



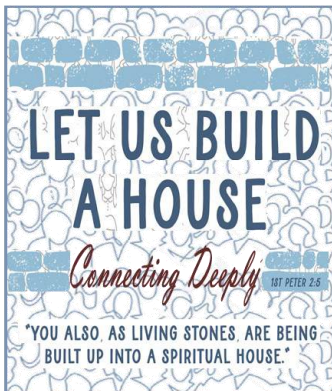
Worship

- In-person worship—
9:30 AM Sundays
- Online worship
continues, and is live-
streamed to our
[YouTube](#) and
[Facebook](#) pages



Church Council 2024

Mike Boyack (vice pres.)
Laurie Brown (sec'y.)
Billie Chock
Tim Current (treas.)
Heidi Goldbeck
Luke Jeseritz
Lisa Krause
Natasha Werner (pres.)
Jon Wissink



Come celebrate our beloved Pastor Bruce on Sunday, September 29th 9:30 AM

Let's all join and worship together at 9:30 AM. Pastor Bruce will give the sermon, there will be lots of music and we will share pictures/moments of his 8 years at Light of Christ. Join us after the service for a brunch & comedy roast, you won't want to miss. We will be serving a brunch that includes egg bakes, cheesy hashbrowns, homemade baked goods, yogurt parfait bar, and drinks. Please see the Sign-Up Genius link below to sign up to help either make food or help serve. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A4AA5A62CA64-51146165-pastor>

We also have a special gift book for Pastor Bruce. Each person/family is invited to fill out a page with a special message/drawing, etc. Pages may be picked up at the church office or by contacting Kirsten. Please have pages returned **no later than Friday, Sept. 27th at noon.**

Let's pack our church and give thanks to Pastor Bruce and Cynthia for the blessing they have been to Light of Christ.



New Member/Partner Sunday

If you or someone you know is interested in joining Light of Christ, please contact the [church office](#) for more information, or watch for information on our next reception of new members/partners on **November 10th**.

Contact us!

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



LightOfChristLutheran.com
Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

Caring Corner

(from Sue Fink of the Healing & Wholeness Committee)

Hello, Light of Christ Family! The first week of October is Mental Illness Awareness Week. The Healing and Wholeness Ministry has moved the *Walk-a-Mile-in-my-Shoes* event from May to **October 2nd** in order to collaborate with our youth and confirmation programs. As you know, sadly, mental illnesses such as anxiety and depression are now so common among our children. We encourage all to learn more and be able to support anyone struggling with their emotions and thoughts, and we feel strongly that youth and caregivers need to be equipped to recognize, come alongside, and help in these situations.

LaDonna and Kirsten have created a special evening to include Mental Health awareness and education for our kids and confirmation students, but we invite **ALL** LOC members to join in our one-mile walk at 5 PM and then enjoy pizza (funded by the Healing and Wholeness Ministry) and fellowship. We will have resources available but also encourage you to find a wealth of information on <http://www.lightofchristlutheran.com> under *Support/Mental Health*.

We will collect donations for NAMI Minnesota!

Your sign-up is important to assure we order the right amount of pizza!!! Please watch for the QR code included in the flyer being distributed via Facebook, the Beacon (*page 5*), and the bulletin so you can sign up online. If needed, you may call the church office to RSVP. Thanks!

Wednesday October 2nd

***5:00 PM - Meet in the Sanctuary at Light
of Christ for a short presentation.***

5:15 - Walk to Elm Ave and back

5:45 - PIZZA for all who walk

<<<++++++>>>

Wear green for mental health!

(See flyer on page 5 for more information and QR code to sign up)





September Fifth Sunday Contributions

For the Fifth Sunday in September, we will be collecting contributions to help buy a van for Pastor Kebin's church in Belize. We have set up a link on the [online giving page](#) for you to contribute to the September Fifth Sunday offering, or you can designate your offering for the van in the offering plate, or you can also send a check to Terri at the office. Thanks for supporting all the efforts Pastor Kebin and his team do to support those in Belize.

