



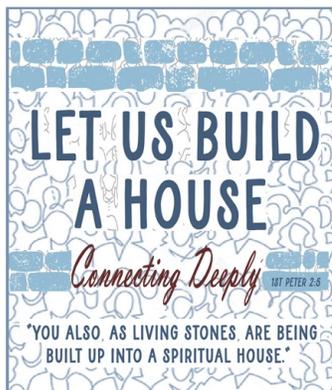
Worship

- In-person worship—
9:00 am Sundays
- Lenten worship—7:00
pm Wednesdays
- Online worship
continues, and will be
posted on the [church
website](#) and [Facebook
page](#)



Church Council 2023

Mike Boyack
Laurie Brown
Billie Chock
Tim Current (treas.)
Steven Dickey (pres.)
Derek Horeis (v. pres.)
Dan Paulson
Lisa Spencer (sec'y.)
Natasha Werner
Pastor Bruce Kuenzel



Contact us!

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



LightOfChristLutheran.com
Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com



Free Fresh Produce and Dairy

Monday, March 13th
4:00 pm—until gone

Boxes of fresh produce and dairy products will be available for drive through pickup on a first come, first serve basis at the following locations:

Corcoran

St. Thomas Catholic Church
20000 County Road 10
Corcoran, MN 55340

Delano

Light of Christ Lutheran Church
3976 County Line Road SE
Delano, MN 55328

Rockford

Our Father's Lutheran
3903 Gilbert Ave SE
Rockford, MN 55373

Buffalo

Buffalo Covenant Church
1601 Highway 25 North
Buffalo, MN 55313

For assistance locating a specific site or for questions, please contact us at nourishinghope.oflc@gmail.com or Facebook Messenger.

**Food boxes are for anyone at all! Please come by to get one.
Or, pass on the information to someone else!**

Monthly Food Distribution

Our food distribution ministry, Nourishing Hope, needs volunteers for **Monday, March 13**. We have two time slots:

- **10:00 am** when we pack hundreds of boxes of food over at Our Father's Lutheran in Rockford. (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-food>)
- **3:30 pm** when we distribute about 75 boxes of food right here in our church parking lot. (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-food1>)

Or speak with Tim Johnson (952-472-1755)
Thank you!





March is Minnesota FoodShare Month and YOU can help!

The need continues to grow! The food insecurity chart shows that the pandemic, inflation and other factors have increased the difficulty for many families to provide sufficient and good food for themselves. Light of Christ participates every March by “Packing the Pews” with donations for the Delano Helping Hands Food Shelf. As you enter the sanctuary, please look for a sign indicating the pew we hope to pack with donations during the month. Although all donations are welcome, the greatest food shelf needs are the following:

- Coffee & tea
- Healthy oils (olive, canola, coconut)
- Soup that can be a full meal (except chicken noodle & tomato soup, of which we have lots)
- Canned meat (tuna, chicken)
- Gluten-free & low-sodium items
- Canned fruit & applesauce (no sugar or heavy/lite syrups added)
- Barbecue sauce
- Mayonnaise
- Tomato sauce & tomato paste
- Canned pasta sauce
- Pasta (other than elbow & spaghetti)
- Wild rice
- Shampoo/conditioner
- Body soap (liquid or bar)
- Dish soap
- Deodorant
- Laundry detergent
- Paper products (toilet paper, paper towels, tissue & napkins)
- Dog & cat food



No expired food please.

Checks can be made payable to **Delano Helping Hands** and put in the offering plate. You can also give via our online giving page: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z624/home>. Choose the *March Pack-the-Pews* tile. Financial donations are needed and actually help to purchase more food than you might imagine. Thank you for your generosity and for helping to feed those in need!



Call on the Light of Christ Prayer Chain

If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, please feel free to engage the Light of Christ Prayer Chain. [Email the church office](#), which is preferred, or call 763-972-2400 with your request, which remains confidential. The LOC Prayer Chain will 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.

Light of Christ



Help us to say thanks!

On **Friday, March 24th**, we're hosting a special "Thank You!" for the Delano Elementary School staff who are a part of our Kids Hope initiative. Kids Hope connects Light of Christ mentors with young people from the primary school for help in their schoolwork while fostering an encouraging and supportive relationship. This is our chance to express our gratitude for the partnership and the important work that is done.

What can you do? Express your personal thanks by signing the big Generosity Project thank you card which will be in the narthex the two weeks previous to the 24th. We'll be purchasing and bringing refreshments that morning, so if you would like to donate toward that, please make a note on your check or envelope: **Generosity Project**.

Who else might we express our gratitude for? Area organizations who would benefit from a small group of Light of Christ folks showing up to say thanks, give them a huge thank you card, bring some treats/refreshments for their gathering or meeting, and otherwise let them know that we value the work they do.

