

The Beacon

Pastor Bruce Kuenzel

November 28, 2022

Worship

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



Church Council 2022

Mike Boyack Tim Current Steven Dickey Carmen Hanson Jennifer Hinker Jon Holzer Derek Horeis Lisa Spencer Natasha Werner 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 Check out our Advent/Christmas Worship and Children's Christmas Program schedules inside!

Advent Charcuterie Fundraiser-2 days left to register!

Picture this... sitting at a table with friends surrounded by great food, soft music and candlelight. This is what you can expect if you sign up to attend our Advent Fundraiser on Sunday, December 4th! Invite some friends and join us for an important cause... supporting the youth going on the Summer 2023 Service Trip to Belize! Thanks for your support!

- When: Sunday, December 4th
- <u>Time</u>: 5-7 pm
- Where: LOC Fellowship Hall
- <u>What</u>: Great food, fellowship, music (by Katie Kohler & Marcus Hanson), Advent hymn sing, small "youth services" live auction and optional wine/beer tasting!
- Who: Adults 21 and up
- <u>Registration</u>: <u>Click here</u> to register by November 30th
- Proceeds: Benefit the youth going to Belize



OUTREACH

Helping Local Families

The Light of Christ Children & Family Ministry Team is pairing up with *Friends-4-A-Cause* for the 3rd year. With LOC's generosity we will be helping 13 local families who are struggling to have a brighter Christmas by providing gifts and spreading Christmas joy. Sign up at this <u>link</u>. Gift drop-off will be before and after service on **December 4th and 11th**. Final gift



drop-off will be **Tuesday**, **December 13th from 6:00-8:00pm.** Please also pray for each one of these families. Please contact *Kim Wortz* with any questions 952-457-9253 or kimw1517@gmail.com.



The Delano Helping Hands food shelf is happy to take any donations of food and personal or cleaning products that are unopened and not expired. Our greatest need now is for the following:

- * Coffee/tea
- * Barbecue sauce
- Sauce/spice packets (such as taco mix, chili mix, etc.)
- Hearty soups that can be a meal (we get lots of tomato & chicken noodle)
- * Oatmeal and cereal
- Paper products (paper towels and toilet paper)
- * Depends (for either men or women)

Monthly Food Distribution

The next distribution will be on **Monday, December 12th**. If you would like more information or would like to sign up to help, please reach out to Tim Johnson.... or click on one of the following links:

- 11:00 am at Our Father's for packing boxes (register at this link: (<u>https://www.signupgenius.com/</u> go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-food)
- 3:30 pm here at LOC for distribution of the boxes (register at this link: (<u>https://www.signupgenius.com/</u> go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-food1)

(from Julie Wischmann of the Healing & Wholeness Committee)



Stress and the Holídays

As we enter the blessed holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas, we anticipate the gifts of family and being together. Holidays are supposed to be a welcome break from the stress and strain of work and life. However, unfortunately, that is not always the case, whether it be family discord, gift-giving decisions, financial struggles or simply not enough hours in the day. There are some simple things to try, even for a moment, to alleviate some of the stressors. The financial burden of the holidays can create excessive stress during a season intended to be full of joy, connection, and generosity. Polls show that almost 90% of Americans feel some kind of anxiety or stress about the holidays. According to a survey done by the American Psychological Association, money and finances are the number one cause of stress for Americans. Generosity comes in so many forms... creativity in gift giving, planning a budget, and giving of yourself without losing your self-care.

Sugary treats are the best during the holidays, and most of us give ourselves permission to stray from healthy eating habits. You don't have to give up those yummy treats, however. Be mindful of portions, eat slowly and perhaps take a short walk after a meal.

Finally, reach out for help and know it's okay to say no. We tend to want to be all things for all people. Take that moment to reflect and cherish those people and things that mean the world to you.

Wishing you all a most blessed holiday season filled with hope, health, and happiness.





Thanks to all who help in this ministry!

