

The Beacon

Pastor Tim Wheatley

June 2, 2025

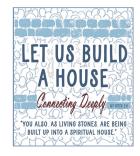
Worship

- In-person worship— 9:30 AM Sundays
- Online worship is live-streamed to our <u>YouTube</u> and <u>Facebook</u> pages



Church Council 2025

Laurie Brown (sec'y.) Billie Chock (pres.) Tim Current (treas.) Pat Czock Brandt Dinger Heidi Goldbeck Luke Jeseritz Lisa Krause (v. pres.) Ryan Tool Pastor Tim Wheatley



Contact us!

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



LightOfChristLutheran.com Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com

Sign up for the Annual Church Picnic

Join us for fellowship and fun at the Church Picnic on **Tuesday, June 10th from 6:00-7:30PM**. We will be serving dinner in the front of the church. Let us know how many will be attending! Picnic food includes: chicken (grilled or breaded), Jojo potatoes, coleslaw, and bread catered by Coborn's. All you need to bring is a lawn chair and your appetite! Sign



up **by June 8th** on the SignUp Genius link here if you can attend. Please indicate if you would prefer grilled or breaded chicken. <u>https://</u>www.signupgenius.com/go/5080D48AFA729A1FF2-56944617-church

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Share Your Feedback!

A worship survey was sent out last Monday to gauge interest and get feedback for the possibility of adding a second service in the future. <u>Click this link</u> to complete the survey **by June 2nd** if you haven't already done so! Thank you!

Thank you to Kids Hope Mentors!

We want to thank our Kids Hope mentors who have met with their Delano Elementary student each week for an hour for this school year. Their compassion and commitment to help their student experience a close relationship and feel the special connection has been great. A number of the kids have much going on in their lives and so look forward to the connection they feel with their mentor. Thank you to Wendy Caslavka, Jinnelle Weis, Stan Droneck, Paul Nelson, Lisa Hemmer, Lisa Spencer, JoMarie Williamson, LaDonna Ekern, Tracy Herkenhoff, Cheryl Minor and Jon Krieg. Thank you also to the prayer partners who have kept the mentors and their kiddos in their prayers. If there are those of you who would like to be a mentor next school year, we would love to have you join us. <u>Contact Lona Jose</u> if you are interested.

THANKYOU

OUTREACH

June Fifth Sunday Offering for Kids Hope



In past years, we have donated in June to missionary

Karen Anderson in Chile. She is retired and no longer in Chile. This year our Fifth Sunday contributions in June will go to Kids Hope, a national ministry organization that has been working for 30 years to connect needy students in a local school district with 1-1 mentor volunteers from a local church. Our LOC Kids Hope volunteer mentors and three others from local Delano churches meet with their student for one hour each week for the entire school year. Our mentors have been working with Delano Elementary to help students who are in need of relationship building and developing confidence and trust. These mentors are making a wonderful difference in these kids' lives. The feedback from Delano teachers and the students has been so positive and touching. Our church contributes annually to Kids Hope to support their work in 33 states engaging 17,000 students, mentors and prayer partners in 750 programs.

You can contribute during the entire month of June by <u>clicking this link</u>, placing your check in the collection plate on Sundays (note for "*Fifth Sunday*"), or you can send your contribution to Terri in the church office. Thank you for helping these children who are so in need of this one-to-one relationship with their mentor.



year

Put Your Faith in Motion – Join Our Food Distribution Ministry!

Did you know that each second Monday of the month, Light of Christ helps pack and distribute hundreds of boxes of food for neighbors in need? It's part of a vital ministry in partnership with five other churches, local farmers, and Second Harvest Food Bank—and **you can be a part of it**.

We need volunteers for two teams:

- Morning Crew 9:45 AM at Our Father's Lutheran Church, Rockford Join members from several area churches to pack approximately 700 food boxes. It's organized, energizing, and usually finished by noon.
- Afternoon Crew 3:30 PM in the LOC parking lot Help distribute about 90 food boxes to our guests and neighbors. It's a wonderful way to meet people, share kindness, and put faith into practice.

Whether you're looking to connect with others, make a tangible impact, or simply do something meaningful, this ministry offers all that and more.

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." – Mahatma Gandhi

Sign up online to join a team for **Monday, June 9**th. Two opportunities:

- 9:45 AM Food box packing. Our Father's Lutheran in Rockford. Sign up here: (<u>https://</u> <u>www.signupgenius.com/</u> <u>go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-food</u>)
- 3:30 PM Food distribution. Here at LOC. Sign up here: (<u>https://www.signupgenius.com/</u> go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-food1)

Questions? Contact Tim Johnson at <u>tim.johnson@locdelano.com</u>.

