



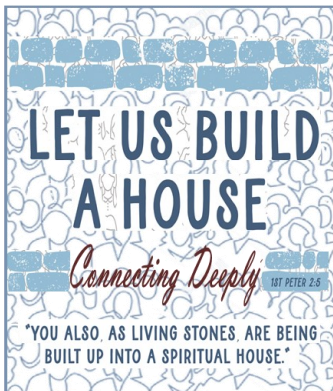
## Worship

- In-person worship—  
9:30 AM (*new time*)  
Sundays
- Online worship  
continues, and is live-  
streamed to our  
[YouTube](#) and  
[Facebook](#) pages



## Church Council 2024

Mike Boyack (vice pres.)  
Laurie Brown (sec'y.)  
Billie Chock  
Tim Current (treas.)  
Heidi Goldbeck  
Luke Jeseritz  
Lisa Krause  
Natasha Werner (pres.)  
Jon Wissink  
Pastor Bruce Kuenzel



## Contact us!

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



[LightOfChristLutheran.com](https://www.lightofchristlutheran.com)  
[Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com](mailto:Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com)



NourishingHOPE

## Free Fresh Produce and Dairy

**Monday, February 12th**  
**4:00pm–5:00pm**

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

### Rockford

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

### Hanover

Influence Church @ City Hall  
11250 5th Street NE  
Hanover, MN 55341

### Delano

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

### Buffalo

Buffalo Covenant Church  
1601 Highway 25 North  
Buffalo, MN 55313

### Maple Grove

Rice Lake Bible Chapel  
8801 Rice Lake Road  
Maple Grove, MN 55369

For assistance locating a specific site or for questions, please contact us at

NourishingHOPE is a ministry of Our Father's Lutheran Church, in cooperation with four area churches. Our vision is to relieve area food insecurity and promote wellness in mind, body, and spirit for people East-Central Wright County. For information on you or your organization partnering with NourishingHOPE, please visit our website at [www.ourfatherschurch.org/nourishing-hope.html](http://www.ourfatherschurch.org/nourishing-hope.html)

## Monthly Food Distribution

The next food distribution is on **Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup>**. Shifts are available at 10:00 AM to about noon at Our Father's Lutheran Church in Rockford, and 3:30 – 4:30 PM here at Light of Christ. Sign-ups are at the links below or QR codes shown:

- **10:00 AM** packing food boxes (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-food>)
- **3:30 PM** distributing boxes of food right here in our church parking lot (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-food1>)



## Caring Corner

(from Elizabeth Kohlhof of the Healing & Wholeness Committee)

Valentine's Day is a day to celebrate love. But for many, the holiday can be stressful, especially for singles, those mourning lost love, or anyone who may be unhappy with the status of their relationship.



Here are five ways you can focus on your mental health and make this Valentine's Day the best one yet:

### 1. Celebrate your most important relationship – the one you have with yourself!

The relationship you have with yourself will be your longest relationship in life, so it's important to treat yourself well. If you are not spending Valentine's Day with a significant other, plan your own night. Think about what reenergizes you. Valentine's Day is a time to feel loved, so show yourself how much you love you.

### 2. Invest in all your relationships.

Valentine's Day is a day for love, but not just romantic love. Send Valentine's Day cards to your family and friends. Make the day a day of gratitude where the people in your life feel your appreciation.

### 3. Practice mindfulness.

Meditation and mindfulness can be found in a variety of forms. Find a mindfulness app or podcast and focus your attention on your breath and your emotions. If sitting quietly and journeying through meditation does not sound helpful, consider coloring in a calming book or writing a journal entry.

Doing this regularly has been shown to reduce feelings of anxiety and stress and can help you cope if emotions become too strong.

### 4. Seek support if necessary.

If you are really struggling this Valentine's Day, speak to a trusted family member, friend or therapist, and get the help you need.

If you consider harming yourself or others, contact the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline for immediate support by calling, texting, or chatting 988.

### 5. Turn off social media.

You love to see your family and friends happy, but consider avoiding social media for the days leading up to Valentine's Day. It can be difficult to see others having something you want and turning off social media will give you time to focus on what's really important this holiday.

Always remember that a person's social media page is often their "highlight reel," never showing the full story, and usually finding the best parts of their life to show the world.

*Content sourced and adapted from Embark Behavioral Health*

## 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.



### Volunteer at Love INC Heartland

Our ministry would not be possible without the generous hearts and hands of volunteers. There are many ways to become involved and we would love to hear from you. Call our main office at 763-972-6547 or visit [bit.ly/loveincvolunteer](http://bit.ly/loveincvolunteer) today!



