

The Beacon



Pastor Bruce Kuenzel

August 24, 2020

Worship

All worship services will be recorded and posted on the church website so you can watch and stay connected each week. Online worship will continue until the restrictions for large group gatherings are lifted.



Church Council 2020

Kylee Amdor Wes Aylsworth Carmen Hanson Jennifer Hinker Jon Holzer Elizabeth Kohlhof Dan Langner Tom Sebelien Stacy VanCura Pastor Bruce Kuenzel

The Marks of Discipleship

- **₽** Pray daily
- ⊕ Worship weekly
- P Read the Bible
- Serve at or beyond **Light of Christ**
- P Relate to others for spiritual growth
- d Give of my time, talents and resources

Contact us!

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









Help Support August Fifth Sunday Cause

August 30th is a "Fifth Sunday." Donations specifically designated for Fifth Sunday offering will be supporting the ELCA missionary, Karen Anderson, in Chile, See more detailed information of her latest efforts in Chile in a separate congregational email appeal letter sent last week and on the church website and Facebook page. Karen Anderson did a temple talk during the outdoor service on August 23rd to share information on her ministry. For more

details on EPES programs, please view the attachments and video below:





EPES Overview

May 2020 Newsletter

Stories of Hope

There also is a video EPES Celebrates 35 Years that you can view at: https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=aVN44QxisqU&t=8s



Sponsored by NourishingHOPE Food Drop and Second Harvest Heartland

Free

Boxes of fresh produce and dairy products will be available for drive through pick up on a first come, first served basis All are welcome

Tuesday, September 1st 3pm -until gone

Locations for pick up

Corcoran

St. Thomas Catholic Church parking lot

Delano

Light of Christ Lutheran Church parking lot

St. Michael Colonial Mall

Montrose

Montrose United Methodist Church parking lot

Rockford

Our Father's Lutheran Church parking lot

Buffalo

Buffalo Covenant Church parking lot

Appropriate distancing and covid mitigation practices will be employed

OUTREACH

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 lochrist@frontiernet.net.. 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 adult30-6060-100
This outreach is provided by the Healing and Wholeness Ministry.

Parent Support Group

Many parents are experiencing feelings of anxiety and uncertainty as we plan for the upcoming school year. If you would like to learn more about Light of Christ's Christ-centered parent support group starting this fall, please email our facilitators, MJ Pearson(mipearson.msw@gmail.com) and Catherine Borman (cathorman@gmail.com). This group will follow social distancing protocol and will meet outside. We will meet in our outdoor worship space so that parents of young children can utilize the playground during our meetings. Please let us know your preference for meeting time whether it be a specific evening during the week, every other Saturday morning or Sunday afternoon.

Be a Star!

Our staff continues to welcome kids, youth, families and/or adults of all ages to help us with our video recording for worship! Parts



of worship that we've been looking for include the Lord's Prayer, Apostle's Creed and First Reading. Confirmation youth can use this for Service Hours and HS youth could use this for NHS hours. Contact Kirsten Kelly or Katie Kohler if you'd like to participate and submit a recording!

CARING CORNER



Created by Light of Christ Healing and Wholeness Ministry

We pray for and applaud all you Light of Christ parents who are doing the very best you can in the midst of the pandemic and the societal unrest. This week's "Mental Health Wellness Tips for Quarantine" are for you. (unknown author is a PhD from NY who specializes in School and Clinical Psychology)

- Expect behavioral issues in children, and respond gently. We are all struggling with disruption in routine, none more than children, who rely on routines constructed by others to make them feel safe and to know what comes next. Expect increased anxiety, worries and fears, nightmares, difficulty separating or sleeping, testing limits, and meltdowns. Do not introduce major behavioral plans or consequences at this time – hold stable and focus on emotional connection.
- 2. Lower expectations and practice radical self-acceptance. We are doing too many things in this moment, under fear and stress. This does not make a formula for excellence. Instead try to accept everything about yourself, your current situation and your life, without question, blame or pushback. You cannot fail at this there is no roadmap, no precedent for this and we are all truly doing the best we can in a very strange era.
- 3. Limit social media and COVID conversations, especially around children they see and hear everything and can become very frightened by what they hear. The information coming out changes minute to minute and is often sensationalized, negatively skewed and alarming. Find a few trusted sources that you can check in on and only 2-3 times a day for a few minutes.

Remember to cast all your cares upon the Lord, pray in all circumstances and expect good things. Reach out to your church family. We ARE all in this together, with God's help.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS

Watch for Sunday School Registration



As the new school year approaches, so does the kickoff for Light of Christ's Sunday School year! Children, Youth & Family Ministries staff have been busy planning for Sunday School, which officially starts on September 20th. There will be more information to come, but for now we wanted to let LOC parents and caregivers know that we are still planning to have Sunday School in some sort of format. Registration will be available soon!

