMI.

A new National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Teen Poll, conducted by Ipsos, found that teens who are struggling with their mental health are looking to their schools and parents for information and support.

“While the pandemic has taken a toll on our young people’s mental health, which was already showing troubling signs, this poll of young people shows that adults and schools have the opportunity — and an obligation — to help,” said Daniel H. Gillison Jr., CEO of NAMI.

According to the poll, about 1 in 4 teens have been diagnosed with a mental health condition, and 64% feel the world is more stressful now than when their parents were their age. While teens are comfortable talking about mental health, they often don’t start the conversation. Almost all the teen respondents (95%) who seek mental health information from their parents or guardians trust them, but initiating these conversations is still a hurdle that teens need help overcoming: Only about half (48%) say they talk to their parents or guardians regularly about their mental health.

Parents can help by normalizing mental health conversations early on and by acknowledging their own emotions and coping strategies. To help parents, NAMI offers [NAMI Basics](#), a no-cost educational course for parents of children with mental health conditions and is available both in-person and on demand.

The poll also found that teens are looking to schools to play a role in mental health, and they trust the information they get there. Seven in 10 teens agree that schools should teach about what mental health is, and 68% want their school to share information about treatments. Teens also think that schools should offer mental health days (67%). A dozen states have already passed laws providing these days, a policy NAMI supports.

Additionally, about 4 in 5 teens who seek mental health information from their teachers say they trust those adults, which provides a large opportunity for schools. [NAMI Ending the Silence](#) is a presentation program for middle- and high-school youth that provides essential information about mental health, as well as a personal story from a young person with a mental health condition.

Additional Resources for Parents: [NAMI Basics OnDemand](#) and local [NAMI Family-to-Family Support Groups](#) as well as the [NAMI Kids, Teens and Young Adults](#) section. Find these links and more at www.nami.org.

I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.
Philippians 4:13



Where are we going? What's important? What do you think?

Listed below are some **Ministry Initiatives** we're talking about. You can also watch a video with more information about the proposed ministry initiatives at this link:

<https://youtu.be/NZngN4XeZLY>

- **Deepening Our Connections** – Relationships – large group gatherings. More intimate settings.
- **Growing in Healing/Wholeness** – Our new ministry team has made so many strides. And yet we know there's more to grow and expand.
- **Expanding our Invitation, Welcome & Hospitality** – Delano continues to grow. How will we reach out? How do we best communicate our inclusive and warm welcome?
- **Being a Hybrid Community** – Live-steaming worship...yes! But how else can we grow opportunities for people to connect with ministry and faith? Let's talk!
- **Creation Care** – Being stewards or managers of what God has entrusted to us is a central tenet of our faith. Time, talent and treasure...yes. But what opportunities do we have to become more energy efficient? Utilize some portion of our property for the creation? Other?

— For details on the ministry initiatives [click here](#).

— [Click here](#) to watch a video about the initiatives.

— And share your input/feedback by [clicking here](#).

We're also looking at some facilities upgrades, improvements, even an expansion:

- Bathrooms refreshes
- Expanded narthex/fellowship area
- Enhanced building security
- Improved digital connection conference room
- Outdoor worship/events area improvements
- Kitchen refresh
- The parking lot
- ...and a bit more

More coming on this! Questions: Reach out to Tim Johnson at Tim.Johnson@locdelano.com or 952-472-1755



Some of What We're Grateful For



We welcomed the following new Light of Christ members on October 9th:



- Brad & Kimberly Beyer
Bryce, Bryn, Nolan
- David & Karen Gast
- Pam Hoshal
- Brandon & Andrea Janike
Jack
- Craig & Belinda Krysan
Lauren, Reagan
- Steven & Gracia Macks
Ava, Emilia, Charlotte
- Zach & Rachel Miller
Jackson
- Greg & Melissa Ulberg
Grace, Henry



2023 pledge cards are available in the narthex, church office, or can be completed online at this link: <https://bit.ly/3RloNar>



Your generosity and support help Light of Christ be a busy place! Many evenings every month we have a variety of groups and gatherings, both church members and Delano community members, here for various meetings and tasks. Thank you for helping the light of Christ shine brightly in so many ways!



Trunk or Treat Volunteer

The past few years, Light of Christ has held a Trunk or Treat event where youth/families decorate their vehicles and then kids come to Trick or Treat in our parking lot. Due to limited staff hours, in order to host the event this year, we'd need a volunteer to take ownership of the event. If you are interested, please talk to Kirsten. It's not a huge commitment and is a lot of fun!

2023 HS Service Trip

We are so excited to announce that our HS Service Trip in Summer 2023 will be going to Belize!! Youth in grades 9-12 (and parents) along with any interested adult leaders, are invited to attend an info meeting in October. Here is info:

- **Info Meeting** = Wednesday, Oct. 12, 8 pm (Sanctuary)
- **Registration Deadline** = Wednesday, Nov. 16
- **Tentative dates for the trip:** July 29-August 5, 2023

Talk about it as a family, join us on 10/12 and reach out to Kirsten if you have any questions. Thank you for your prayers as we plan for this incredible adventure!



We had our first Confirmation “Content Night” on 10/5... a fun game of kickball, worship, faith and friends! We are thankful for our Guides and Jr Guides ❤️



SPARK for our 1st and 2nd graders begins on Wednesday, October 12 after school from 3-5 pm. We will meet for 4 weeks (**Oct. 12, Oct. 26, Nov. 2 and Nov. 9**). We will be getting to know the following Old Testament people of faith: Esther, Joshua, Ruth and Noah. There is still time to register. Here is the link to register:

<https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/orm/Spark202194>

Thank you to those who have graciously donated snack items for our after-school program. It is always appreciated! If you'd like to help, here are some ways to do so:

- ⇒ **DONATIONS:** Store-bought snacks (chips, fruit snacks, cookies, fruit, veggies, lemonade, juice) for our after-school program. We can always use fresh fruit/vegetables, store-bought dessert, lemonade, juice for our Club 5-6 group/Confirmation youth.
- ⇒ **TIME:** We would like to have people willing to spend a ½ hour (2:45 – 3:15) to set up/serve/clean up afterschool snack for our Voyagers/Spark group.

If you would like to help, please contact LaDonna Ekern at LaDonna.Ekern@locdelano.com or call/text to 320-212-2583.

10th Grade Confirmation Retreat

Last weekend, 20 sophomores and 5 adults from Light of Christ attended the Encounter retreat at Lake Wapogasset Lutheran Bible Camp in Amery, WI. Since this grade has not been able to do a single retreat during their 3 years of Confirmation, we decided to take just their group to this retreat this fall. We had a great weekend of worship, fellowship, games (air square and bubble soccer were the favorites!) and food! We may have been tired by Sunday, but our hearts were full.

