

The Beacon

Pastor Bruce Kuenzel

#### September 6, 2021

#### Worship

- Rally Sunday, Sept. 12– outdoors at 9:00 am
- Indoor worship—8:15 & 10:45 am Sundays, starting Sept. 19 masks required
- Online worship will continue and will be posted on the <u>church</u> <u>website</u>.

#### **Church Council 2021**

Steven Dickey 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

#### Contact us!

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



LightOfChristLutheran.com Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com

#### Light of Christ's Endowment Fund Supports Nourishing Hope

Light of Christ's Endowment Committee is pleased to share with you that a portion of this year's distributions from the Endowment Fund provided support to Nourishing Hope, a non-profit organization in our community that provides the monthly Food Drops at five churches in our area – Light of Christ being one of them. Nourishing Hope has purchased a refrigerator truck to help further enhance their capabilities to support those facing food insecurity in our community. To learn more about Nourishing Hope, click on this link: <u>https://mpls-synod.org/news/talking-with-your-mouth-full/</u>

Distributions from LOC's endowment fund have been designated to support God's work in our congregation, in our community and out into the world. This year the distributions were used as follows:

- \$1000 to support youth camperships at LOC
- \$500 to Nourishing Hope
- \$500 to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Minneapolis to support their Justice Fund

Please consider supporting Light of Christ's Endowment Fund. The fund is invested with the ELCA Foundation and the growth and interest from the fund used to support ministry.

Interested in learning more? Contact Brian Harstad, Jonathan Ness, Amy Bigot, or Pr. Bruce.

Amy Bigot, LOC's Endowment Committee member, presents Julie Vergin, Nourishing Hope founder, with a \$500 check to support the purchase of a refrigerator truck to further support their mission of feeding the community.



## **OUTREACH**

## **STAYING CONNECTED**

## Upcoming Food Distribution Dates:

- Monday, September 13 @ 4pm
- Monday, October 11 @ 4pm
- Monday, November 8 @ 4pm
- \* Monday, December 13 @ 4pm

Please contact JoMarie Williamson at Iohwil@msn.com if you are interested in more

#### Birthday Ministry Needs

The Birthday Ministry, in conjunction with Love INC, provides a bag of party supplies and a birthday gift for children of neighbors-in-need. Our inventory is stocked through donations, both monetary and supplies, so we can provide these birthday bags to local children. Items currently needed for our inventory include cake mixes (*Funfetti is a favorite*), frosting, dessert-sized plates in primary colors, napkins, banners, balloons, candles,

tissue paper, gift bags or gift wrap. Donations can be dropped off at the church office. We are also welcoming anyone who wants to join this ministry. If you're interested or would like more information, please contact the <u>church office</u>.



#### Love INC Happenings

- Fresh Start, our program of classes, is in need of a paid adult childcare worker for 2 hours on Monday evenings starting Sept 13. If interested, contact Lisa at <u>lisa@loveincheartland.org</u>
- Attn: Golfers! Save the date: September 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm. The Love INC Golf Fundraiser is back! Location: Pioneer Creek Golf Course. Register by emailing: <u>Golf4Love@loveincheartland.org</u>
- Love INC-Heartland is looking for a Family Advocate, a part-time paid staff position. For more information, email <u>director@loveincheartland.org</u>

Thank you so much for your support of Love INC-Heartland!



# Announcing – Faith, Earth and Living Sustainably Discussion Group

Everyday there is more disturbing news about the health of our common home – earth. In Genesis we learn that God created the heavens and the earth and saw that it was good. We are called to steward the earth and it seems that we're failing. The press is good at reporting negative news, but not at what to do about it. So, if you're confused and don't know how to become better stewards you are not alone. This discussion aroup is being formed to give members who want to do more a place to share and learn - not only about the problems, but also about the steps we can each take to live more sustainably while being rooted in faith. 12 Thursday night sessions are planned, starting in October and ending in January. The discussion group will be led by new Light of Christ member, Paul Nelson. Paul is a trained facilitator and spent his career in the environmental field. For more in-depth information regarding the discussion group, please click here. To register for the group, email your contact information to the church office.



Your giving is an act of love. Your giving helps make important ministry happen. Your giving shares in our mission of sharing Christ's light. Your giving is a gift. Thank you!

#### Love INC Invitation

We want to invite you and the people in your

church to the Love INC-Heartland Redemptive Compassion 6-week class that starts on Monday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. There is no cost for this class. Redemptive Compassion is a Love INC philosophy of how to best help people in need. It is very helpful information if you are volunteering for us or would like to volunteer for us. Please call Lisa at 763-972-6547 opt. 3 to register for this class or if you would like more information. We look forward to sharing this valuable information with you!

Love INC

ove In the Name of Christ

#### **CHURCH NEWS**

# Bluegrass Sunday!

Join us for worship on September 12<sup>th</sup> (Rally Sunday) for some bluegrass-themed music! We also encourage those attending to dress up in your interpretation of bluegrass attire!



#### 2 Volunteers Needed Each Sunday Morning

Please click <u>HERE</u> to sign up for greeter/usher duties for Sunday morning worship!

