

Worship

Through May 23, there will be outdoor worship at 3pm, weather permitting. Online worship will continue and will be posted on the [church website](#) 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
3976 County Line Road SE
Delano, MN 55328
(763) 972-2400



LightOfChristLutheran.com
Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com

The Great Thing about Giving... *Giving is Fun*

I asked my daughters individually why they enjoy giving to others. They both responded immediately with giving is fun. Topping their list of what makes it fun is watching the reactions of people when they receive a gift. They also enjoy seeing how much of an impact they can make to people in need by the simple investment of time spent volunteering with friends and family doing activities that are often quite fun themselves. Look for opportunities to give in ways that you find fun and enjoyable. Giving is fun!

Stewardship Committee - Jeremiah Werner



Free Fresh Produce and Dairy

Sponsored by NourishingHOPE Food Drop and Second Harvest Heartland

**Boxes of fresh produce and dairy products will be available for drive through pick up on a first come, first served basis
All are welcome**

**Tuesday, May 11
3pm -until gone**

Locations for pick up

Corcoran

St. Thomas Catholic Church parking lot

Delano

Light of Christ Lutheran Church parking lot

St. Michael

Colonial Mall

Montrose

Montrose United Methodist Church parking lot

Rockford

Our Father's Lutheran Church parking lot

Buffalo

Buffalo Covenant Church parking lot

Appropriate distancing and COVID mitigation practices will be employed

Thank You!

With my Shared Ministry Coordinator position ending, I wanted to say thank you to the staff and entire congregation at Light of Christ for this wonderful opportunity. My family and I have been part of Light of Christ since its beginning in Delano, so it has always been a cornerstone of my spiritual life. However, the opportunity to serve on staff for the past 3 ½ years has strengthened my connection with our church community. Working with the congregation in this way has heightened my gratitude for the amazing gifts of the dedication, passion, and talent that the people of Light of Christ share each day! We are a congregation blessed with amazing volunteers both in their support of Light of Christ ministries and in the willingness to extend their gifts to our area communities and beyond.

I know that the person working in this position after me will be afforded the same cooperation and willingness of members to fill all the many varied and important roles needed to support this congregations' commitment to shared leadership.

A sincere thank you and blessings extended to each person at Light of Christ!

Jinnelle Weis

Caring Cards

Is there someone you would like to receive a personally written message of support or encouragement from the Light of Christ family? Please complete the information below and send to the church office or email to Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com. A card will be created and sent to the intended recipient.

Please send a card to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

This person needs support dealing with:

___ grief ___ depression, brokenness

___ illness ___ family discord

optional details:

To ensure an age-appropriate message, please indicate the recipient's age.

___ youth-young adult ___ 30-60 ___ 60-100

*This outreach is provided by the
Healing and Wholeness Ministry.*

Caring Corner

(by Cat Borman with LOC
Healing and Wholeness Committee)



As we continue to navigate through Mental Health Awareness Month, I would like to share part of my personal journey battling Clinical Depression and Anxiety for the last 23 years. Now, I'm **not** saying I've been constantly depressed and anxious for the last two decades. Rather, depression and anxiety are like any other problems in life. They ebb and flow just like the ocean's tides. Fortunately, for those who have a mental illness, there are many options for life-saving resources when the waves get stronger. I've been blessed to have many life jackets thrown my way over the course of my journey – none stronger or more appreciated than God.

I was officially diagnosed with Clinical Depression and Anxiety for the first time when I was 18 years old after a suicide attempt. At that point, I felt like I'd reached my limit for the pain brought about from a traumatic childhood full of family drama worthy of a Jerry Springer episode. After I got out of the hospital, I was thrown my first "life jackets" – my mother's best friend and her husband. I went to live with them for several months until I moved away for college and their loving, stable home was exactly what I needed to give me hope for a better life. I met my second "life jacket" in college, Luke, who has been my husband for the last 15 years. His medical knowledge helped me recognize that depression and anxiety are legitimate health problems and not something to be ashamed of. The way I've explained it to my children is that "Because I went through a lot of trauma as a child, I need therapy to help heal my heart. Because I consistently felt stress as a child, the chemicals in my brain got altered and so I need medication to help heal my brain."

Sharing part of my journey is not to say that I'm an expert on mental health. My background is in education, not psychology. However, I hope that by being more open I can let those of you who have a mental illness or have a loved one who has a mental illness know that you are not alone.