KIDS HOPE USA

Light of Christ has been partnering with an exciting program called KIDS HOPE USA and Delano Elementary the last two school years and it has been VERY successful. We are excited to have most of last year's volunteer mentors return and are also hoping to add a few more mentors. Volunteer LOC mentors spend **one hour mentoring one child, one day a week at the elementary school during the school year and we do our best to work with your schedule.** Delano Elementary staff selects the students. The primary goal of this one hour is **building a friendship relationship with the student, having fun, and to help the child feel more comfortable in their school setting.** We are happy to tell you more about the program if you are interested in joining us. This very successful program has been helping kids for over 25 years and is located in more than 40 states including MN. We look forward to talking with you about Kids Hope. If you are interested, please talk to Terri at the LOC office and she will connect you with us. Thank you!



Attention LOC Gardeners!

If your garden is overflowing with goodness, the Delano Helping Hands Food Shelf is happy to take any extra produce off your hands! You can drop off produce at the Food Shelf between 5-6 on Tuesdays or 9-11 on Thursdays. If those times don't work for you, call us at 763-972-4455 and leave a message. We will get back to you to schedule another drop off time. Or, text Jo Williamson at 602-501-7903 to make arrangements.

Volunteer in Love INC Heartland Thrift Stores

It takes many hands to support our Thrift Stores. Curious to learn more? **Fill out an interest form today:** bit.ly/loveincvolunteer



Serve a Meal at Love INC Heartland

Build community by serving (or financially sponsoring) a meal at our Fresh Start Program beginning in September! Fresh Start is a series of life skills courses we offer to our neighbors in need. Before each class, we serve a meal to promote a sense of family. **Sign Up Today:** bit.ly/fsmealtrain

Call on the Light of Christ Prayer Chain

If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, please feel free to engage the Light of Christ Prayer Chain. [Email the church office](#), which is preferred, or call 763-972-2400 with your request, which remains confidential. The LOC Prayer Chain will 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.





Light of Christ is turning 40!

2025 is the 40th anniversary of Light of Christ. The Church Council is planning to appoint a 40th Anniversary Committee of four to six people to spearhead our celebration. We'd like to have an anniversary committee that reflects the make-up of the congregation: male and female, different ages, long-time members/ partners and newer members/partners, and so forth. If you'd like to be considered to serve on this committee, please let a member of the Church Council know of your willingness to serve. Thank you!

Artistic? Graphics your thing? All ages!

Our Stewardship Team is looking for someone to create a logo for our upcoming fall stewardship campaign. The theme is, ***Together We Thrive: Time, Talents and Treasure.*** So, all of those words need to be in there. The first words could be displayed a bit larger than the next three.



We're going to be emphasizing a growing theme, so preferably something that has leaves or shows growth. Deadline for submission is **September 25th**. Please send to committee chairperson Tim Johnson at tdale57@gmail.com. Thank you for sharing your talents!!

