

The Beacon

Pastor Tim Wheatley

June 30, 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 Grace and Peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,

One of the things I firmly believe is that God is always calling the church to new things to speak to us in the here and now. The church is called to be God's hands and feet in this world. Which is why we must try new things, because the World's needs change year by year and generation by generation. That is not to say that all change is good, but we do need to be able to preach and teach the Gospel to the world in



ways that the world can hear. Yet in some ways we haven't changed at all—we worship the same God, we try our best to practice the same love, and how we do it is remarkably similar.

When you read the book of Acts you see these energized people, who love Jesus and who Jesus loves, and they try to witness to the world. They pray, listen to God and their neighbor—but they don't know exactly how to be church... so they try some things. Things that work they do again; things that don't (and there are plenty of those too) they stop. This is how the church has worked from its earliest days. I don't know what they would have called it back then, but nowadays we call it experimentation. Listen to God, try something, reflect on how it went, and then go back to listening to God. It is the cycle of our Christian life, and what I try to do all the time! You will hear me talk about it again and again because I think in this changing world, we need to try things to reach out to all the people!

This next Sunday we are trying an experiment called, "Delano 4<sup>th</sup> of July Worship". And you may say—you just want to sleep in on July 6<sup>th</sup>. Well, you are not wrong, but that is not the actual point—I would be far more comfortable worshiping in our space where I know what is going to happen and Katie has spent many hours making the tech function well. But the people who join me here are also the people who are comfortable with the church. Sometimes, to spread the Love of God beyond the church walls, we are called to go beyond the church walls and spread God's love. Which is what we are trying.

I talked to council and staff about this and as we listened to God we thought, what a great way to be seen by more people and bring the message of God out into the celebration of this community.

Please join us in this experiment on **Sunday**, **July 6**<sup>th</sup> **at 10:00 AM** at the entertainment tent in Central Park. Come and invite your friends to join us (an easier ask than getting them in the church building). **Remember to bring your lawn chairs!** Or join us in this experiment by praying for us, that God would leave the building with us and that people who need to hear God's forgiveness may join us down there this next Sunday.

See you in the Pews (or lawn chairs in this case!),

Pastor Tim

## OUTREACH

# Thank You to All Our LOC Food Shelf Volunteers

Thank you to our nineteen LOC June food shelf volunteers. Your help provides so much for those who need our help. Thank you also to those who manage the food shelf, including our LOC member, JoMarie Williamson. It is so well managed. Thanks also to those who contribute food and money to keep our Delano food shelf running well. Our next LOC volunteer month will be December. We look forward to working with you!

#### 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</u> <u>ANY condition as long as they are athletic</u> <u>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!)





#### Mental Health Connect: A Compassionate First Step Toward Healing

Navigating mental health challenges can be overwhelming, but you don't have to face them alone. Mental Health Connect (MHC) offers free, confidential, and individualized support to help you or your loved ones access the right resources for your unique situation. Whether you're seeking counseling, addressing substance use concerns, or simply need someone to talk to, MHC's trained Navigators are here to assist. Reach out by calling or texting 612-642-1220, or email-

#### ing navigator@mhconnect.org,

Monday through Friday, 9 AM to 5 PM. You can also fill out a simple contact form online (scan the QR code). A caring Navigator will respond promptly to guide you toward the support you need.



#### Lead A Group At Fresh Start

We are seeking to add more facilitators and small group leaders to our Fresh Start Program! Learn more about this life transformational ministry by calling 763-999-7085 or visit bit.ly/loveinchlfs

#### Join Us At Golf For Love - Sept. 15

Tee off with us at Albion Ridges on September 15, 2025, for a day of friendly competition, community, and purpose. Event details, team tickets, and sponsorship packages available at <u>bit.ly/golfforlove25</u>



## **CHURCH NEWS**



Monday through Thursday 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM

#### The HOOT!! OWLS Newsletter by Sue Fink



With the warm weather back, it's time for some outdoor fun with the OWLS!!

 July 17<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM: Annual Art Fair at Munsinger Gardens in St. Cloud.
There will be over 60 artists food live multiple over 60 artists.

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



#### Follow Us on Instagram!

Check out our new Instagram page! Our handle is **@delanolightofchrist**. Scan the QR code to get directly to the page.

#### Director of Children & Family Ministry Position



The Personnel Committee has posted this 20 hr/week position 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.