There are some wonderful resources out there, including many that can be found directly on our church's website at [LOC Care and Support-Mental Health](#). A specific article that I'd like to refer to those of you who would like to start the conversation about mental illness with your children is "Talking to Your Kids About Mental Illness" by Kathleen Boros, which can be found on the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) website at [Nami November 2018 Blog](#). For parents battling depression who would like to talk to their children about their mental illness, I would recommend the following children's books:

- [Sad Days, Glad Days: A Story about Depression](#) by DeWitt Hamilton
- [The Color Thief: A Family's Story of Depression](#) by Andrew Fusek Peters
- [Why Are You So Sad?: A Child's Book about Parental Depression](#) by Beth Andrews
- [Can I Catch It Like a Cold?: Coping with a Parent's Depression](#) by Centre for Addiction & Mental Health
- [Mommy Stayed in Bed this Morning: Helping Children Understand Depression](#) by Mary Wenger Weaver

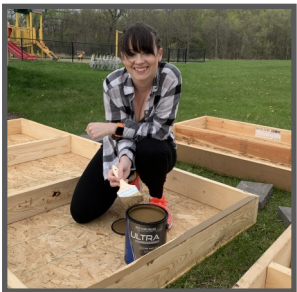
For parents battling anxiety who would like to talk to their children about their mental illness, I recommend the following children's books:

- [Boy in the Tower](#) by Polly Ho Yen
- [The Science of Breakable Things](#) by Tae Keller
- [All Birds Have Anxiety](#) by Kathy Hoopmann
- [Cloudy Days: When Anxiety Hides the Sunshine](#) by Sarah Frank
- [The Day: A Short Story about Anxiety](#) by David Kiefer

Lastly, I would like to give a shout-out to LOC's amazing Healing and Wholeness Ministry. Our mission is to deepen our experiences, efforts and programs at LOC to foster healing and wholeness. If you are interested in joining our ministry, you can contact me directly at catborman@gmail.com.

STAYING CONNECTED

Light of Christ's Music Director, Katie Kohler, would like to extend a special thank you to Avery & Emery Klaphake, Ava & Mya Werner, Brandon Kohls, Aaron Amdor, and Kirsten Kelly for helping paint the outdoor worship platforms! Your hard work is very much appreciated!



May 30th—Begin Summer Sunday
Outdoor Worship at **9:00 am**

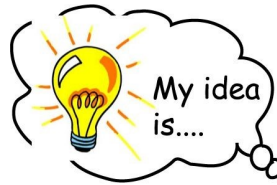
Free Items!

As we remodel the Youth Room space, we have several items that are available for free if you, or anyone you know, are interested. Currently, we have two heavy doors (interior) and a small TV stand. If you would like more information, please contact Kirsten Kelly.



2022 Offering Envelopes

A growing number of members contribute weekly or monthly using electronic giving methods. However, we understand that many prefer placing an offering envelope in the plate. To eliminate the ***purchased-but-unclaimed*** envelopes that are wasted, we're asking each family that ***wants*** pre-printed envelopes to request them from the church office by **AUGUST 1st**. Email Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com or call 763-972-2400. This "OPT IN" method will greatly benefit the office supplies budget. Thank you!



We are asking for our Light of Christ members to help us come up with a new name for the youth room! The vision for this room, once it is completed, is to be a community room for us all to use. If you have any great name ideas, please send them to either Kirsten or Kim at Kirsten.Kelly@locdelano.com or Kim.Wortz@locdelano.com. We are excited to hear the creativity from our members!



Save the date for the annual church picnic, hosted by the Community Life Committee on Tuesday, June 8th at 6pm. More details to follow!

JOB VACANCY

Light of Christ Lutheran Church is seeking a Shared Ministry Coordinator to help build and coordinate a spiritual gifts ministry where peoples' gifts and areas of interest are matched with opportunities for service and ministry. If you can see yourself supporting our congregational membership process by actively connecting visitors and members with the life of the congregation and engaging people in their areas giftedness and passion, please contact Jo Williamson at lohvil@msn.com with your interest. The full job description is available through the church office (Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com), or on the [church website](#).

Outdoor Sunday School

We are thankful that the weather held out for us to hold another Sunday school session outside on May 2. The children learned about sharing the “good news” to others. They read the bible story “The Great Commission” in Matthew 28: 16-20, made megaphones, and played a few games. Thank you to our volunteers this week: April Fritz, Tena Ungerman, and Ashley Jeseritz.



Confirmation “Retreat”

We had a great time at our modified/mini Confirmation retreat last Sunday! We had a ton of fun playing some awesome games, had pizza and talked a bit about telling our faith story (after learning this year about the Bible’s Big Story, The Jesus Story and The Early Church Story). It’s been a wild year but we’re so thankful for our Confirmation community as we walk together in faith!



First Communion

Over the last year, we have been unable to hold an indoor class for First Communion instruction. We hope to be able to offer 2 options this next school year: one this fall and another in the spring of 2022 (during Lent). Please watch for details in future publications and talk to Pastor Bruce or Kirsten Kelly if you have any questions. Thank you for your patience!

Upcoming Sunday School Lessons

5/16—The Holy Spirit at Pentecost

5/23—Year End Celebration!
(More info coming soon)

In-Person Sunday School Now Through May 23rd!