Ideas? Reach out to Tim Johnson – Tim.Johnson@LOCDelano.com – or 952/472-1755

Order Your Easter Flowers

Honor or remember a loved one with Easter flowers and help decorate the sanctuary for our Easter services. Click [here](#) to place your order. Deadline to order is **Sunday, March 19th**. Thank you for beautifying our church!



Wednesday evenings during Lent

7:00 pm in-person worship in the sanctuary or via livestream. Worship will incorporate the Holden



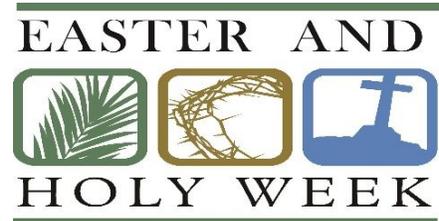
Evening Prayer service and feature the 10th graders' faith statements. A Lenten supper will be served by the youth at 6:00 pm, preceding each Lenten service. See menu schedule below.

Supper Schedule

- 3/15 = Chili**
- 3/22 = Tacos
- 3/29 = Soup, Salad & Breadsticks



*There will be gluten free options at each meal. All proceeds benefit youth going on the summer service trip to Belize. Thanks for your support! **Please note menu change



Join us for our Holy Week Services!

Maundy Thursday, April 6th at 7:00 pm
Worship with Holy Communion

Good Friday, April 7th at 7:00 pm
"Service of the Nails," a Tenebrae service with scripture, prayer, meditation, and music

Easter Sunday, April 9th at 8:30 & 10:30 am
A blend of classic and contemporary worship featuring a variety of music and plenty of celebration!

CHURCH NEWS



Wow! What an incredible event and day of fellowship we had on Sunday, March 5 as we worked to raise funds for the youth & adults going to serve in Belize this summer!! There were so many people that came together to make this day a success that we can't even list them all... But we do need to say special thank you's to: Jennifer Slipka and Lesley Berscheid for coordinating the auction; Jennifer Grant for organizing the spaghetti dinner; and Lindsay and Theresa Wallace for donating their time for our wine and beer sampling.

We are so excited to announce that the total raised so far is **\$19,470.09!!** We are still hoping to break \$20,000 and invite you to participate through the in-person bidding of "Last Chance" items that is taking place in the narthex now through next Wednesday, March 15 at 8:30 pm!

We can't thank you enough for your incredible support... We are humbled and amazed by our awesome church family and community! Because of you, 35 youth and 20 adults will get to experience a life-changing trip, serving and learning in Belize!

Please continue to support these awesome businesses that made donations to our auction and helped us to raise so much money!

4th Street Designs
 ABC Family Chiropractic
 Absolute Automotive
 Anna Tool, Zyia Independent Rep
 Apple Tree-O

B's on the River
 Brickfield Brewing, Grantsburg, WI
 Brickside Grille & Tap
 Coborn's
 Corner Balloon Shoppe
 Crow River Studio
 Dairy Queen
 Dave's Town Club
 Delano Chiropractic
 Delano Family Dental
 Delano Floral & Gifts
 Delano Lanes
 Emagine Delano Theatre
 Forkless Pizza, Wraps & Ribs
 Glass Doctor of Minneapolis
 Go Green Lawn Care
 Great Vibes Nutrition
 I Spa Nails
 Jenna's Salon
 JLR Garage Door Service
 Kai Brisk Pottery
 Kathy Baluski Massage
 Kirsten Kelly, 31 Independent Rep
 Kelly Johnson, Personal Coach
 Kwik Trip
 Lindsey Ruhland, Color Street Ind. Rep.
 LK Wurzer Art, Inc

Lulu's Retail Therapy
 Lunderby's Photography
 Lupine Brewing
 Market 12
 Mauvelous Fashion Studio
 Melanie Paulson, jBloom Ind. Rep.
 MN Timberwolves
 Nordic Natural Skin Care
 Oh What A Stitch – Lesley Berscheid
 Pho Viet 45
 Pioneer Creek Golf Course
 Rent It Forward
 Rick Bronson's House of Comedy
 Science Museum of MN
 Skogman Shack – Dale Skogman
 SR Mechanical
 Stahlke Bus
 Sunrise Fitness
 Tammy's Sunburnings
 The King House
 Total Wine
 Twin City Grill
 Untiedt's Vegetable Farm
 Wash Masters
 Windsong Farm Golf Club

CHURCH NEWS



Last chance items... Bid in person through 8:30 pm on 3/15!

Connecting Deeply with God Through Music

YouTube recordings of the songs are posted every Tuesday



Nearer My God to Thee

Text: Sarah F. Adams (1805-1848)

Tune: Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

The powerful lyrics and emotional melody of “Nearer My God to Thee” never ceases to move me; a response echoed by many. A cherished song, “Nearer My God to Thee” originated from an unlikely source, a feminist woman with a love for the theater.