### Family Meals At Love INC Fresh Start Program

Serving a family meal at Love INC Heartland's Fresh Start Program is a simple, impactful way to show the love of Christ. We have multiple openings to fill from February to April. Sign Up On Meal Train: [bit.ly/fsmeals23](http://bit.ly/fsmeals23)





## Lenten Worship

Join us for Ash Wednesday worship on February 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. The service will also be live-streamed. Weekly Wednesday Lenten worship begins on February 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 PM and will incorporate the Holden Evening Prayer service, as well as feature the 10<sup>th</sup> graders' faith statements. A meal will be held at 6:00 PM before each service. *(no meal on Ash Wednesday)*

## Lent Service Musicians

Lent is almost upon us! This year we are once again having Wednesday Lent services at 7 PM and singing the Holden Evening Prayer. If you would like to help song-lead or play an instrumental part for a Wednesday service, please contact Katie at [katie.kohler@locdelano.com](mailto:katie.kohler@locdelano.com). Thank you!



The church office will be closed from Thursday, February 15 through Monday, February 19.

## Position Opening

As decided in the January Annual Meeting, the church is seeking an individual or firm to provide financial services on a contract basis. The annual budget sets aside \$10,000 for these services. These duties include accounts receivable, accounts payable, payroll, and monthly financial reconciliation and reporting. If you, or someone that you know feels called to provide these services, please contact Tim Current at [current.tim@gmail.com](mailto:current.tim@gmail.com) for more details.

## Youth Choir Rehearsals Begin Soon!

Youth choir rehearsals will begin on Sunday, Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> after worship. Ages for the choir are 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade. They will sing at the Palm Sunday service and the Easter services. We might share a recording for the Easter services depending on everyone's schedule. If your child is interested in joining youth choir, please contact Katie at [katie.kohler@locdelano.com](mailto:katie.kohler@locdelano.com).

## Lent Musical Devotions

Beginning Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, our Director of Worship and Music, Katie, will post recordings of musical devotions. The devotions will focus on songs she finds meditative/healing as we work our way through this Lent season. All recordings will be posted on our YouTube page every Tuesday throughout Lent. The link to our YouTube page can be found here <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLKsWMFGKBf07k9w9MFFrqw>



## Dad's Night Out

Calling all dads -- young dads, old dads, in-between dads, granddads, gonna-be dads, and any other dads. Pastor Bruce is leading a small group for dads of every kind. The goal of the group is to connect more deeply with Christ and with one another. Our next gathering is **Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>** from 7:45 - 8:45 PM at the Brickside Grill. No need to register. Simply come as you are. If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact Pastor Bruce.



## OWLS (Older Wiser Lutherans)

Happy Springtime! Happy Valentine's Day! We're going to have a Valentine's POTLUCK, trivia and bingo on **Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>** from 1:00-3:00 PM! There will be prizes!

Please RSVP to Sue Fink at

[billandsue2931@gmail.com](mailto:billandsue2931@gmail.com) by **Tuesday, Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>**.

Indicate whether you will bring a main dish, salad or dessert so we don't get all desserts. (haha) Come hungry for a late lunch, and you probably won't need dinner that night.

## Choir Rehearsals Begin Soon!

Adult choir rehearsals resume on Tuesday, 2/27 for the Holy Week services. Rehearsal dates are 2/27, 3/5, 3/12, and 3/19, 6:30-7:30. The choir will sing at the Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter services. Attendance at all rehearsals/services is not mandatory. If you are interested in participating, please contact Katie at [katie.kohler@locdelano.com](mailto:katie.kohler@locdelano.com) or just come to a rehearsal and try it out!



## Appeal Leadership Team formed!

At our Annual Meeting, we voted to move forward with a capital appeal for later in the spring in order to raise funds for our *Let Us Build a House* initiative. The following are members of our new Appeal Leadership Team: Laurie Brown, Steven Dickey, Derek Horeis, Lisa Spencer, Tim Johnson and Pastor Bruce.



We invite your energies and gifts for a few of our Appeal Support Teams which we're currently recruiting for. This is a short-term obligation -- only about ten weeks.

The **Communications Team** will work with our Kairos publications specialist to develop all print materials for the campaign. Think main brochure, postcards, posters, pledge cards, images, mailings, etc. We'll also look closely at other things in this team: print vs. digital. Web. Testimonies. Laurie Brown is heading up this effort.

**Spiritual Life** will keep things grounded in the spiritual end of things, obviously:) The intent here is to counterbalance, so to speak, practical focus matters of the building/improvements, financial realities, and the like. Help to create focus around prayer, the campaign theme and what that means and how we can experience it (Connecting More Deeply), and the like. A lot of options here. But people who have some interest/passion around this. Could be a member-written devotional book. Lisa Spencer is leading this team.

**Lead Gifts Team** will likely have as its main focus a kick-off weekend event. Dinner? Off-site? We did this before, and it was very successful. Inviting all leaders plus any/all who have financially been generous to LOC. We'll have a program which will capture the whole appeal's messaging in one event/evening. Inspiring them. Good fellowship. And ask that they consider jump-starting our money-raising efforts. Essentially to make an early or "lead" gift pledge even before we ask the rest of the congregation to do so later in the month. This group will be charged with a bit more than this one event. Also how to create some spice on Sunday mornings. Maybe simply special refreshments. Maybe a Continental Breakfast on the last Sunday of April which will be our Pledge/Celebration Sunday. Steven Dickey and Derek Horeis leading the lead effort.

