

The Beacon

Pastor Bob Linstrand, bridge pastor December 16, 2024

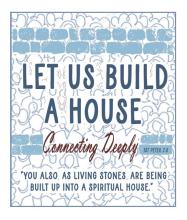
#### Worship

- In-person worship-9:30 AM Sundays
- **Online worship** continues, and is livestreamed 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



#### **Contact us!**

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



LightOfChristLutheran.com Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com



Merry Christmas from the Voyager Gang!

# Advent/Christmas **Worship Schedule**

Below is our schedule for the upcoming Advent/Christmas worship services:

 $\Rightarrow$  **12/22:** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent, 9:30 AM  $\Rightarrow$  **12/24:** 2, 4, 10 PM Christmas Eve Services

⇒ No Christmas Day worship

# OUTREACH

## Fifth Sunday Donations in December

Our Fifth Sunday contributions in December will help those in need who live locally. Two organizations have been brought to our attention at LOC. As always, we can bring a bright star to those in need. **Thank you so much for your generous contribution!** 

### LOC/Love INC Birthday Ministries

Light of Christ volunteers work in collaboration with the Delano Love INC chapter to provide birthday gifts and



supplies for children ages 10 and under throughout the year. Families in need are selected by Love INC. LOC volunteers each month receive a list of eligible children and purchase birthday gifts as well as birthday supplies for these children/ families. Light of Christ totally funds the cost of this program and there is no cost to the recipient families. We so appreciate your financial contributions for this monthly effort for these young children for the coming year. Your efforts will help make wonderful birthdays for these special young kids.

### **Residents of The Estates at Delano**

#### Nursing Home

At times there are residents who are admitted to the Estates at Delano Nursing Home who do



not have adequate clothing and personal items. Many do not have family or adequate funds that can help them with these needs. Lisa Spencer, who has worked at the Estates, recommended to the Mission/Evangelism committee that we reach out and help purchase items for these selected residents. Lisa will work with management staff to identify any resident needs and purchase gift cards from the Delano Love INC thrift store to assist these residents. Other hygiene items needed will also be purchased locally. This effort will help these residents maintain the dignity that they deserve.

## Thanksgiving - Love INC Heartland

A special thank you to The Highlands and Lyndale Lutheran church partners!



Through partnership with Love INC Heartland, 35 Thanksgiving meal baskets and 30 turkeys were provided to neighbors in need. We value you and your commitment to our mission to transform lives and communities In the Name of Christ.

### Serve A Meal - Love INC Heartland

Build community by serving (or financially sponsoring) a meal at our Fresh Start Program! Fresh Start is a series of life skills courses we offer to our neighbors in need. Before each class, we serve a meal to promote a sense of family. Sign Up Today: <u>bit.ly/fsmealtrain</u>

# 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Address:

This person needs support dealing with:

grief \_\_\_\_ depression, brokenness \_\_\_\_ illness \_\_\_\_ family discord

optional details:

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

\_\_\_ youth-young adult \_\_\_\_30-60

\_60-100

This outreach is provided by the Healing and Wholeness Ministry.

# **CHURCH NEWS**



THE HOOT NEWS

**OWLS Newsletter** for December 2024

Merry Christmas to all our OWLS! (Older Wiser Lutherans)

#### On FRIDAY, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:00

**PM** we are gathering in the Living Room for a special Christmas party! Hope all of you can join us. Please invite folks not yet on our roster. We welcome anyone who is "older," even if you don't feel "wiser." Give us a try!! Make new friends!!

For our party, start checking your closets and cupboards for "White Elephant" gifts to share. These are items you may want to re-gift or no longer need, no need to buy anything! One gift per person, wrapped. LOL! Be sure to come hungry. We're asking all to bring either a favorite hot or cold dip with crackers/veggies/etc. or a favorite dessert. We're calling this "Dips and Desserts." We'll provide beverages. Get ready for a little nostalgia with some of our favorite Christmas music and memories! A game or two is in the works! Please RSVP for planning to billandsue2931@gmail.com.

Our Planning Flock consists of Sue and Bill Fink, Jinnelle Weis, Jewel Ekern, and Lona Jose. Share any ideas you have for fun or adventure with any of us.

For January we're moving the date to the 23<sup>rd</sup> and will have a soup and bread cook-off and games in the Living Room.

February 20<sup>th</sup> will be a Valentine theme and potluck. In March we'll resume monthly outings when the weather warms up. For now, let's snuggle in together and keep each other warm and loved!

Reminder- our Advent Bible Study dates are December 22 and January 5 & 12.



#### **2024 Annual Reports**

Committee chairs/staff: If you haven't already done so, please submit your 2024 annual report to the church office by **December 16<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you!



The church office will be closed Monday, December 23 through Wednesday, December 25.

