

The Beacon

June 22, 2020

Pastor Bruce Kuenzel

June 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.



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
- **廿** Worship weekly
- P Read the Bible
- ✤ Serve at or beyond **Light of Christ**
- P Relate to others for spiritual growth

Contact us!

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



LightOfChristLutheran.com lochrist@frontiernet.net

How can one person make a positive difference during civil unrest?

Making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding. Proverbs 2:2

During a recent discussion in a Stewardship meeting we were checking in with one another asking how everyone was doing. The news of police brutality and civil disturbances was on everyone's mind. I shared my lack of understanding and frustration in my inability to find an authentic response to make a positive difference. My fellow committee members listened and acknowledged my feelings and emotions. They expressed a level of curiosity without judgment and a dialog ensued that would not have happened otherwise. Listening, learning and being open to understand what others are going through may be an example of Stewardship of Compassion. Compassion without judgment can foster discussions and create space for exploration and the discovery of ideas that can lead us towards positive actions. Let's give ourselves permission to talk about challenging topics and be open to listen and learn.

Thank you - Stewardship Committee

Light of Christ Communication Feedback

Staying connected in faith practice and relationships keeps Light of Christ vibrant. As a church we would like your feedback as we work to enhance our communication efforts, especially during the current situation. Please complete this brief **<u>10-question survey</u>** to help us learn more about how best to communicate with you. These questions



ask how we can help you experience your faith through Light of Christ.

NOTE: All responses will remain anonymous. Please complete 1 survey per household. We want to hear from our community of faith (whether you are members or not) so that we may better serve you.

2021 Offering Envelopes

Your regular giving -- whether electronic, by checks or one-time gift -has kept Light of Christ's finances stable. Thank you! With the Sunday OFFERI service and communion continuing via YouTube and Zoom, we encourage using electronic options to continue your financial support.



If you recently transitioned to electronic giving and no longer need the pre-printed annual giving envelopes you requested last year, please email lochrist@frontiernet.net or call 763-972-2400 by August 1 to OPT OUT of this service. Envelopes will be ordered for all others who requested them in 2019.

OUTREACH

Donations for Kids in Need

Kirsten has a connection with a young woman who works with single moms in the Minneapolis area. She is currently working with 5 families (1 is homeless and 4 have housing) and is collecting needed items for their children. If you have any of the items below and would like to donate them to help the families, please contact Kirsten

(LOCchildren@gmail.com). New items are always welcome but all items will be accepted and put to good use! She is not taking any toys at this time but she can often find a "home" for most other baby items (bouncy seats, etc).

- Baby boy clothing (sizes 2T and under)
- Boys clothing sizes 6-7
- Girls clothing sizes 0-5T
- Bottles
- Baby Carriers
- Coupons for formula

Love INC Stores Open with Limited Hours

Love INC- Heartland stores are open on a limited basis with **safe practices in place**. We would love for you to join our team of volunteers! Our stores are open for business on these days:

- Delano Store, Tuesdays/ Fridays 9-noon
- Howard Lake Store, Wednesdays/Saturdays 9-noon

We welcome volunteers on both business days and non-business days. Please call Love INC- Heartland for more details, 763-972-6547 opt 3.

We are unable to take donations at this time as we are very full in our warehouses. We hope to reopen for donations soon as we implement more volunteers to sort the items. Please bring your own mask to wear.

Call on the Light of Christ Prayer Chain

Then you will call on me and come and pray to me and I will listen to you. Jeremiah 29:12

Are you in need of a prayer during these difficult days? Do you know someone else in need of prayer? If so, please feel free to engage the Light of Christ Prayer Chain. The process is simple and 100% confidential. All you need to do is contact the church office either by email (preferred—<u>lochrist@frontiernet.net</u>) or phone (763-972-2400; please keep in mind office hours are currently limited to Wednesdays, 9:15-11:30 am) with your request. The church office then contacts the group of LOC members ready to pray for you as requested. Feel free to call on this team in your time of need. Anyone wishing to join the Prayer Chain should contact the Church office.

CARING CORNER

(Created by Light of Christ Healing and Wholeness Ministry)



The sad events of the past few weeks on top of the pandemic uncertainty has put so much additional stress on each of us. If you or a loved one find your mental health struggles intensifying, reach out for help. Call your clinic and make an appointment, talk to a trusted friend, find resources online to get connected with mental health providers and support. We care about you!

WHEN SOMEONE IS BROKEN DON'T TRY AND FIX THEM. (YOU CAN'T)

WHEN SOMEONE IS HURTING DON'T TRY TO TAKE AWAY THEIR PAIN.

(YOU CAN'T)

INSTEAD WALK BESIDE THEM AND LOVE THEM IN THEIR TROUBLED TIMES. (YOU CAN)

BECAUSE SOMETIMES ALL THEY NEED IS TO KNOW THEY AREN'T ALONE

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 **lochrist@frontiernet.net.** 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.

VBS IS COMING!!!

