



Pastor Bruce Kuenzel

January 31, 2022

#### Worship

- In-person worship— 9:00 am Sundays masks required
- Online worship continues, and will be posted on the <u>church</u> <u>website</u> and <u>Facebook</u> page



#### **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

### Word for the Week from Pastor Bruce



As I look ahead to the coming year, I believe that 2022 is a year in which we need to "fuel the fire" here at Light of Christ: the fire of faith and hope and love. We fuel this fire in a number of ways: by the prayers we pray, the songs we sing, the donations we make, the acts of service we perform, the care we give to each other, the thinking we do, and the relationships we nurture. All of these things help to make the light of Christ shine brighter and warmer and stronger in our lives and in our community of faith.

I believe we need to shine as brightly as we can. We need to fuel the fire of faith because we are living at a time of growing mistrust and distrust. We're called to be different. We need to trust others, not naively or uncritically. But we cannot begin with mistrust. We need to trust others, until they give us a reason not to. More than that, we need to lead lives that reflect our trust in the Lord. He always keeps his word to us. He will not fail us or forsake us.

We also need to fuel the fire of hope. We are living at a time when some are discouraged and even despairing about the future. But we are a people of hope. Our hope is not in any human person or institution or movement because they are comprised of fallible humans like you and me. Instead, our hope is in the Lord and in his promises. He will bring his promises to fulfillment because all of God's promises find their "Yes!" in Christ. So then, I may not know what tomorrow holds but I know the One who holds tomorrow.

And we also need to fuel the fire of love. We are living at a time when there are so many unloving and unlovely things going on. We're called to be different: to live as God's beloved community. We're called to live the good news that "I am God's beloved child and so are you—no matter who you are." It doesn't matter what I've done, or where I've come from, or how long I've been in this country, or the color of my skin, or the town or city I live in. We are all God's beloved—no exceptions.

So please join me in asking the Holy Spirit to give us the grace to fuel the fire of faith and hope and love in this coming year so that the light of Christ shines brightly and warmly in us and through us.

### OUTREACH

#### Food Distribution Volunteer Opportunities

Interested in helping folks in and around our Delano community by distributing fresh food from Second Harvest food

bank and other food sources? Two ways to serve: helping to pack the boxes over at Our Father's Lutheran in Rockford in the morning; or by helping to distribute the boxes here at church later in the afternoon. The next scheduled distribution and need for volunteers is for **Monday, February 14**:

- 11:30 am at Our Father's for packing boxes
- 3:30 pm here at LOC for distribution of the boxes
- ⇒ Special need for anyone who can pick up the trailer at Delano Rental and be the transportation point person.

We also invite prayer requests from those we serve. Let <u>Tim</u> <u>Johnson</u> (email or call 952-472-1755) know if you would like to join a group to pray for special needs.



# Fifth Sunday Offering for January – People Serving People in Minneapolis

Our 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday offering for January will go to support *People Serving People*, the largest and most comprehensive emergency shelter for families experiencing homelessness in Minnesota.

The 99 hotel-style emergency shelter housing units for children and families experiencing homelessness include a bathroom, beds, basic furniture, and a door families can lock behind them to feel safe. Three nutritious meals are served daily in the cafeteria (currently, due to covid-19, meals are delivered to each housing unit), and diapers and other basic necessities are provided free of charge. After immediate basic needs are met, families are provided access to the following comprehensive Engagement Services to move towards stability (among others):

- Early Childhood Development Program
- Family Activities such as movies, board games, bingo or other special events
- Financial Fitness Classes for adults to learn basic financial skills
- K-12 Programs including one-on-one tutoring, homework assistance, and enrichment activities.

For more information you can watch this 2 minute 26 second video: <u>https://vimeo.com/106210315</u> *OR* visit their website at <u>https://www.peopleservingpeople.org/</u>

#### Our Congregation can help in the following ways:

- Donate through Light of Christ <u>Here</u> to enter your designated Gift and mention *People Serving People Fifth Sunday*—<u>deadline to donate is February 6<sup>th</sup></u>
- Donate to People Serving People directly at the following link: <u>https://www.peopleservingpeople.org/individual-donations/</u>

#### Sunday School Mission Project— February 13<sup>th</sup>

Thank you to all the people who signed up to donate items for this project. A friendly reminder that all items need to be dropped off **before noon on February 4<sup>th</sup>**.