### **Online Christmas Devotions**

Start your week off with a musical devotion! Through December our Worship and Music Director, Katie Anne Kohler, will share musical devotions featuring our favorite Christmas carols. Videos will be



posted to our Light of Christ Worship Services page each Monday. You can find the link here: https:// voutube.com/@lightofchristworshipservic6861? si=rLmYMIReX2eL6cJH

### **Christmas Ornaments & Candles**



The Worship and Music Committee would like to offer everyone the opportunity to purchase ornaments and/or candles, made by the committee members, this Christmas season in honor or memory of loved ones. All ornaments will be placed on the Christmas tree in the Narthex until after Christmas Eve, unless you wish to

take yours home right away. Suggested amount for purchase is \$10. All funds will go toward the worship and music fund! We will have a table set-up in the Narthex for purchasing through December 22. If paying by check, please make payable to Light of Christ and note Christmas Ornaments or Christmas Candles in the memo. Thank you and Merry Christmas!

## 2025 Pledges & Online Giving

If you need to change your automatic contribution amount due to your 2025 pledge, please log in to your MyVanco account or contact Terri in the church office to

make the change. Your pledge



card does not authorize the church to make these changes.

You are encouraged to still submit your 2025 pledge if you haven't already done so. Pledge cards can be found at the usher station or in the church office.



## 2025 Offering Envelopes

If you requested preprinted 2025 offering envelopes, (or did not opt out) they are now available to be picked up in the Narthex.

# **CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS**

# Summer 2025 BWCA Trip!

Current Juniors and Seniors... we are going back to the BWCA next summer! Jennifer Slipka has agreed to lead another BWCA trip (*thank you, Jennifer!*) and we are going to have an informational meeting **this Wednesday**, **December 18<sup>th</sup> at 8 PM in the Sanctuary**. Come to find out more, ask questions and hear about last summer's trip!

- If you cannot attend but are interested in the trip, please let one of us know. We can only take 7 youth max!
- We will not know the dates of the trip until a permit can be secured (which become available the end of January).
- We will need a second adult to attend talk to Kirsten or Jennifer if you're interested!



## Confirmation Service Night

On December 11<sup>th</sup>, the youth in grades 7-9 served at Love INC, in both the Delano and Howard Lake locations. Here are some photos of the hard work they did along with the fun they had serving together! Thank you to the adult leaders and volunteer coordinators who gave of their time to make this night happen. *(more photos on the next page)* 







Serving at Love INC, Howard Lake - <u>12/11/24</u>









# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS

# Deadline to register is this week!!!



# 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Mission Trip Twin Cities, MN June 8-12, 2024

We are excited to offer our very first 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade mission trip this upcoming summer! It'll be a shortened trip (4 nights) and always be local—probably in the Twin Cities area. Please check out the info below, prayerfully consider attending and talk to Kirsten about any questions!

**What:** A trip for LOC youth currently in grades 7 and 8 who want to grow in their faith, serve and learn together on a trip in Minnesota!

**Where**: Staying at Luther Memorial Church in South St. Paul, MN

Cost: Approximately \$375

**More Info**: <u>Click here to view the info sheet for more de-</u><u>tails</u>. If you missed the info meeting, here is the link of the recording: <u>https://www.youtube.com/</u> @lightofchristdelano9722

**Register** here (and pay your \$100 deposit) before <u>12/18/24</u> to secure your spot! <u>https://</u> <u>lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/TwinCities2025</u>



# HS Mission Trip North Shore, MN July 26-Aug. 2, 2025

We are excited for another awesome trip with our HS youth learning and growing together through service! Please check out the info below, prayerfully consider attending and talk to Kirsten about any questions.

**What:** A trip for LOC youth currently in grades 9-12 who want to grow in their faith, serve and learn together on a trip in northern MN!

Where: Two Harbors, Duluth & Grand Marais, MN

Cost: Approximately \$375

**More Info**: <u>Click here to view the info sheet</u> or pick one up at the office. If you missed the info meeting, here is the link of the recording: <u>https://</u> www.youtube.com/watch?v=4vtVEeOd5Mw

**Register** here (and pay your \$100 deposit) before <u>12/18/24</u> to secure your spot! <u>https://</u> <u>lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/</u> <u>NorthShore2025</u>

### "Buy with Heart" this Christmas

Equal Exchange (fair trade) items make great Christmas gifts. Find them 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, almonds, and dried mangos, LOC coffee mugs

All sales support our summer youth trips as well as small farmers around the world! These items make great gifts for teachers or friends. 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 and for "shopping with heart."

# Confirmation Calendar

(All events are 6:15-8:00 PM unless noted otherwise. See more details included on <u>this page</u>.)

• 12/18 = Small Group Christmas Parties!