We're so excited to announce that **BOLT VBS** is coming to your house on **July 27**th-**29**th! Don't worry if you can't do it those days, this online program is designed to

do when it works best for you. With minimal preparation, easy-to-follow instructions, and a video that leads your family step-by-step through each day, BOLT is designed to bring the fun and faith-formation of VBS to your home. Registration will **open on June 28**th **and close on July 12**th. If you register during

this time, your child will receive a t-shirt and materials needed for VBS. Packet pickup of those items will be on **July 22nd**. If you register after the 12th, you will still get all the online links for BOLT VBS. Look for an email with more details and registration soon. We can't wait to Backyard Bolt towards faith in Jesus!

Ways You Can Help Us Make Worship More Vibrant!

Light of Christ staff is looking for families to help with our Sunday worship services by contributing a recording to be a part of the service (such as the Lord's Prayer, scripture lesson, Apostle's Creed, etc). If your family would be willing to help in this way, please <u>CLICK HERE</u> to sign up. If you have any questions, please contact Kirsten Kelly, Katie Kohler or Pastor Bruce. We are thankful for the work of our entire church family as we continue to find creative ways to grow and connect in faith!





Change for Children

This summer, even though we cannot gather for worship, our children and youth are organizing the 2nd Annual Change for Children offering project to raise money for the <u>ELCA Global Barnyard</u>. (Click HERE to watch a short video about the Global Farm Challenge!) Last spring, this project exceeded our expectations and we raised \$1,447.97! This allowed us to purchase 2 cows, 3 goats, 3 pigs, 100 chicks and 4 sets of seeds and gardening tools (which are given to families around the world to create sustainability and food for their families). To learn more about the ELCA Good Gifts program, go to https://goodgifts.elca.org/how-it-works-o.



This year we are setting our goal a bit higher and hope to raise \$1,500 over the summer months! We encourage families to make a Change for Children jar at home and later in the summer we will share details about how you can drop off your donation. Donations can also be made <u>online on our giving page</u> (make sure to indicate "Change for Children"). Thanks for your support as we collect change and come together to make "Change for Children"!



Why Buy Equal Exchange?

Did you know that most "regular" chocolate you purchase in the store is not fair trade and might possibly support child labor? Do you want to be a "smart consumer" and make sure you are purchasing responsibly? The youth at Light of Christ sell Equal Exchange chocolate, coffee, tea, nuts, and dried fruit, which are all fair trade products. This means the farmers that grow the produce to make the products are paid a fair, living wage and **don't exploit children**. Watch this **short**, **2-minute video** to learn more about Equal Exchange chocolate. During this time of being apart, you can still order LOC Equal Exchange items online! Proceeds will benefit future summer trips. Order through our online store (https://forms.gle/Td7By6ugsStCBALW7) and have them delivered to your house **FOR FREE** (or to a friend to brighten their day)! Thanks for supporting our youth and farmers all over the world!

STAYING CONNECTED

Submit Your Family Pictures

Light of Christ Members: don't forget about pictures for the online Church Directory! While we are all staying safe at home, this may be a great time to gather the family members and take a picture of the gang. All you have to do is email your picture to <u>Terri</u> <u>at the church office</u> who will coordinate adding it to our directory.



Stay Informed!



Church Council meeting minutes can be found on the church website.

"Finding Peace in These Times" Tuesday Evening Bible Study/Conversation



Faith conversation, Bible study,

people connections, an opportunity to grow a bit, learn, ponder.

Tuesday Evening Bible Study/Conversation—Open to all! No expertise needed. Participate, share...or just listen in—7-8:00 p.m.

Email discussion leader, Tim Johnson, for a Zoom link at tdale57@gmail.com.

All are welcome!!



Church Library Has Many Resources

Just a reminder that even though the public libraries are closed, the church library has many books and resources for

members to check out, and for all ages and topics. Just stop in during office hours (currently Wednesdays 9:15-11:30 am) to check it out while still remaining socially distanced!

Staff Contact Information

Since our staff is doing much of their work remotely, we want to make sure that you can easily reach us. So here are our work email addresses and preferred phone numbers.

Catherine Borman Associate Director of Children and	d Family
locfamilies@gmail.com	612-423-2616
Paul Gabrelcik, Custodian	612-816-9377
Debbie Johnson, Bookkeeper locfinance@frontier.com	612-747-7063
Kirsten Kelly, Director of Youth ar locchildren@gmail.com	nd Family 612-220-7464
Katie Kohler, Director of Worship locworshipmus@gmail.com	
Bruce Kuenzel, Pastor locpastor@frontier.com	505-412-3013
Terri Reuter, Office Administrator lochrist@frontiernet.net	- 612-419-3272
Jinnelle Weis, Shared Ministry Dir locvolunteer@frontier.com	
Kim Wortz, Associate Director of Children and Family	

Kim Wortz, Associate Director of Children and Family locsundayschool19@gmail.com 952-457-9253

Get Your Daily Devotions

Our weekly devotion schedule is now three days a week –



Monday, Wednesday, and

Friday. Members' favorite hymns will be featured in the Friday devotions. If you would like to submit your favorite hymn and how it has affected your faith journey, email Katie Kohler at **locworshipmus@gmail.com**. You can watch the latest video featuring members' submissions <u>here</u>.

Quick Tip!

If you subscribe to our YouTube channels for devotions and worship services you will automat-



ically receive notifications when a new video is posted. Subscribing also gives you the ability to find the channel directly from your YouTube home page without having to utilize the search engine. To subscribe, simply click the "**subscribe**" button under any of the channel's videos or on the channel's home page.