#### 2026 Offering Envelopes

A growing number of members contribute weekly or monthly using electronic giving methods. However, we understand that



many prefer placing an offering envelope in the plate. To eliminate the *purchased-but-unclaimed* envelopes that are wasted, we're asking each family that <u>wants</u> pre-printed envelopes to request them from the church office by <u>AUGUST 11<sup>th</sup></u>. Either email <u>Terri in the church office</u> or call 763-972-2400. This "OPT IN" method will greatly benefit the office supplies budget. Thank you!

If you've already been receiving pre-printed envelopes each year, you will remain on the list until you request otherwise.

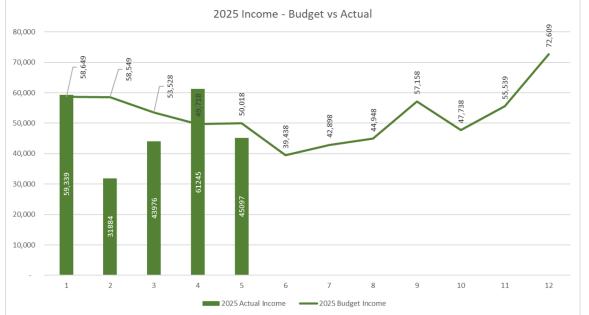
#### **Belize Adult/Family Mission Trip 2026**

We will be going back for our third mission trip to Bella Vista, Belize on Saturday, February 28 through March 7, 2026. We will be again hosting a Vacation Bible School, hosting a health clinic, worshiping and serving dinner at Pastor Kebin Rosa's church, going on home visits, working with the Bella Vista School on an education initiative, and also helping with some church projects. Please text or email Jennifer Grant if you are interested or have guestions (612.226.8181 or (Jpconnection.jg@gmail.com). We will be having our first meeting in August. We would love to have you prayerfully consider this lifechanging opportunity to serve our brothers and sisters in Christ.



## **CHURCH NEWS**

## LOC Monthly Income - Actual versus Budget



#### Year To Date Summary – May 2025

- YTD Budget \$270,462
- YTD Actual \$241,541
- Year to Date Actual is \$28,921 below budget
- May giving below budget

## 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

#### **June Game Nights**

The three game nights on Wednesdays in June were a lot of fun and grew in numbers each week! Look for more game nights to come next fall!

(picture is from the June 25<sup>th</sup> game night)



# Summer Youth Activity

## Nights are back!

We invite youth to join us for a fun night of games, friends, food and fun on the following dates:

- Monday, July 21
- Monday, August 25

On each of the above nights, we'll have 2 different gathering times:

- 6:00-7:30 PM = Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders
- 7:30-9:00 PM = Incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders • and up (including college-aged youth)

Friends are welcome and these nights are FREE (thanks to the support of our congregation). Hope to see you there!



Youth Activitu Summer

# Confirmation Registration

**Confirmation** (7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grade; 2025-2026 year): Early registration is now open at link below. Save \$20 if paid in full by August 1<sup>st</sup>. All registrations are due by August 15<sup>th</sup>. https://

lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/ Confirmation2025-26



# North Shore Mission Trip **Prayer Partners**

Each summer we ask our congregation family



to pray for our service trip participants as we prepare and then also while we are on our trip. We give each prayer partner an itinerary so that they know what we're up to each day and then encourage them to attend our return worship service after the trip (which is on August 3<sup>rd</sup> this year). This summer we are looking for approximately 32 people who will commit to praying for our HS youth and adults as we head to the North Shore to serve, grow and learn from July 26<sup>th</sup> – August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Click here to complete the short form to indicate your interest. Thanks for your partnership in ministry!



## 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-2<sup>nd</sup> 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: https:// www.signupgenius.com/

go/10C0F48A4AB22A4FCCF8-56773893-thebox

# **Looking for Mountains of Fun?**







**You Otter Be Here!** 

# Sunday, July 13th – Wednesday, July 16th

## 5:00PM - 7:15PM

#### https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/TrueNorth

Supplies Needed:

Donations: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A44A5AD2FA4F4C34-56877244-vbs2025

Artificial Christmas Trees: We are looking for artificial Christmas trees to borrow to make our main display look like a real forest! (The trees will only be used for decoration and will not be used for any activities). Borrowed tress will be available for pickup at the church immediately after VBS and throughout July during normal office hours. Signups for trees are included in the above donations link.

#### Volunteers Needed:

We are still looking for two crew leaders, junior crew leaders and volunteers to help with decorating and clean up. We hope to see you there!

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