**Worship Team** are mostly Pr. Bruce and Katie and perhaps a couple of others, to think through how we can help enliven the theme throughout those four weeks of April. Song, prayers, visuals.

**Administration** is Terri and crew. Some mailings. Etc. A variety of tasks in helping things get on out into member's hands and devices.

**Children, Youth & Family.** We want to have the theme and even the invitation to support the fundraising efforts integrated into our CYF's. This won't somehow take too large of a focus in these ministries. But we don't want the appeal to be compartmentalized, and we really want our kids and families to be a part of the effort! How can everyone best experience the theme and invitation to support will be the focus. Kirsten and LaDonna leading efforts here.

**Please reach out** to any of us. Or direct your inquiries to Tim Johnson at [tdale57@gmail.com](mailto:tdale57@gmail.com) or 952/472-1755.

Thank you!





## First Communion

On Sunday, March 17 we will be offering First Communion. The communion table is open to all children. We do ask that children wishing to receive First Communion (and at least one parent) participate in both of the preparing for First Communion sessions. The first session will be on Sunday, March 3 from 6-7 pm. The second preparing for First Communion session will be on Sunday, March 10 from 6-7 pm. Please register at the link below **by February 18** if your child plans to participate.

<https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/207f7d>



## Scenes from Bible Camp 2023:

Registration for church reserved spots is open **through February 15** at this link: <http://lwbci.com/loc-delano>

If you are planning to have your child participate it is good to register now. If reserved spots are already filled, your child will be put on waiting list on a first come, first served basis. Registration opens to the public for all camps on February 16.

The dates we have reserved are:

- WAPO Seeds (Grades 1-3): June 21-23
- Youth (Grades 4-6): June 23-28
- WAPO Youth: July 28-Aug 2, Aug 11-16



## HS Fellowship Begins on Sunday Nights!

After a few months of not having HS Fellowship on Wednesday nights (and trying Friday Night Lights instead), we've decided that we need a new time/event for our 9th - 12th grade youth to gather on a regular basis. Friday Night Lights will still take place the 2nd Friday of each month (and is open to 7-12 grade youth), but we've found this to be largely attended by grades 7 and 8, which is awesome!

So, we are going to give Sunday nights a try for grades 9-12 to gather. We invite our HS youth to hang out in the Living Room and have some time to connect and have fun with friends at church! Here are the details:

**Who:** 9-12 grade youth (ALL are welcome, including friends)

**What:** Fellowship, food, fun and games at church!

**When:** Once a month on Sunday nights typically the last Sunday of the month. Future dates will be 2/25, March is TBD (with spring break and Easter), and 4/28. May is also TBD.



**HS Fellowship for grades 9-12 starting again on Sunday nights!**

**Time:** 5-8 pm (supper included - won't always be pizza; some nights we'll cook together at church)

**Cost:** \$5/youth (to help cover the cost of food). Some nights might be more, depending on the meal.

**Note:** This will be an "open house" style where youth can come late or leave early, if needed.

**Sign Up:** Youth are encouraged to [sign up here](#) by noon the day of the event... but can also just show up. Signing up in advance will help Kirsten plan for food and adult leaders.

So, spread the word and we look forward to seeing you on February 25th!

## Save The Date...and Your Donations!

We hope you'll join us for our annual youth fundraiser on **Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>** for a special St. Patrick's Day auction and dinner! We also invite you to consider making a donation (of new or gently used items) for the auction! Our top sellers are always gift cards, wine baskets or electronics but it helps to have a variety of items and values! Donations must be brought to church **no later than Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup>**, but the sooner the better (so that our volunteers aren't so overwhelmed the last few weeks leading up to the event). Some great donations include:

- Vacation rentals
- Gift cards
- Sports tickets
- Delano-themed basket or gear
- Toys
- Personal certificates (such as for a dinner, boat ride, yard work or babysitting)
- Unwanted Christmas gifts
- Jewelry
- Sports equipment
- Books or puzzles
- *No used clothing, please*

Our auction will be online again this year from 7:00 AM–5:00 PM on March 17<sup>th</sup>, with items on display at church from 2:30-5:00 PM, and then the dinner taking place from 5:00-7:00 (with the famous dessert auction at the end of the dinner). Tickets for the dinner will go on sale beginning Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. Thanks for your support of our summer HS trips to Chicago and the BWCA!



**Join us  
on 3/17  
for our  
youth  
fundraiser!**

## Confirmation Corner

- ◇ **February 14 = Ash Wednesday** (start of Lent—worship as a family)