Sarah Fuller Flower Adams was born in 1805 to Benjamin and Eliza (Gould) Flower. Her father was Benjamin Flower, a controversial writer devoted to political activity and reform. He was an editor for a radical newspaper and was imprisoned for six months after criticizing a local bishop (Hawn, 2013). Sarah was strongly influenced by her father and developed both feminist and progressive views. Both Sarah and her sister, Eliza, received an education at home. After their mother died, their father continued that education and often took Sarah and Eliza with him on travels. Benjamin Flower was a strict Christian and believed in the influence of Bible study and prayer. However, he was extremely tolerant of other religions. Both Sarah and her sister were taught to accept nothing and question everything (Women in World History, 2019).

Sarah faced a spiritual crisis at the age of 20. In a letter to the minister of her Unitarian church, W.J. Fox, she expressed, “I would give worlds to be a sincere believer, to go to my Bible as I used to, but I cannot.” After her father died in 1829, she suffered a full breakdown and did not write for four years. After her recovery, Sarah began writing again. Her sister, Eliza, published political songs and music to *Hymns and Anthems* (1841–46) for South Place Chapel. Some included words written by Sarah (Women in World History, 2019).

Sarah married William Adams in 1834. He was an inventor and engineer who also wrote for progressive political causes. Sarah had a love of the theater, and her husband encouraged this passion. She detoured from writing and had a successful brief acting career, but ultimately had to give it up due to poor health (Hawn, 2013).

Sarah’s pastor in London was William J. Fox, an English Unitarian who fought for women’s rights and freedom of press. “Nearer My God to Thee” was written in response to one of his sermons, based on Genesis 28:10-22 (Hawn, 2013). The bible story, often called “Jacob’s Ladder” or “Jacob’s Dream,” tells the story of Jacob’s experience at Bethel. Jacob found a stone while traveling toward Haran. He put this stone under his head, laid down, and slept. He then dreamed of angels ascending and descending a ladder. After the dream, Jacob took the stone and poured oil on it. He then made a vow saying, “If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat and clothing to wear, so that I come again to my father’s house in peace, then the LORD shall be my God, and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God’s house; and of all that you give me I will surely give one-tenth to you” (Genesis 28:20-22).

Sarah’s sister, Eliza, suffered from tuberculosis. Cared for by Sarah, Eliza succumbed to the disease in 1846. Sarah unfortunately died two years later from the same disease (Hawn, 2013)

The tune to “Nearer My God to Thee” was originally set to music written by Sarah’s sister, Eliza Flower. However, the hymn tune most recognized today, was composed by Lowell Mason in 1856. This tune is named BETHANY for reasons unknown. Lowell was a music educator and church musician (Nearer My God, 2014).

“Nearer My God to Thee” was played as President James Garfield’s body was buried in 1881. It was also played upon the announcement of President William McKinley’s death. The hymn has been featured in many tv shows and movies. Perhaps most famously, “Nearer My God to Thee” appeared in the 1997 movie, “Titanic,” played by the on-board musicians as the ship was sinking. Some say this scene mirrored a real-life situation during the actual Titanic sinking of 1912. However, this is not confirmed as Mason’s tune was unlikely to have been played by English musicians since the text was not paired with BETHANY in Britain at the time (Hawn, 2013).

I thoroughly enjoyed learning about this wonderful hymn, and about the incredible woman responsible for the beautiful text we know and love! Next time you hear the powerful words of “Nearer My God to Thee,” remember that it was written by a strong woman who asked questions. She struggled with her faith like many do, but ultimately pulled through. Happy Women’s History Month!

*Sources:

Tabernacle Blog (2014, September). “Nearer, My God, to Thee”: The History and Lyrics. <https://www.thetabernaclechoir.org/articles/nearer-my-god-to-thee-history-and-lyrics.html>

Hawn, Michael (2013, May). *History of Hymns: Famed hymn expresses writer’s longing for heaven.* Discipleship Ministries. <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/history-of-hymns-famed-hymn-expresses-writers-longing-for-heaven>

Women in World History: A Biographical Encyclopedia (2019). Adams, Sarah Flowers. <https://www.encyclopedia.com/women/encyclopedias-almanacs-transcripts-and-maps/adams-sarah-flower-1805-1848>

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS

On Saturday, February 25, we had 37 children attend our 2nd Parent's Night Off event at Light of Christ! This night was organized by Lisa Schmit and Anna Tool along with their daughters, Sidney and Taylor. A few other youth and adults helped with the event and the money raised will go to support them on their trip to Belize. The kids all had a great night and we hope to do another one of these events soon.

Thanks for your support!



Parent's Night Off event 2/25/23 ★



High School Fellowship

Join us for nights of fellowship, friends, faith, food and FUN! Here is our upcoming schedule (Wednesdays from 7:30-8:45 at LOC):



On the Wednesdays during Lent (through 3/29), the Living Room will be open after worship for any youth that want to connect and hang out but we won't have any scheduled plans. We hope you'll join us for worship each week at 7 pm and connect with friends afterwards.