



Worship

- In-person worship—
9:00 am Sundays
- Online worship
continues, and will be
posted on the [church
website](#) and [Facebook
page](#)



Church Council 2022

Mike Boyack
Tim Current
Steven Dickey
Carmen Hanson
Jennifer Hinker
Jon Holzer
Derek Horeis
Lisa Spencer
Natasha Werner
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

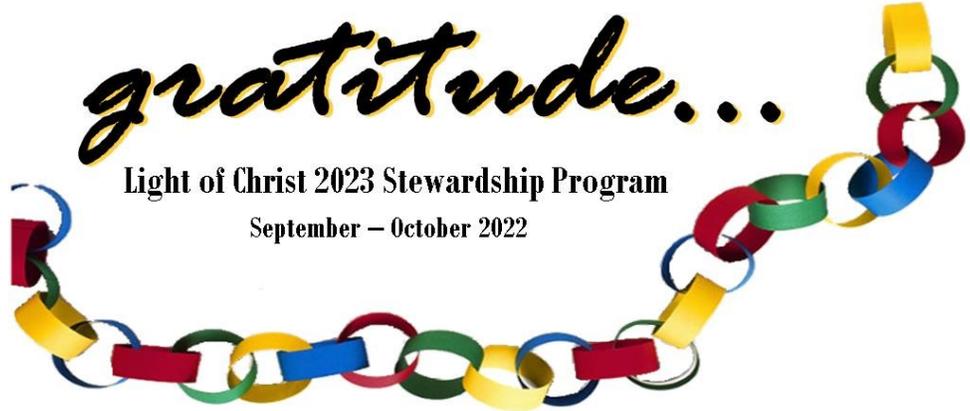


LightOfChristLutheran.com
Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com

gratitude...

Light of Christ 2023 Stewardship Program

September – October 2022



Watch Gratitude grow during Stewardship Month

Our Gratitude-themed stewardship month begins this week. Each household's info packet includes slips of colored paper attached to a brochure. *Why?* They'll become links in a growing Gratitude Chain that will encircle the sanctuary! Write something you're grateful for on each link and bring them to Sunday worship. We'll repeat this activity throughout the four weeks and watch the Gratitude Chain grow!

During these weeks we'll also focus on what makes us grateful to be Light of Christ members: staff and volunteers, youth and adult programming, accommodating facilities, and outreach opportunities.

When we practice gratitude, it increases our ability as a church, congregation or family to joyfully give to those things which are life-giving and liberating. Thank you for joining us in the ministry of teaching and experiencing gratitude.

-- Stewardship Committee

First Communion

We will be celebrating First Communion on Sunday, **October 30**. As we welcome all children to the table, it is left to the discretion of parents to determine when their child is ready to receive. First Communion instruction will be in person on Sunday, October 2 or Monday, October 3 from 6-7 (*families choose one*). The 2nd class will be held Sunday, October 9 or Monday, October 10 (*families choose one*). To register your child, click this link:

<https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/961297>



Low Commitment Volunteer Opportunity



Help is needed to keep the oil filled in the sanctuary candles as levels get low. If you're interested or would like more information, please contact Linda Rosaaen at 763-478-6298.

Monthly Food Distribution

Light of Christ continues to bless our neighbors through our food distribution ministry. This past week, we distributed 70 boxes of fresh produce, baked goods, canned meat, milk, yogurt, and more. As well, we offer prayer and other small "faith help" books to those who come by. And we invite our guests to write down prayers on the backside of a sheet we pass out. Then our team circled up at the end and prayed all these prayers.

Thanks to all who help in this ministry. If you would like more information or would like to sign up to help, please reach out to Tim Johnson.... or click on the one of the following links:

- **11:00 am at Our Father's** for packing boxes (register at this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-food>)
- **3:30 pm here at LOC** for distribution of the boxes (register at this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-food1>)



Caring Corner

(from Sue Fink of the Healing & Wholeness Committee)



As I began thinking about where God is leading our Healing and Wholeness Ministry this coming church year, I looked back on all we've done the past 2 ½ years. Our focus up until now has been on bringing awareness to mental illness, encouraging conversations about our commonality in living with mental illness in ourselves and those we care about, educating us on various mental illnesses, and finding ways to help ourselves and one another to achieve mental health.

God put on my heart this week to consider what healing and wholeness actually mean, as a compass to lead us to a clearer focus on what it can mean for our Light of Christ family as we continue developing our Healing and Wholeness Ministry.

My online research found several examples of definitions:

Wholeness, according to Webster's dictionary, is "the state of forming a complete and harmonious whole; unity". Also, "the state of being unbroken or undamaged" which can refer to things, ideas and people. Spiritually, wholeness is the state of being perfectly well in body, soul (mind, will and emotions) and spirit, which was God's original design for us before "the fall." In eternity we will return to pure wholeness because of Jesus.

Healing means to "make whole or sound or free from illness or disease." Interestingly the word "heal" comes from the ancient word, *haelan*, which is also the root of the word "holy" which means "spiritually pure." Centuries ago, humans associated healing with perceptions of wholeness and spirituality.

Healing is related to wholeness and wholeness is experienced in connection with others. We're meant to seek help and offer help to one another. And healing can occur in ways other than curing. As a hospice nurse I learned that healing and wholeness for a person can happen through very serious illnesses and even as a person is dying.

