

The Beacon

Pastor Bruce Kuenzel

February 1, 2021

## Worship

Worship services will be recorded and posted on the <u>church website</u>. Online worship will continue until the restrictions for large group gatherings are lifted.



### **Church Council 2021**

Wes Aylsworth Carmen Hanson Jennifer Hinker Jon Holzer Elizabeth Kohlhof Tom Sebelien Lisa Spencer Stacy VanCura Pastor Bruce Kuenzel

#### The Marks of Discipleship

- 中 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

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LightOfChristLutheran.com Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com

## Thank You Council & Committee Members

One of the business items completed at yesterday's Light of Christ Annual Meeting was to give congregational approval to all Church Council and Committee members for terms beginning February 2021. With that task completed, it is timely to say "thank you – job well done" to several Light of Christ members!

First, a huge thank you to all Light of Christ volunteers who have completed their service terms on Church Council or one of the many Light of Christ Committees. Your commitment in serving our congregation and extended community has touched so many persons in very positive ways. Your ministry and mission have truly made a difference and have been greatly appreciated!

Thank you to Brenna Demeules, Dave Wuerger and Dennis Lohmann for their time, effort, and gifts of persuasion in connecting and securing commitments for new members for both Light of Christ Council and all Committees. These three devoted many hours to make sure that both the business of running a church and the ministries provided will continue to be carried out with proficiency and compassion.

And looking ahead, a very sincere and heart-felt thank you to everyone who will now be serving our congregation through participation on Church Council or a Light of Christ Committee. Your passion, dedication, and expertise to be shared through this volunteerism is a blessing that extends to each person at Light of Christ and throughout our community.

Shared ministry is what defines and truly makes Light of Christ a beacon in and beyond our community – thank you all!



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, February 9 3pm—until gone

#### Locations for pick up

#### Montrose

St. Thomas Catholic Church parking lot **Delano** Light of Christ Lutheran Church parking lot

**St. Michael** Colonial Mall

Corcoran

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

# OUTREACH



## Donations Still Accepted for Feed My Starving Children

There's still time to donate to January's Fifth Sunday Offering to help Feed My Starving Children (FMSC). **Please submit your donation by February 15**. FMSC continues to provide nutritional meals to the world's most vulnerable starving children in these challenging times. For a time in 2020 FMSC had to stop their packing events (including one that was to have been in Delano last June), but they continued to pursue other ways to still provide food to the hungry. View this video to see how they found new ways to pack food during this time: <u>https://youtu.be/DyQ-ANaxrus</u>. Later they were able to reopen their permanent sites for packing events per Covid-19 guidelines, but still were not able to do their mobile pack events out in communities.

Undernourished children are more susceptible to infectious diseases like Covid-19. The World Food Programme says that 2021 will be a "make or break" year as many countries dealing with starvation could be overwhelmed from the effects of Covid-19. FMSC believes hope starts with food. For the amount of just one quarter one meal can be provided – for every \$1 four meals can be provided – think of the difference your donation could make.

- \$88 feeds a child for a year
- \$365 feeds a family for a year
- \$1,866 provides a pallet of food
- \$10,000 feeds a village

To see some of the ways your donation could make a difference view these two videos – "Food at Work: Brian's Story" - <u>https://youtu.be/nrXQ1leqCSY</u> and "Update from the Field – Haiti" - <u>https://youtu.be/</u> <u>aeAi0vnsz9M</u>, or go to their website <u>https://</u> <u>www.fmsc.org</u>.

Your gift could go a long way to help fight world hunger.

Dear Light of Christ congregation,

Thank you for all the support during my time as an Associate Youth Director at Light of Christ. I appreciate all the texts and emails that I have received after the notification on my transition.

I had the ability to help when we were searching to fill this position and I felt God calling me to do so. After helping get through this crazy year, it is a good time for Light of Christ to find our long-term leader and also time for me to follow my next path. I have really enjoyed getting to work closer with the staff, children and family committee, volunteers, and our children and youth.