### Adult Education in February

**The Holy Spirit—Then and Now –** The Holy Spirit is probably the least understood person of the Holy Trinity. Yet the Holy Spirit is a vital, vibrant presence in our lives. So, how do we learn to be more aware, more awake, and more in tune to the presence of the Spirit within us and around us and between us? One way is to study the Book of Acts. The full title of Acts is *The Acts of the Apostles*, but it could also be titled *The Acts of the Holy Spirit*. In Acts, we see the Holy Spirit at work transforming lives, communities, and situations.

Pastor Bruce will be leading a four-week series on the Book of Acts. We will meet on **February 6, 13, 20, 27 at 10:15** AM in the new Living Room (old Youth Room). We will be using the Bible Project videos for the basis for our learning and discussion. No need to

register. Just come with your Bible and a mind and heart that is open to the transforming presence of the Holy Spirit.



## "Like" us on Facebook to get news, info and updates.



<u>Click here</u> to visit our Facebook page.

You can access our Facebook page and watch our live videos by clicking this <u>link</u>. You *do not* need to sign into an account to view our Facebook page.

### CHURCH NEWS

### Watch for Tax Forms!

With our updated church management software, we have the capability to easily email out your contribution statements for 2021. Watch for an email soon with your



giving statement attached. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to Terri in the church office (terri.reuter@locdelano.com or 763-972-2400)

### **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.



#### You're Invited!

Weekly worship at Light of Christ at 9:00 am or streaming online via our **Facebook page**.







Amazon donates.

Go to smile.amazon.com

amazon smile

### 2022 Pledges & Online Giving

If you need to change your automatic contribution amount due to your 2022 pledge, please log in to your <u>MyVanco account</u>—instructions on doing so, or for initiating online giving, can be found in the image to the left. You can also contact Terri in the church office to make the change for you. Your pledge card does not authorize the church to make changes to your online giving.



### sset BIBLE CAMP: Registration Now Open!

Light of Christ has spots reserved on a 1<sup>st</sup> come, 1<sup>st</sup> served basis for the following camps/dates. These spots will be held until <u>February 15<sup>th</sup></u>!

#### Seeds Summer Camp (Grades 1-3) - JUNE 24-26

The perfect introduction to summer camp for our youngest campers, Seeds camp is filled with fun and safe opportunities to learn and grow.

#### Wapo Youth Camp (Grades 4-8) - JUNE 26-JULY 1 AND JULY 31-AUGUST 5

An action-packed week of fun activities and new friendships that will stretch campers to new heights of joy and growth.

- Follow this link for more information about the camp: <u>https://lakewapo.org</u>
- Follow this link to register: <u>http://lwlbci.com/lightofchrist</u>

Bible Camp Sunday—a worship where you can learn more and get a taste of camp is on February 13<sup>th</sup>, in person and on-line.

### Online Store—Support Our Youth

We invite you to visit our Equal Exchange (fair trade) table in the Narthex or click <u>HERE</u> for our online store for some great gift options! Items for sale include:

- Chocolate
- Coffee
- Tea
- Cashews
- LOC coffee mugs
- LOC masks

All sales support our summer youth trips as well as small farmers around the world! These items make great gifts for teachers or friends. Our Light of Christ kids shirts are also available for \$10 each and would make a great gift for your kids, if they don't already have one! Items can also be delivered for free around the Delano area and you can include a note and even gift wrapping. Thanks for your support of our LOC Youth!

### High School Ministries

- **Donuts & Discussion** We have started a new Bible study for HS youth called Donuts & Discussion (D&D). We will meet once/month on Sunday mornings, typically the first Sunday of the month, at 10:10 am in the newly remodeled space (The Living Room). We had originally planned to join the Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study group but changed this and now will be meeting just as a HS group. These mornings will be a chance to hang out, talk about our highs and lows (faith and life) and have donuts. We hope you can join us for this great opportunity!
  - $\Rightarrow$  Sunday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 10:10 am
  - $\Rightarrow$  Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 10:10 am
- **HS Fellowship** Each week our 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade youth will meet as a group on Wednesday nights from 7:30-8:45 pm (but come when you are able) in the new Living Room space to share time with friends, have food, fellowship and fun! Bring a friend and enjoy some time in a safe space where all are welcome!