LOC Monthly Income - Actual versus Budget

Year To Date Summary – August 2024

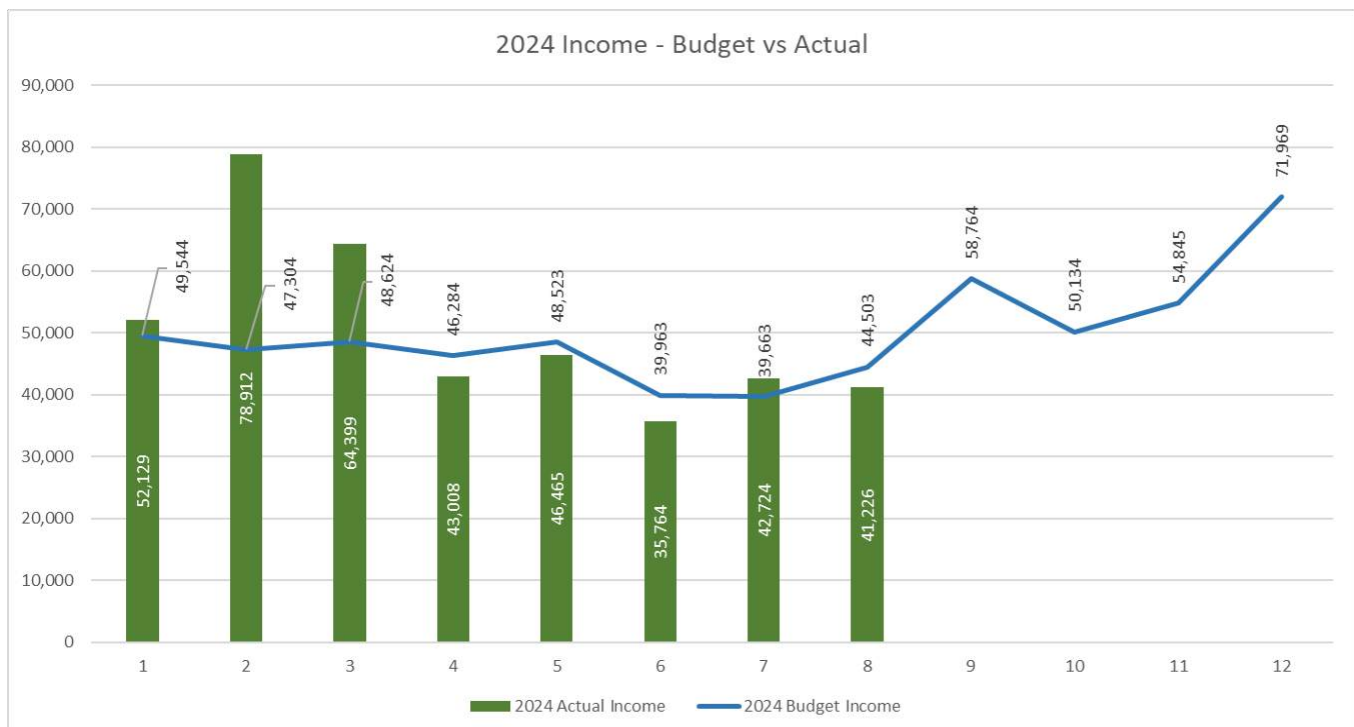
- YTD Budget \$364,407
- YTD Actual \$404,626
- Year to Date Actual Income \$40,219 better than Budget



MEETING MINUTES

Stay Informed!

The current Church Council meeting minutes can be found on the [church website](#).



Walk a Mile in My Shoes

**Light of Christ Lutheran Church
Wednesday, October 2 at 5 pm**



We'll have a short program followed by a walk. Parents are encouraged to participate with their children/youth.

*5:00 pm - Meet in the Sanctuary at Light of Christ for a short presentation.

*5:15 pm - Leave LOC for the "Walk a Mile in my Shoes" event. We will walk the sidewalk from LOC to the cemetery down County Line Road and back.

*5:45 pm - Pizza and fellowship

Please RSVP (scan the QR code to the right) if you will be joining us for free pizza dinner served at 5:45 pm.



*The first week of October is Mental Illness Awareness Week.
Join the Healing and Wholeness Committee and Children and Youth
Ministries to bring awareness to mental health.*

Wear green for mental health!



Women's Bible Study

The women's bible study **meets the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month, 6:30 – 8:00 PM at LOC.**

The first Monday of the month we will meet in the Living Room. The third Monday of the month we will meet in room 106. If you need to

leave by 7:30 that is okay. We will use the last 30 minutes for social time if people want to spend some time visiting. We will meet through April 7. We will not meet in December. If you can't make it every time that is okay! We want you to come when you can.

The study we will be doing for this session is "Meeting the Spirit" by Douglas Connelly. If you are interested in participating, please respond to Lindsay Lindall at lindsay.lindall@gmail.com We hope to see you there!

THE HOOT

**September 2024 Newsletter
for the OWLS (*Older Wiser
Lutherans*) by Sue Fink**



The cooler fall weather is upon us and with it some fun and interesting outings/offerings:

- ♦ **October 17th** we head to Carlson Orchard near Winsted to purchase apples, pies, and gifts, and have lunch at their newly owned restaurant. Details to follow.
- ♦ Bible Study resumed **September 15th** after Sunday service at 11:00 AM. We'll skip September 29th for Pastor Bruce and Cynthia's farewell celebration. We continue our study of *Growing Older and Wiser*, Lesson 5. Please invite others and contact Sue Fink if you need a book or lesson copies.

Thanks to Jinnelle, Lona, and Jewel who have volunteered to help plan our monthly gatherings. Please share any ideas you have with them.

I encourage you to check our bulletin board by the Fellowship Hall for events and services announced in the Delano Senior Center Newsletter. Please consider attending a NAMI Class – "Understanding Anxiety in Older Adults" on **Tuesday, September 24th** at 10-11:30 AM.