I look forward to helping through this transition and will continue to strive to be an active volunteer and member of Light of Christ. I look forward to seeing you all soon!

God Bless,

Kim Wortz

# Caring Corner

(by Sue Fink with LOC Healing and Wholeness Ministry)

This week is Children's Mental Health Week. <u>NAMIMN.org</u> offers many online classes to support you and your family through these



challenging times. Here is a sampling. Please help yourself and your family toward improved mental health.

#### <u>Children's Mental Health Week Activities –</u> <u>Early Childhood and Elementary</u>

Week long activities include daily story times featuring children's books related to children's mental health and wellness.

Monday, February 1 – Sunday, February 7, 12:00-12:30 PM, Zoom registration is not required

Join by Web Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/ j/83438807806

Join by Phone: +1-312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 834 3880 7806

#### Middle School and High School

Daily activities designed to inform and engage youth on topics related to mental health and wellness.

Monday, February 1 – Sunday, February 7, 4:30-5:00 PM Zoom registration is not required

Join by Web Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/ j/82427321659

Join by Phone: +1-312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 824 2732 1659

**Parent Email Warmline**: Many parents feel isolated and overwhelmed by their child's behaviors or mental illnesses and don't know where to start or to whom they can talk. If you feel this way and don't have time to attend support groups and classes or even to make a phone call, contact the parent email warmline at NAMI Minnesota to connect with parent peer specialists who are parents who have a child with mental health or challenging behavioral needs and are trained to assist parents with similar needs. Email **parent.resources@namimn.org** and a specialist will get back to you within 24 hours.

# **STAYING CONNECTED**

# Start Your Day with Prayer & Music

Devotions are posted on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. Member song requests will be featured in Saturday's



devotions. Click <u>here</u> for the latest devotional message. If you would like to submit your favorite hymn and how it has affected your faith journey, email Katie at <u>Katie.Kohler@locdelano.com</u>.

## Connect and Converse during Zoom Bible Study

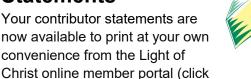
#### Sundays 5:00-6:00 p.m. via Zoom

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.

# 2020 Contributor Statements



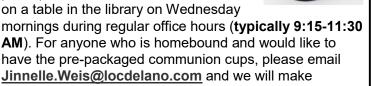


on *Member Portal* icon on the <u>church website</u>). Due to this electronic conversion, we will not be mailing out statements. If you have any questions, or do not have internet access, please contact the church office.

## Communion Cups Available for Online Worship



Pre-packaged bags of Individual, disposable communion cups are available for pick-up at the church and will be located on a table in the library on Wednesday



arrangements to deliver a supply to you.

# **CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS**

# Virtual Story Time

Attention parents of preschoolers through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade! After having completed two virtual story times, Catherine Borman is making a few changes.



Moving forward, each virtual story time will be for **ALL** children in preschool through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. The 6:30 pm story time will still take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the winter months.

# Upcoming Sunday School Lessons

- 2/7- Jesus Calls Zacchaeus
- 2/14- NO Sunday School due to Presidents weekend
- 2/21- Jesus turns water into wine
- 2/28- Jesus feeds 5,000

## 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 @



<u>Kim.Wortz@locdelano.com</u> 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.

# Sunday School Packet Pick Up

SS materials are ready for the month of February. You can pick them up Monday-Thursday, 8:30-1:30 pm. If these times don't work for you, please contact Kim @ Kim.Wortz@locdelano.com to set up a different time.

