



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 2020

Kylee Amdor
Wes Aylsworth
Carmen Hanson
Jennifer Hinker
Jon Holzer
Elizabeth Kohlhof
Dan Langner
Tom Sebelien
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!

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(763) 972-2400



LightOfChristLutheran.com
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A heartfelt thank you to the following people for contributing to this year's Christmas charities in lieu of Christmas poinsettias:

Lee & Cheri Ashfeld – Love INC - in memory of Cathy Ashfeld and all those lost to Covid
Wes & Jessie Aylsworth – Love INC - in memory of parents: Obert & Gretha Loken; Bill & Carol Aylsworth
Ann Bassett—Love INC & Second Harvest Heartland
Roland & Oda Carlson – Love INC – in honor of LOC church family
Janine Holter – Second Harvest Heartland – in memory of Wes & Janet Holter
Henry & Eileen Huetteman – Love INC - in memory of parents: Henry & Martha Huetteman; J. Carroll & Marianne Burke
Adam & Rachel Kopperud – Second Harvest Heartland
Doug & Jeannie Ludwig – Second Harvest Heartland
Brad & Lisa Spencer – Second Harvest Heartland – in memory of Toby Ingebrigtsen
Jeremiah & Natasha Werner – Love INC



Dear Light of Christ Church,

Thank you so much! Your kindness and generosity reached the hearts of many individuals and families this holiday season through your donations.

As families pulled their cars up to receive their gifts, you could see the relief in their smiles and tears, as stress fell off of their shoulders. So many of these families have had a difficult year with many worries. Your amazing giving made a lasting impact on both these parents and their children.

When you wake up on Christmas morning, please take a moment to pray for these families and remember that your kindness changed how these individuals will remember this Christmas!

Love,

Friends 4 A Cause

Items Needed at Delano Food Shelf

Light of Christ members have asked what items they might donate at this time to the Delano Helping Hands Food Shelf. Ideas include shampoo, conditioner, women's hygiene products, toothpaste, bar, dish and laundry soap, hand sanitizer, Jello, pudding, tea, cake mix, frosting, taco shells and seasoning. Items, as well as monetary contributions, can be dropped off at the food shelf on Thursday afternoons between 1-4 or at JoMarie Williamson's home in Delano (536 Meadow Rose Ct.). Thank you for continuing to support those in need with these essential items!



Quilt Group Blesses Many

A very special thank you to the women who make and donate their beautiful quilts and blankets. They have donated many times to the Village Ranch which has four residential homes in MN for adolescents and also manages 33 foster homes across Minnesota. The kids treasure your cozy blankets and are happy they can take them to their next residence. Most recently, these kind women donated some of their treasures to the Legacy in Delano in Gloria Schuette's memory. Thank you!



Fifth Sunday Offering Benefits St. Stephen's Ministry

Monetary gifts or any much needed item listed below are still welcome to benefit St. Stephen's Ministry. A collection cart has been set up for much needed outdoor gear: rain ponchos, tarps, 1-2 person tents, sleeping bags, and backpacks. Other needed items include emergency blankets, jackets, winter gloves, winter boots, **NEW** long underwear, etc. A full list of items can be found [Here](#). Stop by the church Mon-Thurs between 8:30am-1:30pm to leave donated items in the collection cart. The cart is located by the office door entry. Please remember your mask and do your part to social distance. Items will be accepted through December. **Please submit monetary donations before December 31.**



Caring Corner

(by Sue Fink with LOC
Healing and Wholeness Ministry)



For some people, the Christmas season is not happy and bright. Especially this year, we think of those who have lost loved ones and feel that loss so deeply in the midst of all the other strife we're feeling related to these times. We pray too, for those for whom older grief pops up unexpectedly at times, brought on by memories of Christmas past, the smell of a special cookie, a favorite carol heard, taking out the traditional decorations.

Our church family may be apart physically but God's love bubbles out from each of us and the caring and concern we feel for one another is such a blessing. We are praying and reaching out in support for those in our congregation who are physically or mentally ill, recovering from surgery, struggling financially or in their relationships, dealing with addictions, trying to accept new ways of learning and teaching and working.

Please reach out for prayer and support. You are not alone. See our new webpage at www.lightofchristlutheran.com. There you will find links to contact Pastor Bruce, ask for prayer for yourself or others via the Prayer Chain, find help for those in a mental health crisis or with concerning symptoms.

If you or someone you love is struggling with mental illness, please join our **virtual spiritual support group** on the second and fourth Mondays each month 7-8:30pm. Email Sue Fink at billandsue2931@gmail.com for a Zoom invitation.

