



Worship

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



Church Council 2021

Wes Aylsworth
Carmen Hanson
Jennifer Hinker
Jon Holzer
Derek Horeis
Elizabeth Kohlhof
Tom Sebelien
Lisa Spencer
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
- † Give of my time, talents and resources

Shared Leadership Orientation Meeting

The 2021 all Council and Committee Orientation Meeting is scheduled for **tomorrow, March 2nd beginning at 6:30 PM**. The meeting will be conducted via Zoom and all Light of Christ Committee and Council members are encouraged to attend.

This meeting provides an opportunity to welcome new members to Council and Light of Christ Committees, and to spend a little time getting to know each other. The agenda will focus on the respective roles of Light of Christ leadership, congregation, and staff. Best practices will be shared as we work together to focus on priorities for the coming year!

Additionally, there will be an opportunity for Zoom breakout groups if committees choose to conduct their regular monthly meeting immediately following the joint session.

A Zoom link, agenda and meeting handouts were sent via email last week. If you missed these and need them sent again, please contact the church office.



A New Habit?

For many of us, the act of giving an offering, placing something into the offering plate, is an act of worship. It is a moment when we're mindful of taking something of importance, something that we value, and giving it away as an act of faith, of love. It's just a moment, but it seems fraught with significance. Simply put, it matters.



But here's an idea if you need one. Set aside a set moment or two each week (after all, it's Lent), to consider or to give your offering. If you're an automated giver, perhaps you want to consider an extra gift of thanksgiving as an expression for something or someone in your life. Maybe you want to write a check as an expression of gratitude or recognition for our faith family or for the blessings of the past week. Perhaps you just need to give because you're a giver, and doing something extra feels right to do.

- ◆ Take a moment to pray, to count your blessings
- ◆ Offer a prayer of gratitude
- ◆ Perhaps place your hand on your wallet or purse as you are mindful of that automated gift you give, and imagine as it is gifted to God's work
- ◆ Maybe you write a check or electronically give a gift online and then offer a brief sending: *"To you, O Lord, in thanksgiving for my life and _____"*

No, it's not exactly the same as when you're at church and can offer a gift in the way you might be used to. But you can create a new habit, a new ritual, a new act of worship right there at home. Try it. Let us know your experience.

Grateful for your generosity!

Your Stewardship Committee

Contact us!

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



LightOfChristLutheran.com
Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com

March Is Food Share Month

Every year Light of Christ designates March as *Food Share Month* for the Delano Food Shelf. LOC members are encouraged to donate items in need - monetary contributions are also appreciated. Items most needed include personal items, cleaning supplies, cooking/baking items although all items are appreciated. They can be dropped off at the Food Shelf on Thursdays 1-4, at the church Mon.-Thurs. 8:30-1:30 in the shopping cart inside the fellowship hall entrance, or at Jo Williamson's home at 536 Meadow

Food Shelf



Rose Ct in Delano. Thank you also for those who manage the Food Shelf including LOC's Jo Williamson and Sue Stahlke, and other LOC members who volunteer at the Food Shelf. Your service is so needed!

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 Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com. 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.*

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 mornings during regular office hours (**typically 9:15-11:30 AM**). For anyone who is homebound and would like to have the pre-packaged communion cups, please email Jinnelle.Weis@locdelano.com and we will make arrangements to deliver a supply to you.



Caring Corner

(by Lona Jose with LOC
Healing and Wholeness Ministry)



We all know it has been a very difficult year for everyone with COVID, losing or being separated from loved ones, employment challenges, food shortages, schooling at home and many other changes. The word depression has been in the forefront for many people during this time. Sadness and grief are normal emotions for everyone but this last year has affected everyone in a different way. Some who struggle with major depression may be struggling even more during this time. In a given year, 6-8% of people will have a depressive episode and 20-25% will experience depression in their lifetime. Children and adolescents also can struggle with depression. And parents struggle at times to help their children understand their parent's depression.

Most people with depression respond positively when they seek out support and treatment, including therapy, fellowship with others, depression medication, exercise, meditation, light therapy for seasonal affective disorders (SAD) which is more common this time of year and other supports.

As a church community, we are here for you. We want our church to be a safe place for all, open to support those with mental illness, befriending and praying for those who are struggling. Mental illness is not a weakness; it's an illness. Our [church website](#) under **Support** offers several links to assist you through your struggles including prayer chain, pastoral calls/visits, caring cards, [NAMIMN](#), the Warmline, Mental Health MN and several others. We also have several excellent books about mental health in the church library. We also hope to begin in person support groups and informational speakers soon once we can gather safely. **We are here for you!** Let us know how we can support you. And we know the Lord is always there for us as the following scriptures share:

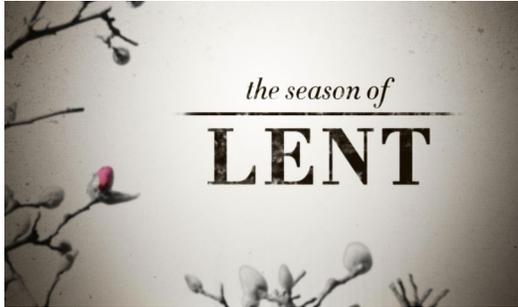
2 Corinthians 1:3-4 *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.*

Psalm 46:10 *Be still and know that I am God.*

Psalm 3:3 *But you, O Lord, are a shield around me; you are my glory, the one who holds my head high.*

Isaiah 41:10 *So do not fear for I am with you; do not be dismayed for I am God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*

YOU ARE GOD'S BELOVED!!