# Upcoming Confirmation Schedule (all taking place via Zoom):

**February 3** – Unit 2, lesson 3 (The Prodigal Son), 6:30-8:00 pm

**February 10** – Unit 2, lesson 4 (The Crucifixion of Jesus), 6:30-8:00 pm

**February 17 (**Ash Wednesday) – Unit 3, lesson 5 (The Resurrection of Jesus), 6:30-8:00 pm

# HS Mission Trip

We have made a reservation through the same organization as last year (Service Learning Camps) in hopes that we can do a HS Mission Trip to Denver, CO the week of July 11, 2021. Kirsten will be emailing out an online registration form soon. We hope to have kids registered soon so we can have a modified



fundraiser yet this spring! Travel arrangements have not yet been decided so exact dates aren't set but check your calendar and start talking about if your child would like to attend. This trip will be open to current grades 9 - 12.

# High School Bible Study

Pastor Bruce often describes the Bible as an "epic narrative" like that of *Harry Potter* or *The Chronicles of Narnia.* Yet we don't seem to be as fascinated in the story of the Bible or read it as often as we do other novels. Join us to learn more about the Bible and the Bible's big story... and also some suggestions on how to read the Bible. We'll explore some Bible Project videos (<u>www.bibleproject.com</u>) and talk about how the Bible applies to our daily life. You'll learn some practical tools to help you feel comfortable navigating the Bible, which may even help you as you head off to college. We'll meet online the first two Wednesday nights in February from 8:30-9:30 pm. Email or message Kirsten to "sign up" and she'll send you the Zoom link.

3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Graders met up for sledding at Baker Sledding Hill in Medina on January 24<sup>th</sup>. It was a beautiful, sunny day and both the children and adults enjoyed catching up. There was lots of laughter heard while both sliding *down* the hill and trying to get back *up* the hill. Overall, it was a fun family event for our LOC families. The best part was, since it was outside, everyone got to see each other's smiling faces!





# Bible Camp Information for Summer 2021

Summer Bible Camp registration is open (or opening soon) and we wanted to share info with you about our plans for Summer 2021. One major change for this summer is that our church staff is not able to attend camp with our kids due to Covid restrictions set at the camps. We will miss this time with the kids dearly and we realize this may change

whether you are comfortable sending your kids to camp or not. We still encourage camp attendance, but we will also be providing other opportunities for Light of Christ kids/youth where our staff can connect with kids. Plans are being made and we will share more info with you soon about these opportunities.

We do have some spaces reserved for LOC youth this summer at Lake Wapogassett but due to Covid restrictions, our numbers were significantly reduced. We encourage families to sign up during our designated week, if possible. However, youth are welcome and encouraged to register to attend Bible camp at any time that it works for them (and with those they would like to attend). Since we are unable to attend with the kids, we will not have a "designated" LOC week at Green Lake Bible Camp (GLBC) this summer. Again, this summer, we will offer scholarships to any youth who attends Bible camp. \$100 will be given to those who attend week-long camp and \$50 for those who attend an "abbreviated" camp.

Here is some specific info about each camp. Please contact our staff with any questions you have:

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

- Online registration opens February 1 to church "blocks" (see LOC reservations below use this link to register: <u>http://lwlbci.com/loc</u>)
- Online registration opens to the public beginning March 1<sup>st</sup> (and reserved church spaces are released – all can register online on a first come, first served basis)
- ✤ Light of Christ reservations:
  - June 27-July 2
    - 5 spaces reserved at Ox Lake Youth (completed grades 7-8)
    - 6 spaces reserved for Wapo Youth (completed grades 4-8)
    - HS youth are welcome to register for Servant Leadership Camp (at Wapo) or HS Summer Camp (at Ox Lake) during any week of the summer.
  - July 21-23 (Wed-Fri)
    - 7 spaces reserved for Wapo SEEDS (completed grades 1-3)



#### Green Lake Lutheran Ministries

#### (https://www.gllm.org/)

✤ We did not reserve any spots specifically for LOC this summer. Youth are welcome to register for any week that works for them.

✤ Online registration opened to all beginning January 25<sup>th</sup>.

If you register **before March 1<sup>st</sup>**, you will receive a \$40 discount per registration.