#### Adult Choir Starts September 13th!



We are excited to begin adult choir rehearsal on September 13<sup>th</sup>! Because of COVID, rehearsals will run a little differently. The choir will rehearse outdoors on the patio every Monday at 6:30 PM, weather permitting. Rehearsals will be about an hour. All musical levels are welcome! Bring a chair and your

singing voices! If you have questions, please contact Katie at <u>katie.kohler@locdelano.com</u>.

#### **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 website</u> and locate the online giving page.





#### Youth Room Remodeling Update

Although there is still some painting to be finished, we are well on our way! Floors are being cleaned (after construction dust) and furniture is being moved in! We still have a lot of decorating to do and signage to put up but we hope you can stop by and see it soon. Thanks for your continued prayers and support!

## **CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS**

#### It only takes a SPARK to make a world of difference! Are you that SPARK???



SPARK is an after-school program that

meets from 3-5:00 pm on Wednesdays. Due to the ongoing pandemic, we have combined groups in order to be outdoors.

- Grades 3 & 4: Sept. 15, 22, & 29
- Grades 1 & 2: Oct. 6, 13, & 20

In order for this group to meet we need another adult assistant. Are you willing to be that SPARK in these young people's lives? If so, contact <u>LaDonna</u> or the <u>church office</u>.



Registration forms are available online for our fall ministries—please click the links below to register:

- Sunday school (3 years-Kindergarten)
- Sunday school (Grades 1-4)
- <u>SPARK</u>
- <u>Club 5/6</u>



#### Rally Sunday

As we move into a new fall schedule in the midst of an ongoing pandemic, the term "Rally" seemed

appropriate. The definition I like best is to "come together and arouse for action."

MARK YOUR CALENDAR !! Rally Sunday is

**September 12<sup>th</sup>.** We begin with outdoor worship at 9:00 am. There will be food and numerous activities planned for children of all ages! And there are areas of ministry and service that, as you are aroused, you can be active in.

#### Backpack Blessing Update

Blessing of the backpacks will now take place for

all ages during worship on Rally Sunday, September 12. We will be offering a special gift, and will have a folder filled with a calendar and activities that are being planned throughout the school year! Sunday school, SPARK, and Club 5/6 are all happening soon -- **Catch the excitement!!!!** 





#### A Little Time... A Huge Impact!

Being a Confirmation Guide only requires a few hours a month (because Guides work in teams) and yet the impact you can have in the life of one of our youth is huge! Plus we often hear that Guides get as much as they give. And you don't need to be a Confirmation parent to help! If you are interested in helping out or learning more, please talk to Kirsten or Pastor Bruce. Thanks for your prayers and support as we begin a new ministry year!

#### CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS cont'd

#### Confirmation Registration and Info

Confirmation at Light of Christ traditionally takes place during grades 7-9 (with Affirmation of Baptism celebration taking place the spring of 10<sup>th</sup> grade). Confirmation is an opportunity for youth to learn, make new friends and grow in faith as they journey to "affirm" the promises made in their baptism. Families are asked to register each year so that we have the most current info for each child/family. 10<sup>th</sup>



grade students do NOT need to register but will receive updates via email.

This fall we will meet entirely outdoors on Wednesdays from 6:30-7:45 pm (with HS Fellowship taking place from 7:30-9:00 pm) through MEA. After MEA we will assess things to make a decision for winter plans. If there is heavy rain, we will just cancel (not meet online or plan to reschedule). Please visit our <u>website</u> for our registration link and fall schedule plans.

Here are a few other details:

- We ask that each youth/family have a Gmail address so that they can join and access their small group's Google Classroom.
- Confirmation Orientation will take place on Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-7:30 pm at church (for all youth and at least one parent) followed by our Guide Training (7:30-8:30).
- Our first day of Confirmation is **Wednesday**, **September 15<sup>th</sup>**.
- Please register as soon as you are able so that we can plan!

#### HS Fellowship this Fall

Youth in grades 9-12 are invited to participate in HS Fellowship each Wednesday night from 7:30-9:00 pm outside at church **beginning September 15**<sup>th</sup>. This year we will begin our evenings by helping to lead large group games for Confirmation. Then we'll have a bonfire, snacks, other games and fellowship time. We'll also share our Highs and Lows and have some faith conversations. Topics will be announced in September. Hope you can join us!



#### High School Assistants

If there are any HS youth that are interested in helping with a Confirmation Small Group (teaming up with an adult Guide) or helping to lead/teach Sunday School, please talk to <u>Kirsten</u> or <u>LaDonna</u>. We'd love to help you develop your leadership skills, share your gifts and build your resume!

#### Young Adult Small Group

This fall we are starting/trying something new... join us on **Monday, September 13<sup>th</sup> from 7:30-8:30 pm** at church for our very first Young Adult Small Group! This will be a time of fellowship and devotion for college-aged youth and those in their 20s. On September 13 we'll have a bonfire and time for fellowship and also discuss ideas for the future. We hope to do some service events together and have great faith/life conversations. Please spread the word, invite your friends (and parents, please tell your kids (3)) and join us for this new adventure!