- ♦ It will take place outdoors immediately following 3:00 pm worship, approximately 4:00-5:00 pm, for all children ages 3-years-old through 6th grade.
- ♦ All parents are welcome to stay, but we specifically ask that **3- to 4-year-old children have at least one adult stay with them the entire time.**
- ♦ **We are in need of volunteers**, if you are interested in volunteering or have any questions, please contact Kim at Kim.Wortz@locdelano.com.
- ♦ Outdoor Sunday school sign up for **5/16**: <https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/sundayschool98315945>
- ♦ Are you new to Sunday school or didn't sign up last fall and want to join in on the fun? **Please register here first before signing up:** <https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/de815b>



EVERY MEAL
FIGHTING CHILD HUNGER

Sunday School Offering Project

Our Sunday school children have collected **\$140.15** so far to help support Every Meal Fighting Child Hunger (formerly Sheridan Story).

- Every Meal focuses on the weekend food gap, summers, and extended breaks when children are not able to receive meal programs at school.
- They help Minnesota students in 300 schools; since the pandemic they have doubled this program to 550 schools.
- \$250 can provide meals to one child for an entire year!
- If you would like to contribute to this cause, please go to our website, click on the **Give** tab and under **"Designated Gift,"** please type **"Sunday School Offering"** in the field.

If you have any questions, please contact Kim at Kim.Wortz@locdelano.com.

10th grade Confirmation Fellowship Event

On **Wednesday, May 12th** from **6:30-8:00 pm**, we are going to have a fellowship event for all 10th grade youth who will be getting confirmed this spring, **AND their parents**. 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.



Thank You to Our Confirmation Guides!

We want to say a **HUGE** thank you to all of our Confirmation Guides who led groups this past school year. It was a very different (and sometimes challenging) year and we truly could not have kept Confirmation going without all of you! Please help us to lift up these adults by thanking them next time you see them:

Lesley Berscheid
Brenda & Corey Black
Holly Caple
Natalie Dinger
Ryan & Angie Green
Laura Heideman-Carlson
Katie Horeis
Kristy Klaphake

Cynthia Kuenzel
Gina Nee
Tara Olson
Andrea Quandt
Jeanne Schansberg
Crystal Stahlke
Jeanie Stigman
Wendy & Anton Towne

Unwanted School Supplies

I was having a conversation recently with some parents about what they do with leftover/extra school supplies. I know we all have a lot of opened or partially used supplies at home that could still be used instead of thrown away (notecards, markers, pens, colored pencils - however, we **do not need** any crayons). Please keep us in mind and email our CYF staff if you have something that you think could be donated. Thanks for your partnership in ministry! -Kirsten Kelly





VBS Is Coming Soon!

Spring is here and summer will follow soon enough! **Parents of current preschoolers-4th graders:** look at your calendar and set aside the 3rd week of July for Light of Christ's Vacation Bible School! Although VBS had to be done virtually last summer and will be running a little differently this summer as well, LOC is excited to welcome back the children in-person. We hope you will keep LOC in mind as you make your summer plans. More details about each program and access to registration links are given below:

LOC's Preschool VBS is for children who turn 3-years-old by July 20th up to those entering kindergarten in the fall of 2021. The theme for this camp is "Through Life's Ups and Downs, Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through". It is taken from the Rocky Railway VBS program that LOC was supposed to do last

summer but was unable to due to the pandemic. This program will run daily from 4:00 pm-5:00 pm Tuesday, July 20th-Thursday, July 22nd and will be led by Kirsten Kelly. More details can be found and registration may be completed at **LOC Preschool VBS**. There are currently 12 children enrolled.

LOC's VBS led by Shetek Lutheran Ministries is for children who will be entering grades 1st-5th in the fall of 2021 and will be led by Shetek Lutheran Ministries. The theme for this camp is "Dwell Faithfully" based upon the bible verse *As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love*-John 15:9. This program will run daily from 9:00 am-2:30 pm Monday, July 19th-Thursday, July 22nd. More details can be found at **LOC VBS led by Shetek Lutheran Ministries**. There are currently 16 children enrolled for this program.

Register for Summer Camp!

Join us at camp this summer! We encourage you to invite a friend and sign up for *any* week that works for your family!

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

So far, we have 15 youth signed up to attend Wapo this summer. Wapo is welcoming church staff to visit kids for at least a day. So, if that helps you feel more comfortable to register your child, know that we will be there at least one day to check in and give you an update!

- **June 27-July 2:** completed grades 4-12
- **July 25-30:** completed grades 4-12
- **July 21-23 (Wapo Seeds):** completed grades 1-3



Green Lake Lutheran Ministries (<https://www.gllm.org/>) - Currently, we do not have any LOC youth registered at GLBC.

LOC will offer scholarships again to any youth who attends Bible camp (\$100 for week-long and \$50 for the "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.