

The Beacon

Pastor Bruce Kuenzel

February 19, 2024

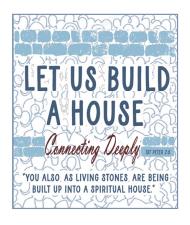
Worship

- In-person worship— 9:30 AM (new time) Sundays
- Online worship continues, and is livestreamed to our <u>YouTube</u> 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 Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com

Light of Christ Kids Special Appeal

If you've pledged or given funds to support the *Kids Special Appeal*, thank you! If you haven't yet and would like to, please submit your pledge card **on or before Friday, March 1.** Pledge cards and more information can be found in the narthex, church office or online on the *Give* page of our website at <u>https://www.lightofchristlutheran.com/</u>give.



Order Your Easter Flowers

Honor or remember a loved one with Easter flowers and help decorate the sanctuary for our Easter services. Click <u>here</u> to place your order. Deadline to order is **Sunday**, **March 10th**. Thank you for beautifying our church!



Lenten Worship & Suppers

Weekly Wednesday Lenten worship begins on February 21st at 7:00 PM and will incorporate the Holden Evening Prayer service, as well as feature the 10th graders' faith

statements. A meal will be held at 6:00 PM prior to each service. Please join us!

Lenten Supper Schedule

- ⇒ February 21—lasagna, tater tot hotdish and more served by Jennifer Grant and crew
- \Rightarrow February 28—various soups served by CFM Team
- ⇒ **March 6**—pulled pork served by Chicago Mission Trip youth
- ⇒ March 13—TBD served by Spencers and Hansons
- \Rightarrow March 20—walking tacos served by BWCA trip youth

Direct Thrivent Choice® Dollars

Thrivent Choice® can have a tremendous impact on organizations like ours. Eligible Thrivent clients with membership: Please consider <u>directing Choice</u> <u>Dollars</u>® to us. Many of you directed Choice Dollars® to Light of Christ or made a donation using <u>Thrivent's giving platform</u>. And by doing so, you have helped to make a difference. The outreach funding we receive from both you and Thrivent helps us to continue our important mission. Thank you for your support.

thrivent

Subcommittee On Affordable Housing in Delano

Our church was contacted by Gretchen Stewart who is a Delano resident working on a subcommittee of the Delano United Diversity Task Force to bring more affordable housing to Delano. Their five-person committee is working with Delano city employees, City Council and the Chamber of Commerce as well as local employers who hope this effort will bring more affordable housing to Delano. This subcommittee is also reaching out to local church members to see who might be interested in working on this effort. If you are interested, Gretchen's contact information is gretchen.stewart@gmail.com.

Caring Cards

Is there someone you would like to receive a personally written message of support or encouragement from the Light of Christ family? Please complete the information below and send to the church office or email to <u>Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com</u>. A card will be created and sent to the intended recipient.

Please	send a card to:	
Name:		
		Ī

youth-young adult

Address:

This person needs support dealing with:

___ grief illness

____ depression, brokenness family discord

30-60

optional details:

To ensure an age-appropriate message, please indicate the recipient's age.

___60-100

This outreach is provided by the Healing and Wholeness Ministry.

Love INC Annual Meeting



It's almost time to gather for the Love In the Name of

Christ Heartland's Annual Meeting. Please mark your calendars for 6:30 PM on February 20 at Delano United Methodist Church.

Planning to attend? Let us know!

RSVP is not required, but we would appreciate hearing from you. It helps us prepare for a great meeting.

Volunteer at Love INC Heartland

Our ministry would not be possible without the generous hearts and hands of volunteers. There a many ways to become involved and we would love to hear from you. Call our main office at 763-972-6547 or visit <u>bit.ly/loveincvolunteer</u> 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: <u>bit.ly/fsmeals23</u>



The church office will be closed on Monday, February 19.

Lent Service Musicians

This year during Lent, we are once again having Wednesday 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



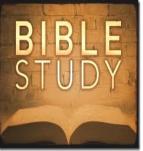
contact Katie at <u>katie.kohler@locdelano.com</u>. Thank you!

Tough Questions for 21st Century Christians

Pastor Bruce leads a Bible study on the tough questions that we face as 21st century Christians today, which meets on the **first and third Tuesdays of the month** in the Living Room from 7:45 - 8:45 PM. The next study is on **February 20th at 7:45 PM**. There is no need to register ahead of time. The question this week is, *"Why do we bless LGBTQ+ marriages and ordain pastoral candidates who are in them?"* The presentation will be recorded and posted on the Light of Christ website for those who can't participate in person. Please don't hesitate to reach out to Pastor Bruce with any questions you may have.

Did you know that you can find past sessions of Tough Questions on our <u>YouTube</u> page? Below are the links to past questions discussed:

- Introduction Video https://youtu.be/SUP5E82IBSg
- Where is God When the Innocent Suffer? <u>https://</u> youtu.be/zNffKR1HfZU
- Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People? <u>https://youtu.be/juvWr_G-K-I</u>



 What is the Meaning of Innocent Suffering? <u>https://youtu.be/</u> <u>VS5GmtleiFs</u>

 Can I Believe in Creation and Evolution? <u>https://youtu.be/</u> <u>O2QO4yJHLqY</u>

• Can I Believe in Creation and Evolution? Part 2 <u>https://</u> youtu.be/nh3hcKXb9b4

Lent Musical Devotions

Beginning Tuesday, February 20th, 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 <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/</u> <u>UCLKsWMFGKBf07k9w9MFFrqw</u>

Youth Choir Rehearsals Begin Soon!

Youth choir rehearsals will begin on Sunday, Feb. 25th after worship. Ages for the choir are 3rd-6th 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 <u>katie.kohler@locdelano.com</u>.



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 <u>katie.kohler@locdelano.com</u> or just come to a rehearsal and try it out!

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 <u>current.tim@gmail.com</u> for more details.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS

<image>

Glimpses of Voyagers as they learn of God's love for each of them



Our Sunday morning Explorer group having fun working together

Scenes from Bible Camp 2023

Registration is now open to the public. You can register at this link: http://lwlbci.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.

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 <u>sign up here</u> 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!

Vacation rentals

Sports tickets

Delano-themed basket or gear

Personal certificates (such as for a

Gift cards

Toys

We hope you'll join us for our annual youth fundraiser on **Sunday, March 17th** for a special St. Patrick's Day auction and dinner! We also invite you to consider making a donation (of new or <u>gently used</u> 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 11th**, 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:



- Unwanted Christmas gifts
 - Jewelry
- Sports equipment
- Books or puzzles
- No used clothing, please

dinner, boat ride, yard work or babysitting) Our auction will be online again this year from 7:00 AM–5:00 PM on March 17th, 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 are on sale now. Thanks for your support of our summer HS trips to Chicago and the BWCA!