Change for Children

Our children and youth are organizing the 2nd Annual Change for Children to raise money for the **ELCA Global Barnyard**. (Watch a short video about the Global Farm Challenge!)



Last spring, this project exceeded our expectations and we raised \$1,447.97! This allowed us to purchase 2 cows, 3 goats, 3 pigs, 100 chicks and 4 sets of seeds and gardening tools (which are given to families around the world to create sustainability and food for their families). To learn more about the ELCA <u>Good Gifts</u> <u>program</u>.

This year we are setting our goal a bit higher and hope to raise \$1,500 over the summer months! We encourage families to make a Change for Children jar at home and later in the summer we will share details about how you can drop off your donation. Donations can also be made <u>online on our giving page</u> (make sure to indicate "*Change for Children*"). Thanks for your support as we collect change and come together to make "Change for Children"!

How You Spend Your Money Makes a Difference!

Do you drink coffee or tea? Eat chocolate, nuts or dried fruit? Did you know that the Light of Christ high school youth sell Equal Exchange products, even during COVID? If you've never heard of Equal Exchange (EE), here is a **short video** about why EE purchases are important. Each purchase supports small farmers around the world



(and now more than ever, we need to be supporting these small family-owned farms, which are struggling to survive) as well as our youth right here at Light of Christ! Order through our <u>online store</u> and have them delivered to your house **FOR FREE** (or to a friend to brighten their day)! You can make difference with your purchases!

Important Confirmation Dates and Information

Although Confirmation will look very different this year, we are planning to do the best we can while keeping our youth, Guides, and staff all safe. We will be meeting with the Wellness Task



Force to talk about how we can conduct Confirmation, SS, and Spark in a low risk fashion. That being said, we appreciate your flexibility, understanding, and grace as we navigate this school year. For safety reasons (and space restrictions), we are not planning to do any "in person" large groups this year with all 3 grades. Instead, Pastor Bruce and Kirsten will record their large group teaching, and then videos will be shared in the small groups. We may have some grade-specific events once we have a chance to assess how the school year has started. Small groups will meet outdoors each week (weather permitting at various locations) beginning the week of September 14 through MEA. We are still looking for adults to be Confirmation Co-Guides (co-lead a small group of 6-8 kids), so please contact Pastor Bruce or Kirsten if you are interested! Here are some important dates to put on your calendar:

- **Guide Training** (planning to meet outside at church) = Wednesday, Sept. 9, 6:30-7:30 pm
- Orientation (for 7th-9th grade parents and youth via Zoom) = Sunday, Sept. 13, 7:30-8:30 pm
- 1st Night of Small Groups = Evenings the week of September 14 (day/time determined by Guides/families)
- Outdoor weekly small group fellowship meetings taking place until MEA
- More info to come about after MEA once we get underway with the school year

Confirmation youth should continue to work on Worship Notes and Service Hours and complete the **online forms on our website**.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions, ideas, or feedback. We are all in this together and we appreciate your partnership!



STAYING CONNECTED

Call on the Light of Christ Prayer Chain

Then you will call on me and come and pray to me and I will listen to you. Jeremiah 29:12

Are you in need of a prayer during these difficult days? Do you know someone else in need of prayer? If so, please feel free to engage the Light of Christ Prayer Chain. The process is simple and 100% confidential. All you need to do is contact the church office either by email, which is preferred—(lochrist@frontiernet.net), or phone (763-972-2400; please keep in mind office hours are currently limited to Wednesdays, 9:15-11:30 am) with your request. The church office then contacts

the group of LOC members ready to 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.



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.

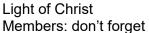
Check Out the Church Library!

Even as public libraries are reopening, keep in mind that the



church library has many books and resources for members to check out, and for all ages and topics. Just stop in during office hours (currently Wednesdays 9:15-11:30 am) to check it out while still remaining socially distant!

Snap a Family Picture for the Online Directory





about pictures for the online Church Directory! While we are all spending more time at home, this may be a great time to gather the family members and take a picture of the gang. All you have to do is email your picture to **Terri at the church office** who will coordinate adding it to our directory.

Connect and Converse during Tuesday Bible Study

Tuesdays 7-8:00 p.m. via Zoom

The Tuesday evening bible study group has transitioned to a study of the book of James. It's the perfect time to join!



Email Tim Johnson <u>tdale57@gmail.com</u>) for a Zoom link. Everyone is welcome!

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.

Start Your Day with Prayer & Music



Our weekly devotion schedule is now three days a week – **Monday**, **Wednesday**, and **Friday**. Members' favorite hymns will

be featured in the Friday devotions. If you would like to submit your favorite hymn

and how it has affected your faith journey, email Katie at (<u>locworshipmus@gmail.com</u>). You can watch the latest video featuring members' submissions <u>here</u>.