Shoe Collection/Recycling!

Do you have tennis shoes around home that you'd like to get rid of? We encourage you to drop them off at church to be recycled/ donated through "Got Sneakers"! <u>Shoes can be in ANY condi-</u><u>tion as long as they are athletic shoes</u>. Old shoes will be recycled and newer ones will raise a small amount of money for our youth (a max of \$7/pair if they're in good shape). A collection bin can be found in the Fellowship Hall or Narthex at LOC. (Note: this project is being coordinated by Anneka Zaun for her National Honor Society project. Anneka went to Chicago last summer and is attending the N. Shore mission trip this summer!)

CHURCH NEWS

Light of Christ Columbarium – Ultimate Gift to Your Loved Ones

In April the Light of Christ OWLs hosted a lunch and learn sharing information on "End of Life Planning." Light of Christ is blessed to have been able to highlight our own **Columbarium and Memorial Garden** as a wonderful option in end-of-life planning. Offering a Columbarium on the grounds of Light of Christ fulfills the church's mission to oversee the spiritual life of its congregation from baptism through life to death. Beautiful landscaping provides a peaceful space for prayer, remembrance and meditation.

The Light of Christ structure houses 96 niches with each niche built to accommodate two urns. Current and past members of Light of Christ and members of their immediate families are eligible to choose the Columbarium as their final resting place.

We invite you to take a moment to visit our **Columbarium and Memorial Garden** and experience firsthand the tranquility and beauty it has to offer. Then consider the gift you give to your family and loved ones by making end-of-life plans prior to death. A gracious gift providing peace of mind and a forever beautiful place of remembrance.

If you have questions or would like additional information regarding the Light of Christ Columbarium and Memorial Garden contact the following Board of Trustee members (Ann Bassett; Tom Sebelien; Jinnelle Weis) or the church office.

Director of Children & Family Ministry Position

The Personnel Committee has posted this 20 hr/weekposition on the <u>LOC website</u>. Do you know strong candidates who should apply? Our kids deserve a leader with high energy and a huge heart — just what LaDonna dedicated to the youngsters for the past 4 years. The church office will be closed on Fridays through August 29th.

The HOOT!! OWLS Newsletter by Sue Fink

- With the warm weather back, it's time for some outdoor fun with the OWLS!! Your planning committee has lots of great events ahead!
- June 26th, 10:00 AM: Bike/hike/yard games at Lake Rebecca Park. BBQ potluck for lunch.
- July 17th, 9:00 AM: Annual Art Fair at Munsinger Gardens in St. Cloud. There will be over 60 artists, food, live music.

Ecclesiastes 3:1 "There is a season (a time appointed) for everything and a time for every delight and event or purpose under heaven-" Amplified Version









Called to Care: Everyday Acts of Healing

Our church has shared many great resources on health and mental well-being. But healing isn't just the work of professionals—it's a calling we all share.

From loneliness to grief, many people need simple acts of care. As followers of Jesus, we're invited to be present, compassionate, and connected.

Here are ten everyday ways to offer Christ's love—small acts that can bring real healing:

10 Acts of Compassion & Care (We Are All Agents of Healing)

1. Greet Someone New or Alone

Be the first to say hello, offer a handshake, or sit beside someone who looks alone. *"Practice hospitality."* – Romans 12:13

2. Send a Handwritten Note or Card

A brief message of encouragement, sympathy, or celebration goes a long way. *"Encourage one another and build each other up."* – 1 Thessalonians 5:11

3. Ask—and Really Listen

Ask "How are you?" and give space to truly listen, without rushing to fix or advise. *"Be quick to listen, slow to speak."* – James 1:19

4. Invite Someone for Coffee or a Meal

A simple shared moment breaks isolation and builds trust. *"They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts."* – Acts 2:46

5. Walk With Someone Through Grief

You don't need to say the perfect words. Your presence is the gift. *"Mourn with those who mourn."* – Romans 12:15

6. Offer a Ride or Run an Errand

Transportation or small tasks can be a barrier for those who are ill, aging, or anxious. *"Carry each other's burdens."* – Galatians 6:2

7. Text or Call Someone You Haven't Seen in a While

Reach out to someone who has been missing from church or community. *"If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them wanders away…"* – Matthew 18:12

8. Affirm Someone's Gift or Character

Notice and name the good you see in others. It heals more than you realize. *"Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement."* – Ephesians 4:29