Adult Choir has resumed

Adult choir rehearsals have begun. All levels are welcome. We rehearse every Tuesday, 6:30-7:30 PM. Attendance at all rehearsals is not mandatory. We will sing Sunday, September 29th at Pastor Bruce's farewell service as well. If you are interested in being a part of choir in general or just that performance, come to rehearsal! Contact Katie with any questions.



Friday Night Lights!

This fall, we will have our first Friday Night Lights (FNL) event on **October 4th**. These nights, for grades 7-12, are open to all youth... so invite a friend and come hang out at church! We'll have snacks, pizza, night games and more! Since we have our Confirmation Retreat on November 1-3 (for grades 7-10), that will take place of our November FNL. More details to come about future FNL dates. Here are the details for October:

- **Who:** 7-12 grade youth and friends!
- **Where:** Living Room at Light of Christ
- **When:** Friday, October 4th
- **Time:** 7:00-10:00 PM
- **Sign Up:** [Online by 4 PM the day of the event](#)



Explorers

Explorers are our 3-year-olds -- 2nd graders that are dismissed from Sunday worship service following the Children's Message. They gather for approximately 20 minutes for an age-appropriate Bible story and activity. We have several dedicated people who have agreed to take the lead teacher position for Explorers. Keeping with our Safe Sanctuary policy to keep kids safe, we do need a second adult to be present with the class and to assist as needed. Please sign up to help keep our Explorers exploring God's Word. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F48A4AB22A4FCCF8-50886125-explorers>

First Communion

We will be offering First Communion this fall on **October 27** (*Preparing for First Communion* on October 6 and 13 from 6-7 PM). We will also be offering First Communion in the spring on **April 13** (*Preparing for First Communion* on March 30 and April 6 from 6-7 PM). Please register **by September 23** at <https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/3dbef5>



God's Global Barnyard

Global Barnyard is part of the ELCA Good Gifts program. An animal can make a world of difference for a family in need. Some animals provide food to eat, fertilizer to grow crops, wool to make clothes, and offspring to sell at the market. With one gift you can help a family escape the cycle of hunger and poverty for good.

Last year the children of Light of Christ, with your help and support, raised **\$1524.52** for the Global Barnyard. There are several ways you can help.

- ⇒ **PIGGY BANKS:** Take a piggy bank – fill it and bring it back **October 27**.
- ⇒ **GIVE ONLINE:** Go to [Light of Christ's home page](#) – click the **GIVE** tab – it will take you to the link to give online.
- ⇒ **NOISY OFFERING:** Save up those coins and bring them on **Sunday, October 27** for our Noisy Offering! What a treat to help others get out of poverty!



Confirmation Corner

Welcome to a new year! This year we have 63 youth in our Confirmation ministry (grades 7-9) along with 21 adult Guides/ Subs and many HS Junior Guides! We also have a great group of 10th graders that are going through their Mentoring sessions before being confirmed next spring. *Thank you for keeping these ministries, volunteers, youth, and their families in your daily prayers throughout the year!* If you are reading this and want to support the youth and families involved in this ministry, we ALWAYS welcome donations to our scholarship fund...this mainly helps with more expensive things like retreats, camps, and trips. **THANK YOU** for your partnership in ministry (and support of our youth)!

New to Confirmation this year!

- **New Schedule:** Confirmation will now start on Wednesdays at **6:15 PM** (and still go until 8:00 PM). We will just begin our games 15 minutes earlier in order to allow more time for small groups. This also means that SLICE will be earlier (from 5:45-6:15 PM each night that we meet). This change came from feedback from our Guides and we're excited to see how it positively impacts our relationships and Confirmation ministry!
- **7th and 8th grade Mission Trip!** In Summer 2025 we will have our first mission trip for completed grades 7 and 8. This trip will take place in the Twin Cities from a Sunday-Thursday (dates TBD). Watch for more details coming soon and plan to attend our Info Meeting on Wednesday, October 30th (8-9 PM)! This is also the day that registration will open.
- **HS Jr. Guides:** This year our HS Jr. Guides will have a little different schedule... they will begin in the Living Room at 6:45 each week with Heidi Wuerger (and one additional adult) to have fellowship time and talk about the night. Then, the HS youth will join Confirmation groups during small group time from 7:20-8:00 PM. We invite all HS youth to join us!