CHURCH NEWS



Advent & Christmas Schedule

The season of Advent is upon us! Below is our upcoming Advent/ Christmas service schedule:

- 12/4: Lessons and Carols
- 12/11: Voyagers (grades 3-4) present "An Advent Adventure" & Club 5/6 (grades 5-6) presents "A Super Christmas"
- 12/18: 3-year-olds-2nd graders present "The First Christmas"
- 12/24: 2, 4, 10 PM Christmas Eve Services
- 12/25: No Worship



Join us on December 4th as we celebrate Christ's birth with a service of Lessons and Carols! Worship will occur at the regular time of 9:00 AM. The service will consist of various readings from the Christmas story, intermixed with a variety of special music featuring musicians from the Light of Christ family. Let's start the Christmas season with a joyful sound!

Altar Guild Volunteers Needed!

We need extra altar guild volunteers to help with some of our larger upcoming services; specifically, Lessons and Carols (12/4) and Christmas Eve (12/24). If you are interested in helping and/or have questions, contact Kylee Amdor at <u>kylee.amdor@gmail.com</u>. Being a part of the altar guild is a wonderful way to serve Light of Christ!

Cookie Exchange!

Sisters of LOC is hosting a cookie exchange on Tuesday, December 13th from 6:30-8:00 pm. We will serve wine, non-alcoholic fizzy water, and snacks. We ask each person who is participating to bring 3 dozen cookies and say what you're bringing along with copies of the recipe. Sign up at this link: <u>https://</u>

www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0B4DA5AA29A0FD0 -cookie





2022 Annual Reports are due **before December 12**th. Please email them to <u>Terri in the church</u> <u>office</u> when ready. Thank you!





2023 Offering Envelopes

If you requested preprinted 2023 offering envelopes, they are now available to be picked up in the narthex.

2023 Pledges & Online Giving

If you need to change your automatic contribution amount due to your 2023 pledge, please log in to your <u>MyVanco account</u> or contact Terri in the church office to make the change. Your pledge card does not authorize the church to make these changes.

You might find it helpful to <u>watch this video</u>, which will walk you through the steps to cancel your current transaction and then create a new transaction. Vanco is working to add the "edit" option for 2023! Please contact Terri in the church office if you have any questions.

Belize It or Not! Adult participants have 2 days left to register!

Youth registration is now closed for Summer 2023 Service Trip to Belize. We have 35 youth registered for this awesome experience! Now our staff is having conversations about the adult leaders and participants. If you are an adult interested in going to Belize to serve, you have until **Wednesday, November 30**th to sign up! Adults that attend as leaders will be with the HS youth all week and work with Kirsten to provide the most incredible service trip possible! Each adult leader will guide and get to know a small group of youth (in discussion each day, working as a team on clean-up responsibilities, leading worship, etc). They will also check in with and care for all of the youth and help in other supportive roles as needed. Adult

participants will be a part of a "parallel" trip that will overlap a bit with the HS trip but they will not be responsible for anything with the HS youth. However, adult participants can still connect regularly with the HS youth (probably at meal times, free time, etc). If you are interested or have any questions, please reach out to Kirsten Kelly or Pastor Bruce.

A few notes:

- Adult Leader/Participant Online Registration Deadline = Wednesday, November 30th
- Tentative dates for the trip are July 29-August 5, 2023







High School Fellowship

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

- 11/30 Fundraiser Prep
- * 12/7 Serving at Delano Food Shelf
- * 12/14 Cookie Baking
- 12/21 & 12/28 No HSF (Christmas Break)

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

During the December 11th worship service at 9 AM:



"AN ADVENT ADVENTURE: PROPHESY AND PROMISES COME TRUE" presented by the Light of Christ Voyagers!

AND



presented by the Light of Christ Club 5-6



During the December 18th worship service at 9 AM:

"THE FIRST CHRISTMAS"

presented by the Light of Christ 3-year-olds – 2nd grade Sunday school children