9. Pray for (and with) Someone

If appropriate, ask if you can pray with them in the moment—or keep them in prayer throughout your week. *"Pray for one another, that you may be healed."* – James 5:16

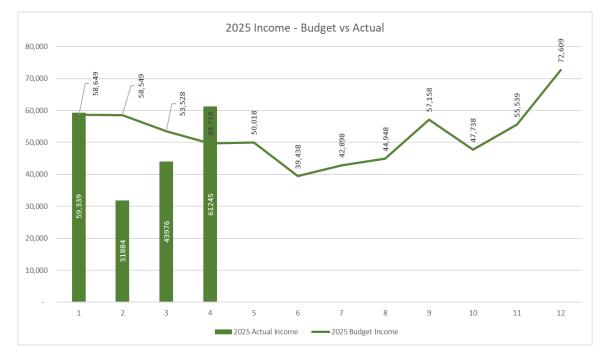
10. Offer a Safe Space Without Judgment

Sometimes the most Christlike thing we can do is just to be a place of safety. *"Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you."* – Romans 15:7

Submitted by Tim Johnson



LOC Monthly Income - Actual versus Budget



Year To Date Summary – April 2025

- YTD Budget \$220,444
- YTD Actual \$196,444
- Year to Date Actual is \$24,000 below budget
- Increased giving in April



A Church That Thrives Together

Light of Christ is a place where lives are being shaped, faith is growing, and people are being served. But ministry doesn't happen without resources. Currently, we're running behind financially—and we need everyone to lean in. If you're behind on your pledge, we encourage you to catch up. If you're able to go above and beyond, your gift will be a powerful act of worship and support. Let's rise to this moment together, joyfully and faithfully.

Generosity is not about how much you give, but how much love you put into giving." – Mother Teresa

☐ "Freely you have received; freely give." – Matthew 10:8



Centralized Sign Up

We have a new way of sharing volunteer sign-ups… all in one spot! Scan this QR code or go to this link



(<u>www.linktr.ee/lightofchristvolunteers</u>) to view the new *LOC Volunteer Sign Up Page*. We hope this will make it easier to find the sign-ups and to volunteer!

Donate from Your Smart Phone



Light of Christ offers a mobile version of our online giving page to make it easy for you to give anytime from your smart phone. Simply scan the image you see here using your phone's QR code reader or go to the <u>church</u>

website and locate the online giving page.



WHAT'S IN THE BOX?

This is a question that Pastor Tim will not be able to answer until he opens the box in worship. During the children's message, Pastor Tim receives the box, opens it and then will connect what is in the box to the children's message. Does your child think they can stump Pastor Tim? Here's the chance to find out! Sign up your child (1 year old-2nd grade) for a Sunday when you will be in worship. You can pick up the box the Sunday prior or during the week (the box will be on a shelf in the church library). If you want, your child can bring the item on Sunday and sneak it into the box without Pastor Tim seeing it before worship. Sign up at this link: <u>https://</u>www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F48A4AB22A4FCCF8-56773893-thebox

Volunteer or Donate Supplies for VBS

We are looking for volunteers the week of VBS to be a Crew Leader or Jr Crew Leader! We are also looking for volunteers to help with decorating and clean up. Please review both Sign-Up Genius links below and come join in our fun!! We hope to see you there! Thank you for helping to make VBS a great experience for our kids at Light of Christ! Please contact Brittany Hartnett at <u>loc.vbs@yahoo.com</u> with any questions. Thank you, *Children & Family Ministry Team*

Donations: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A44A5AD2FA4F4C34-56878197-vbs2025 Volunteers: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A44A5AD2FA4F4C34-56878197-vbs2025

7th/8th Grade Service-Learning Trip

Our very first Light of Christ 7th/8th Grade Service-



Learning Trip is taking place on June 8-12. There will be 9 youth and 3 adults serving in the Twin Cities and staying at a church in St. Paul for the week. Please keep the following trip participants in your prayers as we prepare for our trip; serve, learn and grow during the trip; and then come home to share our experiences and what we learned with others. Thanks for your partnership in ministry!

Looking for Mountains of Fun? Will receive a Kids who sign up by June 20th will receive a Kids who sign up by June 20th will receive a

7th/8th Grade Trip Participants: Meg Arneson Bryn Beyer Emilia Bidle Cora Boyack Mike Boyack (Adult Leader) Weston Gabrick Kirsten Kelly (Adult Leader) Kim Knisely (Adult Leader) Maddie Knisley Sophie Kopperud Noah Rice Pastor Tim Wheatley (Adult Leader) Cole Wiyninger

free t-shirt!