Our Light of Christ family is becoming more transparent in sharing our troubles which in turn brings us closer and more connected. Let us also share our faith and prayers with one another because it is through our common shared faith and grace that we become more whole together and as individual and unique children of God.

God seeks you continually. May you listen and seek Him and surrender every nook and cranny of your life as you grow toward healing and wholeness.

*True healing is more than restoration
of flesh and blood or knitting of bone to bone.
True healing is wholeness, where body, soul and spirit unite.
True healing is peace, the knowledge of God's presence, a
hope that knows no end.
True healing cries 'Father, not my will but yours.'
True healing knows love perfectly, a love that casts out fear.
True healing overcomes,
endures,
for eternity.*

(www.faihandworship.com)

CHURCH NEWS

Congratulations and God's blessings to the fourteen 3rd graders and seven 7th graders who received bibles on Sunday, September 11th.



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

New Members will be received on Sunday, October 9th. If you are interested in joining Light of Christ or would like more information, please contact [Terri](#) in the church office.



Note to all previous Light of Christ Quilters and those who want to start quilting. Quilters meet on Mondays at 10:00 am at church. No previous quilting experience necessary!



A Light of Christ member has donated a brand new, in-package, boys' size small white baptism suit. If you or someone you know could use this, please contact Terri in the church office.

Choir Rehearsals Have Resumed!

Rehearsals occur weekly on Tuesdays from 6:30-7:30 pm. All skill levels are welcome!! If you are interested in joining or have any questions, contact Katie at katie.kohler@locdelano.com. You can also attend a few rehearsals and try it out! Let us praise God in song together!



Vision Conversation Groups You're Invited!

We have spent much of this year listening, praying, deliberating, and considering how Light of Christ might best step into the next few years of ministry together. There are many ways to go, potential goals to set, priorities to pursue. And yet we sense that the Holy Spirit has revealed some important things for us to focus upon.

As a church family we seek your input and reflections on two main areas: Ministry Initiatives ideas (that will give shape for the next 3 years); and Facilities Opportunities (a variety of things that can help our church continue to be a place for mission and community).

Vision Conversation Groups

One hour guided sessions designed to facilitate learning, conversation, and feedback on our two main areas under consideration. [Click here for a brief video](#) introduction from Pastor Bruce and Tim Johnson.

Ministry Initiatives we'll talk about:

- **Deepening Our Connections** – Relationships – large group gatherings. More intimate settings.
- **Growing in Healing/Wholeness** – Our new ministry team has made so many strides. And yet we know there's more to grow and expand.
- **Expanding our Invitation, Welcome & Hospitality** – Delano continues to grow. How will we reach out? How do we best communicate our inclusive and warm welcome?
- **Being a Hybrid Community** – Live-steaming worship...yes! But how else can we grow opportunities for people to connect with ministry and faith? Let's talk!
- **Creation Care** – Being stewards or managers of what God has entrusted to us is a central tenet of our faith. Time, talent and treasure...yes. But what opportunities do we have to become more energy efficient? Utilize some portion of our property for the creation? Other?

Facilities Opportunities we'll talk about:

- Bathrooms refreshes
- Expanded narthex/fellowship area
- Enhanced building security
- Improved digital connection conference room
- Outdoor worship/events area improvements
- Kitchen refresh
- The parking lot
- ...and a bit more

We'll share detailed drawings and estimated costs so that you can give some input/feedback. What feels most important? What might best help us live into our vision and mission?

When?

- Monday, Sept. 26th 6:30 pm At church
- Monday, Sept. 26th 8:00 pm Zoom
- Sunday, October 2nd 10:10 am After worship...at church
- Monday, October 3rd 6:30 pm At church
- Monday, October 3rd 8:00 pm Zoom
- Sunday, October 9th 10:10 am After worship...at church
- More options coming.....

More information? Reach out to Tim Johnson at Tim.Johnson@locdelano.com or 952-472-1755



Confirmation Kick-Off

Our Confirmation year started with small group gatherings on Wednesday, September 14. Here are photos from a few of the groups as they gathered for fellowship and reconnecting after the summer. Thanks for your prayers as we start a new year of faith, fellowship and fun!



BABYSITTING

Connecting Parents and Youth for Babysitting Opportunities

Are you a youth looking for some new babysitting or nanny/manny opportunities? Are you a parent looking for responsible, reliable babysitters (or after-school care)? Complete this [short online form](#) to indicate your interest (if you are a youth) or what childcare needs you have (if you are a parent) and Kirsten will work to get you paired up a good fit!

It Takes a Village to Raise a Child

This phrase is true within the Children Ministry Program here at Light of Christ. Wondering how you can be involved? Check out the following link for ways that your help would be welcomed as a gift. Thank you! <https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/3ec5a1>

WE NEED YOU!

Below are some highlights from the Children and Family Ministry Fall Rally Day Carnival. It was a wonderful day of fun and fellowship!





Thanks for the Memories!

We had a great “last chance” Summer Youth Activity Night on 8/31! Kids played Kubb (a great lawn game) and Gaga ball and then finished with ice cream and a game of “Sardines” in the church. We’re looking forward to another great year but sure loved our summer memories! Thanks to all of the youth and families who participated and especially to Anna Tool for her organization of our summer youth nights!