Fall Confirmation Retreat!

We are SO excited to have a fall Confirmation retreat again this year (after not being able to find dates that worked last year). All youth (grades 7-10) are expected to attend (and truly won't want to miss out!). Here are the details:

When? 5:30 PM, Friday, November 1st – 1:00 PM, Sunday, November 3rd

Where? Lake Wapogasset Lutheran Bible Camp in Amery, WI

Who? Grades 7-10 and adult volunteers from LOC

What? An incredible faith and relationship-building weekend filled with campfires, games, important conversations, time with friends and lots of good food 😊

Why? We know that these longer times together provide a unique opportunity to grow deeper together in our friendships and relationship with God. We love our Wednesday nights, and yet these retreats are often "where the magic" happens – that so many youth talk about in their Faith Statements when they are confirmed! For that reason, we say that these retreats are "required" for all Confirmation youth, because we know how important and significant they are! Please put it on your calendar and make it a priority... you'll be glad you did.

Cost? \$225/youth – this covers the retreat fee (\$185), transportation, supplies, snacks and adult costs (our adults attend free). If this fee is prohibitive, **PLEASE** reach out to Kirsten. We want all youth to attend, no matter what. Partial or full scholarships are available!!!

Join us on October 2nd... all are welcome!

On Wednesday, October 2nd we will be having a special event to raise awareness for Mental Health. We encourage all Confirmation youth and their families to participate before Confirmation that night! Here's the schedule for that day:

- **5:00 PM** - Meet in the Sanctuary at Light of Christ for a short presentation
- **5:15 PM** - Leave LOC for the "Walk a Mile in my Shoes" event (to raise awareness and support for mental health). We will walk the sidewalk from LOC to Elm Ave. and back. Each participant will receive some fun things and snacks!!
- **5:45 PM** - Pizza and fellowship (pizza is free this night – paid for by our Healing and Wholeness Team)
- **6:15-8:00 PM** - Confirmation Teaching Night (topic will be mental health)

Other notes:

- All are welcome but we strongly encourage Confirmation youth and families to attend before Confirmation that night!
- This will be the activity that night for Pathfinders (4th-6th grade). Parents are encouraged to stay and participate!!
- [Sign up here to register for pizza that night!](#)



On Wednesday, September 18th, we had our small group kick-off night for Confirmation, which included small group time, some volleyball, minute-to-win-it games, and snacks! We have 63 youth registered so far (several new families have joined) and are excited for another great year of learning, growth, and fun with our friends! Thanks for your support of our Confirmation ministries.



8th Grade Small Group Kick-Off Night



Confirmation 9/18/24

Confirmation Calendar

(All events are 6:15-8:00 PM unless noted otherwise. See more details included on this page.)



9/25 = Feed My Starving Children, Chanhassen (6:00-9:30 PM)

10/2 = Teaching Night & Walk A Mile Event (see article for more info)

10/9 = Teaching Night

10/16 = No Confirmation

10/23 = Teaching Night

10/30 = Teaching Night (and Mission Trip Info Meeting/Registration Opens!)

11/1-11/3 = Fall Retreat for grades 7-10!



Trunk or Treat this Fall!

We are looking at hosting Trunk or Treat at Light of Christ again this fall! This is a fun, family event where kids of all ages can dress up and go “trunk to trunk” to get a treat and have fun at church! Right now we are considering Sunday, October 27th from 3-5 PM. We would be looking for people/families to put together a theme-based trunk and would also need donations to hang out (candy, pencils, snacks, etc). If you are interested in this event or possibly even working with Kirsten on some of the details, please contact her at Kirsten.Kelly@locdelano.com!

Help Fill the Fridge!!!

As we all know, "Food is Fellowship!" And this includes having snacks and drinks for the youth as we gather throughout the year. We invite any donations of drinks or snacks for the Living Room that can be available to our youth when we gather on Wednesdays or for special events. Whether it's leftover soda or juice boxes from this summer (or grad parties) or something you're willing to purchase... we'd love to have our fridge and cupboards filled with drinks/snacks for upcoming Wednesday nights! Donations can be dropped off in the Living Room anytime. If you would like a charitable donation receipt, please contact Kirsten. Thanks for your partnership in ministry!