This beautiful poem was shared by Lona Jose -

*If Christmas is hard, if you've lost someone dear,
Just look in your heart and you'll know they're still here.*

*The star in the sky, the light-falling snow,
The robin outside, it seems like they know.*

*If this is a time when you're struggling through,
Just do what you can for what matters to you.*

*There's no need to be merry. There's no need to be bright.
Just do what you love and it will be alright.*

May God's love shine in your heart and bring you peace.



Staying Vibrant!

If you haven't already completed your 2021 pledge form, please follow the link below to complete yours today. This helps council in planning and budgeting for next year's ministries. Thank you!

[CLICK HERE FOR PLEDGE FORM](#)



2021 Pledges & Online Giving

If you need to change your Simply Giving contribution amount due to your 2021 pledge, please log in to your **MyVanco account** or contact Terri in the church office to make the change. Your pledge card does not authorize the church to make these changes.

Check Your 2020 Pledge Status

The 2021 Stewardship Campaign is now underway. Just a reminder that members can check the status of their pledges for 2020 by logging in to the online member portal (<https://servantkeeper.com/member-portal/lightofchristlutheran/login>). You can also access the portal log in page from the Light of Christ website (www.lightofchristlutheran.com) by clicking the "Member Portal" icon on the top toolbar. If you need assistance or if you need another "invitation link" emailed to you to create your sign in, please contact Terri in the church



Join Us for a Virtual Christmas Eve Celebration!

We will offer two worship services on Christmas Eve. The first is a family-friendly service that 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 with brass to our children's choir singing beloved Christmas carols. Please note, while the service may be more family friendly, there are elements that everyone can enjoy! The second service is a candlelight service. This service will have a more meditative atmosphere, but will still bring the absolute joy of Christmas. Both services will be posted at 8 AM on Christmas Eve morning so you can watch at your convenience.

Celebrating Christmas

Join our Music Director, Katie Anne Kohler, as she sings some favorite carols on Christmas morning. This video will replace our Friday and Saturday devotions and will be posted at 8 AM. We are also excited to announce that, as was provided on Independence Day weekend, the Minneapolis Area Synod staff will provide our December 27 worship service. A simple Service of the Word with a sermon by Bishop Ann Svennungsen will be provided. We will still have a time for virtual communion within the service.



Connect and Converse during Zoom Bible Study

Sundays 5:00-6:00 p.m. via Zoom (new time)

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

In order to get a Zoom link, 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.

Communion Cups Available for Online Worship

We are now providing individual, disposable communion cups for pick-up at the church, which include wine/wafer, juice/wafer and wine/gluten free wafer options. Pre-packaged bags of communion cups are available for pick up and will be located on a table in the church library on Wednesday mornings during regular office hours (typically 8:00-11:30 AM). For anyone who is homebound and would like to have the pre-packaged communion cups, please email locvolunteer@frontier.com and we will make arrangements to deliver a supply to you.

Merry Christmas!

The Children, Youth & Family Ministry would like to wish all of our Light of Christ children and their families a very Merry Christmas! With the new year approaching, we look forward to providing some activities for children to participate in during the next few winter months. More details to come. In the meantime, we hope you have a wonderful winter break and get a chance to spend quality time with your loved ones. May God bless you all!

Sunday School

Our LOC kids have been enjoying their online Sunday School lessons via YouTube and Wakelet. Please share the links with friends, neighbors, grandchildren, or contact Kim @ locsundayschool19@gmail.com to be added to the SS emails. Let us help spread God's love to all the children, especially during this time when they need to feel it the most.



Upcoming Sunday School Schedule

12/27- NO SS (Christmas Break)
1/3- The Magi
1/10- Jesus is Baptized

Caleb & Cody Hanson doing December 14th's Advent activity - hot cocoa and a nice chat.



Sunday School Packet Pick Up

SS Packets are ready to be picked up. You can pick them up anytime Monday-Thursday 8:30-1:30 (during Head Start class times) by the church office. If you are not able to pick up during those times please contact Kim Wortz @ locsundayschool19@gmail.com.

Confirmation Youth Serve in Unique Ways

This past week our Confirmation youth participated in various service events in safe ways during this challenging time while still sharing smiles and God's love with others. This photo shows a small group that decorated the outside of resident's windows who are quarantined in the Covid unit at The Estates in Delano. Other activities that groups did included:

- Individually prepared and delivered "Christmas Cheer Baskets" for community members
- Colored pictures through Color-A-Smile (which will be delivered to senior citizens, troops or anyone needing a smile) www.colorasmile.org
- Made Christmas cards for children in the hospital
- Made cards and angel ornaments for nursing home residents
- Made cards for congregation members
- Donated gifts for the **Friends 4 A Cause** event
- Helped distribute produce at Light of Christ
- Prepared meals (fresh and frozen) for families in need in our community

Thank you to all of the Confirmation youth and Guides who shared God's light and love through all of these events!

