



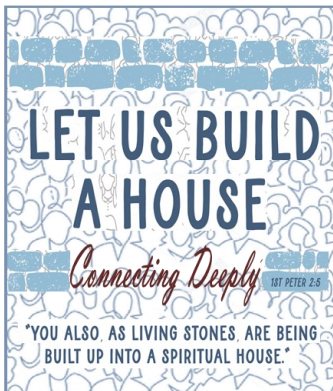
Worship

- **In-person worship—
9:30 AM (new time)
Sundays**
- **Online worship
continues, and is live-
streamed to our
[YouTube](#) and
[Facebook](#) pages**



Church Council 2024

Mike Boyack (vice pres.)
Laurie Brown (sec'y.)
Billie Chock
Tim Current (treas.)
Heidi Goldbeck
Luke Jeseritz
Lisa Krause
Natasha Werner (pres.)
Jon Wissink
Pastor Bruce Kuenzel



Contact us!

Light of Christ Lutheran
3976 County Line Road SE
Delano, MN 55328
(763) 972-2400

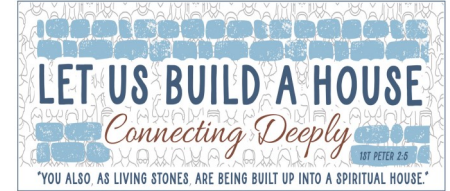


LightOfChristLutheran.com
Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com

Our *Let Us Build a House* capital appeal kicks off next weekend! Everyone is invited to a fun and meaningful event on Saturday evening, April 6th. Doors open at 6:30 PM. Kids and adult drinks will be available. Then a wonderful one-of-a-kind event for all, with comedian David Ferrell at 7:00 PM! We wanted to have fun together as a church family, and that's exactly what we'll do!

Right after the program in the sanctuary, you're invited into Fellowship Hall for dessert and to receive your personal appeal packet of information. Some inspiration, encouragement and fellowship, and you'll be on your way!

And if you'd like to help with the event, we've got some ways to contribute a bit of your energies and time. Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-48744465-letusbuid>



CONNECTING —2024—

NEXT SUNDAY, April 7th, we kick off our *Let Us Build a House* capital appeal. Initial Appeal Packets will be distributed after worship so be sure to pick up yours!

This appeal is the first step in a big vision we have here at Light of Christ. Making sure that our building and our overall church campus helps us to connect better is the heartbeat of the appeal. Being a welcoming, accessible and safe place is top tier for us. And so a couple of our initial objectives include rebuilding our parking lot instead of doing endless repairs, and making our building more secure, with a new building entrance layout and strategy. Oh, and our steeple keeps leaking. So, we're taking care of that, too!

Our Building Committee has been creatively working up ideas and plans for how to make for better connecting space through a new "flow" plan between our sanctuary/narthex area and the fellowship hall. They're excited to share those ideas with you soon. This might well occupy a second appeal phase, but we'll seek your feedback soon. Plus, we've come up with some cost-saving strategies from the initial plans we received from the design/builder.

This is a church, a ministry, we all share. And it takes all of us to not only be involved but to financially help make these priorities happen. So please pray about how you and/or your family might make a gift and/or three-year pledge to our *Let Us Build* capital appeal, over and above your regular giving. What a joy to be called to the Lord's work! Please reach out with any questions you might have.

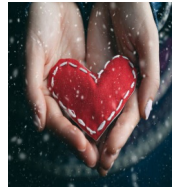
Appeal Leadership Team:

Laurie Brown
Steven Dickey
Derek Horeis

Tim Johnson
Pastor Bruce
Lisa Spencer

Caring Corner

(from Rachel Boyack of the Healing & Wholeness Committee)



Are We Asking Too Much of Our Teens? Part 2

How can we help our teens?

Recognizing the unique challenges faced by our teens regarding stress, it is crucial for us as parents, educators, and community members to provide them with the support and guidance they need. This includes:

- **Open Communication:** Encourage open and honest conversations with our teens, allowing them to express their feelings, concerns, and challenges.
- **Realistic Expectations:** Set realistic expectations for our teens' academic and extracurricular pursuits, recognizing that they are still developing and learning.
- **Unconditional Support:** Offer unconditional love, support, and acceptance, regardless of their achievements or failures.
- **Time for Relaxation and Connection:** Ensure that our teens have adequate time for relaxation, hobbies, and spending quality time with family and friends.
- **Teach Coping Skills:** Provide our teens with coping mechanisms to manage stress, such as mindfulness, deep breathing exercises, and seeking professional help when needed.
- **Advocate for Change:** Advocate for changes in educational and extracurricular systems that prioritize well-being and holistic development of our teens.
- **Religious Community:** Teens who are involved in a religious community may find that their faith provides them with a sense of belonging, purpose, and support. Religious communities can offer teens opportunities to connect with other teens who share their beliefs, as well as access to religious leaders and other adults who can provide guidance and support.
- **Rituals and Prayer:** Religious rituals and prayer can provide teens with a way to connect with something larger than themselves and to find comfort and strength in times of stress. Prayer can also be a way for teens to express their feelings and to seek guidance from God.
- **Service to Others:** Teens who volunteer or participate in service activities may find that helping others provides them with a sense of purpose and accomplishment. Service can also help teens to develop their social skills and to learn about the needs of their community.
- **Spiritual Mentorship:** Teens may benefit from having a spiritual mentor who can provide them with guidance and support on their faith journey. A spiritual mentor can help teens to explore their beliefs, to develop their spiritual practices, and to apply their faith to their lives.