Please join us for our virtual Holden Evening Prayer Lent services, posted every Wednesday at 8 AM on our [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) pages. They will also include faith statements from our tenth graders.

Light of Christ Committee Opportunities



The new church year for 2021 is just beginning, holding grand expectations for a time when we can again be together in person to live out our ministry and programs with great enthusiasm! Do not miss being a "hands-on" contributor to all that Light of Christ has to offer to our congregation and our community.

There are several open opportunities for service as a member of one of the many active Light of Christ Committees. Your involvement will be a blessing to so many as you also reap the benefits of new perspectives, new friendships, and closer relationships within your church family.

Please consider sharing your time and talents by joining with fellow congregation members currently serving on a Light of Christ Committee. Wherever your passions lead you, there is an opportunity to serve! The greatest immediate needs for additional participation are on **Evangelism/Mission Committee, Healing & Wholeness Committee, Small Group Ministries, Stewardship Committee and Worship & Music Committee.**

Please contact Jinnelle Weis by email at Jinnelle.Weis@locdelano.com or by phone at 952-250-5527 to volunteer your services or to request additional information regarding any Light of Christ volunteer opportunity.

Thank you for your service!

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!

To get your Zoom link for the study, 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.

"I joined this group at the height of COVID unknowns and fear. More than anything, it has given me a new group of Light of Christ friends I feel connected to. I learn from each of them and their life experiences," shared one participant.

Quick Tip!

If you subscribe to our YouTube channels for devotions and worship services you will automatically 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.



2020 Contributor Statements

Your contributor statements are now available to print at your own convenience from the Light of Christ online member portal (click on **Member Portal** icon on the [church website](#)). 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.





Do You Enjoy Spreading God's Love to Children?

We are looking for help with worship Children's messages. It's only a short 5-minute video lesson that can make a big

impact to our LOC children. Please contact Kirsten, Kim, or Catherine if you're interested.

Upcoming Sunday School Lessons

3/7- Mary anoints Jesus

3/14- Jesus enters Jerusalem

3/21—The Last Supper

Sunday School

Sunday school continues to be available online. The 3yr-2nd grader lessons are on YouTube and the 3rd-6th graders are using Wakelet. The lessons are available all week and can be viewed when it works best with your family schedule. Going away for the weekend? Great car ride activity! Even though we cannot meet in person, we would like to stay connected as much as we can with your children and help them grow in their faith. We want kids to know that God's love for them is everlasting. If you are not signed up for Sunday school and would like to receive these links, please contact Kim at Kim.Wortz@locdelano.com.



Sunday School Packet Pick Up

March SS materials will be available for pickup starting Wednesday March 3rd. The church doors are open Mon-Thurs from 8:30-1:30pm. I will be in the office **on Thursday, March 4th from 4:30-6pm for pickup**. Contact Kim at Kim.Wortz@locdelano.com with any questions or concerns.

Fun! Fellowship! Food!

Are you ready for a great night of entertainment, food and fellowship? On Sunday, March 21 at 7:30 pm, you are invited to gather with other LOC members on Zoom for a great event to raise money for our youth! Since we cannot safely have our annual Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction fundraiser, this year we are being creative and are having a different sort of event. The night will begin with a short "program" which will include entertainment (by the youth and Marcus Hanson), youth mission trip "testimonies," and a slide show. And while this is going on, you will be able to share some great food and drinks with your family which will be delivered to your door by our youth. Money raised will help support youth going on the HS Mission Trip (those who still need to raise funds) and the Youth Room remodel project. For more info and to register, please follow the link below:

<https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/c64c9a>.



HS Mission Trip

Registration has begun for our summer 2021 HS Mission Trip to Denver, CO through **Service Learning Camps**. Assuming it is safe to travel, the trip will take place July 10-17 and we plan to fly. Registration is open to youth currently in grades 9-12 through March 3 and then if there are spaces remaining after that point, we may open

registration up to current 8th grade LOC youth and possibly other friends.

Registration and more info can be found online **through this link**. We currently have 10 youth registered and there are 20 total youth spaces. Please contact Kirsten with any question and sign up soon!



Register for Summer Camp!

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

Beginning March 1st, all church “blocks” are released to the public. If these dates are not available, find a friend and pick a week that works best for your family.

- June 27-July 2- completed grades 4-HS
- July 21-23 (Wed-Fri)- Wapo Seeds, completed grades 1-3

Use this link to register: <http://lwlbcj.com/loc> for these camps.



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.

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. Please contact our staff with any questions you have.



EVERY MEAL FIGHTING CHILD HUNGER

Sunday School Offering Project

Over 200,000 children in Minnesota do not always have access to the nutrition they need to learn and grow. Without reliable access to food – such as free and reduced meal programs at school – the risk of hunger is very real. Every Meal focuses on the weekend food gap, summers, and extended breaks when children are not able to receive meal programs at school.

STUDIES SHOW:

- One third of students have shown better grades as a results of backpack programs.
- About two thirds of participating students appear less worried about food and healthier.
- Over 50% of students demonstrate high self-esteem after receiving food from a backpack program.

Our Sunday school offerings will be collected from now until the end of the school year to help support Every Meal Fighting Child Hunger (formally Sheridan Story). ***Their mission is to help stop child hunger across Minnesota.*** Children can find a container to use at home, print this label [SS Offering project printable](#) and attach it to your container. Throughout the next couple of months, we will have drop off dates to bring your offerings to church. More details to come. If you have any questions, please contact Kim or Catherine.

Click here to learn more about Every Meal Fighting Child Hunger- <https://vimeo.com/282676484>