

# The Beacon

**Pastor Bruce Kuenzel** 

April 13, 2020

### **April Worship**

All worship services will be recorded and posted on the church website so you can watch and stay connected each week. Online worship will continue until the restrictions for large group gatherings are lifted.



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

#### **Contact us!**

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









### Staying Connected/Helping Where Needed

A priority for Light of Christ in our commitment to "Stay Vibrant Despite the Virus" is our ability to aid any member in need of support.

This can mean running errands for essential items such as groceries, health & personal needs, prescriptions, etc. It could potentially mean rides to necessary clinic or other appointments. It may be to



offer pet care/dog walking, etc. It might include assistance in navigating on-line ordering of items. It may be as simple as a phone call merely to check-in and ask how someone is doing.

We have several Light of Christ members willing to reach out and provide services to anyone who may not currently be able to do such things for themselves. If you or someone you know could benefit from this support, please email locvolunteer@frontier.com or call Jinnelle Weis at 952-250-5527. I also invite anyone who is able to help and would like to support this effort to email or call me and I will add you to the group!

In these uncertain times of safe-distancing and self-quarantine it is more important than ever to nourish relationships, connect in ways possible and to care for each other. Please reach out if you need support or are in a position to support others. With these efforts we will "Stay Vibrant – Stay Connected and Stay Strong" together!

# **ELCA Calls Global Mission Personnel Home**

As a supporting congregation, Light of Christ has received a letter from Karen Anderson, ELCA Missionary to Chile, with information that the Director for Global Mission of the ELCA has called for all long-term missionaries to return to the United States as soon as possible. Karen shared that, although agonizing, she and her daughter Elisa made the decision to immediately return to Minnesota. Upon returning they plan on staying at their family cabin for 15 days of quarantine. One bright spot shared by Karen is her hope to

be able to see her mother who celebrated her  $100^{th}$  birthday on April  $6^{th}$ .

Karen noted that mission personnel was informed that they will be able to return to their countries of service as the CoVid-19 crisis subsides. Additionally, she stated "I thank you for your love and support and send you abrazos (virtual hugs) for these difficult, difficult times. Stay safe everyone."



### **OUTREACH SUPPORT**

## Donate to Food Shelf Pack-the-Pews Campaign

Delano Helping Hands Food Shelf has discontinued accepting public food donations. In alignment with federal and state guidelines, they need to follow extra sanitizing measures to assure that all their products are safe. So for our Pack-the-Pews Campaign we are still asking that you would consider sending any monetary donations that you can to help those facing food insecurity in the uncertain days ahead. Your generosity will be most appreciated.

### Free Meals Available for Seniors 60+

Wright County Community Action and the Delano Senior Center continue with their partnership in providing ten frozen meals to **Wright County seniors (age 60 plus).** Meals will be delivered directly to homes for the duration of the CoVid-19 crisis. If you are a senior, or know of a senior, that would benefit from this program, please email **senior@delano.mn.us** or call 763-972-0574 to sign up. You can also contact the Delano Senior Center and their volunteers or staff are available to reach out to seniors that may be interested in participating.

If you would like to support this initiative, monetary donations would be greatly appreciated. Additionally, there is a need for temporary freezer space, preferably walk-in. Please call Terri Harris at 763-742-3113 if you have freezer space that can be shared with this program.

### ENERGY ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO HELP PAY HEAT AND ELECTRIC BILLS

During this time of uncertainty, we recognize that many people are facing economic hardship. If your household or someone you know is worried about paying for heat and electric bills, apply for Energy Assistance today. Energy Assistance is a program to help pay a portion of heat and electric bills. Homeowners may also qualify for a free heating system repair or replacement. E-mail us at energy@wccaweb.com to have an application mailed to you or go to our website www.wccaweb.com to download an application.

Our offices are currently closed to the public, but if you have questions about how to apply, please e-mail us! We are here to help!

You can submit your application by email, fax, mail or you can drop it off in our Maple Lake office drop box.



130 Division Street West Maple Lake, MN 55358 energy@wccaweb.com

### CARING CORNER

As we all know, this is a difficult time for everyone and can be even more difficult for those who struggle with a mental illness.



NAMI, the National Alliance for Mental Illness, has a website that offers helpful strategies to deal with our present situation: https://www.nami.org/covid-19. Or you can also find resources on the MN NAMI site namimn.org. We encourage you to reach out to us as a congregation for support. We are there for you!

### 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 this **form** and email or send to the church office. Or email the information below to **lochrist@frontiernet,net**. A card will be created and sent to the intended recipient.

tne 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 adult30-6060-100
This outreach is provided by the Healing and Wholeness Ministry.

### **Announcements from Love INC-Heartland:**

In response to the Covid-19 outbreak, Love INC has temporarily closed both thrift stores and is not accepting merchandise donations. We have also postponed our spring gala fundraiser, our volunteer appreciation event and our Fresh Start classes. Although our stores are closed, our phones are on! We will continue to support neighbors in need in many ways. Ways you can help:

- Donate personal care items that are needed-liquid hand soap, toilet paper, Kleenex, baby wipes, toothpaste, paper towels. To make arrangements for a drop-off, please call 763-972-6547.
- Volunteer we are identifying areas of need which may include drivers, grocery shoppers, out-bound callers, and more.
   Contact us if you are willing to help out.
- Support us financially. Some of our main sources of funding have been put on hold, but the need for our services is expanding. Donate online at www.loveincheartland.org or mail to: 318 Railroad Ave, Delano, MN 55328
- Pray for those in need, for Love INC and for leadership in our churches, state and nation.

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### CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS

### Children, Youth and Family Ministries

Our CYF staff is still meeting regularly to discuss things like Sunday School, Spark, VBS and HS Mission Trip. We are continually thinking about ways to connect with families during these times when we cannot meet in person. Here are a few updates on our ministries so you know how you can stay connected at Light of Christ.



# Zoom Sunday School Coming Soon!!

Starting April 19<sup>th</sup> we will be having live Sunday school lessons on Zoom. 3-year-olds through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade from 8:30-9:00 and 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade at 11:00-11:30 am. Details coming soon!

### SPARK Resumes!!

SPARK for 6<sup>th</sup> graders will resume on Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 and run weekly through April 29<sup>th</sup> via Zoom. We are opening it up to all 6<sup>th</sup> graders and you may register directly at the following website if you have not already done so:

LOC SPARK Registration. We are asking for a \$10 registration fee that will help offset the costs of the workbook they will be receiving as well as the church's Zoom membership. 6<sup>th</sup> graders will continue to explore the topic of worship in preparation for serving as acolytes next school year. We will also dedicate some time to playing a few games. We look forward to reconnecting with the 6<sup>th</sup> graders as we continue to take part in fellowship in the comfort of our own homes.

**VBS**: We are beginning to plan for Vacation Bible School for this summer. Even though we don't know yet what (or how) it will all happen, we are beginning our planning, knowing that we will provide some sort of VBS experience!

**HS Mission Trip:** The HS Mission Trip families met via Zoom and the decision has been made to postpone the HS Mission trip until the summer of 2021.

**Facebook/YouTube**: You can find great videos and resources posted by our CYF staff on a regular basis. Our weekly schedule for posts is as follows: Monday Meal Time (prayers), Tuesday Tunes (song/video), Wednesday Words (of encouragement), Thursday Tunes (song/video) and Friday Fun! Contact our staff if you have any questions about how to access these resources!

You continue to be in our thoughts and prayers. Please let us know if you ever have any ideas, questions or ways we can support you during this time. Peace be with you!

Kirsten, Catherine and Kim