By understanding the pressures faced by our teens and taking steps to support and guide them, we can create a more nurturing and supportive environment that allows them to thrive and reach their full potential. Consider praying for our youth; that God will guide them in choosing priorities and help them to cope, and their parents recognize early signs of stress and mental illness and find them support.

Content sourced and adapted from:

The Liv Project. "Under Pressure: Are we asking too much from our Teens?" *The Liv Project*, 20 December 2022, https://thelivproject.org/under-pressure-are-we-asking-too-much-from-our-teens/?mc_cid=86f13ea3b0&mc_eid=951d5b0e61. Accessed 5 March 2024.

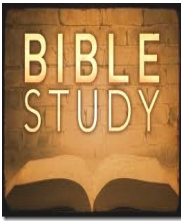
Monthly Food Distribution

The next food distribution is on **Monday, April 8th**. Shifts are available at 10:00 AM to about noon at Our Father's Lutheran Church in Rockford, and 3:30 – 4:30 PM here at Light of Christ. Sign-ups are below:

- **10:00 AM** packing food boxes—[click here](#)
- **3:30 PM** distributing boxes of food right here in our church parking lot—[click here](#)



Tough Questions for 21st Century Christians



Pastor Bruce leads a Bible study on the tough questions that we face as 21st century Christians today, which meets on the **first and third Tuesdays of the month** in the Living Room from 7:45 - 8:45 PM. The next study is on **April 2nd at 7:45 PM**. There is no need to register ahead of time. The presentation will be recorded and posted on the Light of Christ website for those who can't participate in person. Please don't hesitate to reach out to Pastor Bruce with any questions you may have.

Did you know that you can find past sessions of Tough Questions on our [YouTube](#) page? Below are the links to past questions discussed:

- Introduction Video <https://youtu.be/SUP5E82IBSg>
- Where is God When the Innocent Suffer? <https://youtu.be/zNffKR1HfZU>
- Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People? https://youtu.be/juvWr_G-K-l
- What is the Meaning of Innocent Suffering? <https://youtu.be/VS5GmtleiFs>
- Can I Believe in Creation and Evolution? <https://youtu.be/O2QO4yJHLqY>
- Can I Believe in Creation and Evolution? Part 2 <https://youtu.be/nh3hcKXb9b4>
- Why do we bless LGBTQ+ marriages and ordain pastoral candidates who are in them? <https://youtu.be/Qa1PNP8FOFY>

Delano Food Shelf



Thank you for those who volunteered at the food shelf this last month including Dave Anderson, Roland and Oda Carlson, Cheri Ashfeld, Ann Bassett, Paulette and Jerry Podratz, Jewel Ekern, Maxine and Lowell Johnson, Cheryl and Don Collins, Dee and Len Beilke, Dewey Swenson, Paul Nelson, and Charlie and Lona Jose. You all make a difference by helping so many people in need!! June will be the next Light of Christ month for volunteering at the food shelf although there are LOC members who assist the managers weekly with tasks and their time is most appreciated also. Thank you also to JoMarie Williamson for being one of two who do an excellent job of managing the food shelf. You are doing a great job!!

The church office will be closed on **Easter Monday, April 1st**.



MEETING MINUTES

Stay Informed!

The current Church Council meeting minutes can be found on the [church website](#).



Sisters of LOC—Bingo Night!

Meet at 5:15 PM for dinner and fellowship (order from the menu and pay for your own meal and bingo). Bingo starts at 6:15 PM. Please click the link below to sign up—thank you!

Date: Thursday, April 4, 2024

Time: 5:15 PM

Location: Delano American Legion

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0B4DA5AA29A0FD0-48178639-bingo>

New Member/Partner Sunday—April 21st

We will be receiving new members/partners on Sunday, April 21st. If you are interested in more information about joining Light of Christ, please contact the church office before **April 10th** at terri.reuter@locdelano.com.



Donate from Your Smart Phone

Light of Christ offers a mobile version of our online giving page to make it easy for you to give anytime from your smart phone. Simply scan the image you see here using your phone's QR code reader or go to the [church website](#) and locate the online giving page.





Palm Sunday Procession

Light of Christ children lead the way with hosanna and palms.

A glimpse of our Explorer group as they record for Easter!



WHERE YA HEADED?

WHAT: SESSION ON "VOCATION" (POST HS PLANS)

WHO: CURRENT 10TH-12TH GRADE YOUTH

WHEN: SUNDAY, APRIL 14TH

TIME: 5-7 PM

WHERE: LIVING ROOM AT LOC

COST: \$5 FOR PIZZA

LED BY PAUL NELSON AND KIRSTEN KELLY