



Worship

All worship services will be recorded and posted on the church website so you can watch and stay connected each week. Online worship will continue until the restrictions for large group gatherings are lifted.



Church Council 2020

Kylee Amdor
Wes Aylsworth
Carmen Hanson
Jennifer Hinker
Jon Holzer
Elizabeth Kohlhof
Dan Langner
Tom Sebelien
Stacy VanCura
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
lochrist@frontiernet.net

NEW SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

For the past several months Light of Christ has partnered with Our Father's Lutheran Church in Rockford to distribute fresh produce to area residents. This service was spearheaded by NourishingHOPE which is a group from Our Father's that was formed for the purpose of **"creating connections in the community to feed the whole person: body, mind and spirit - seeking to ease food insecurity."** In conjunction with Wright County Community Action (WCCA), NourishingHOPE is now expanding this ministry to include preparation and delivery of frozen meals to senior citizens in our area. Light of Christ has again been invited to partner in this new initiative.



We are now asking for a person or persons to organize Light of Christ's involvement as we formulate how best to engage in this expanded ministry.

Startup duties will primarily involve -

- Connecting with the chair of NourishingHOPE to learn in greater detail their vision and how best to incorporate that at Light of Christ
- Determine best ways to communicate this offering to persons in our congregation and community in need of the food deliveries and/or determine potential need in conjunction with other similar services available in this area
- Long range will likely include a need to recruit volunteers to potentially assist in making meals and persons willing to deliver the meals. (commercial freezers at Our Father's will be used to store frozen meals)

Please email Jinnelle Weis at locvolunteer@frontier.com or call my cell phone, 952-250-5527 if you can help in this new initiative or would like to have more information. Thank you for your service!



Day/Time Change for Light of Christ Zoom Bible Study Sundays 6:30-7:30 pm

Come to explore what God's Word says for life today. Each week we take a portion of Scripture. All are welcome! In order to get a Zoom link, email Tim Johnson at tdale57@gmail.com

New Devotion Schedule for Fall!

We will begin a new devotion schedule starting on September 14th. Devotions will now occur on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. Member song requests will be featured in Saturday's devotions instead of Friday's devotions. Click [here](#) for the latest devotional message.

Love INC Update

- Thrift stores in Delano and Howard Lake are now reopened and **looking for volunteers** for warehouse, merchandise prep, and cashiers. If you would be willing to help, please call Julianne at the Delano location at 763-999-7086 or Alyssa at the Howard Lake location at 763-999-7087.
- Upcoming Event: **Virtual Gala (online) Harvesting Hope** – September 20th at 4:00 pm. Login to: www.loveincheartland.org

Parent Support Group

Many parents are experiencing feelings of anxiety and uncertainty as we plan for the upcoming school year. If you would like to learn more about Light of Christ's Christ-centered parent support group starting this fall, please email our facilitators, MJ Pearson (mjpearson.msw@gmail.com) and Catherine Borman (catborman@gmail.com). This group will follow social distancing protocol and will meet outside. We will meet in our outdoor worship space so that parents of young children can utilize the playground during our meetings. Please let us know your preference for meeting time whether it be a specific evening during the week, every other Saturday morning or Sunday afternoon.

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 lochris@frontiernet.net. 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:

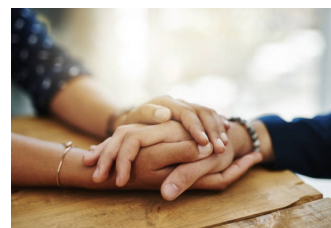
To ensure an age-appropriate message, please indicate the recipient's age.

___ youth-young adult ___ 30-60 ___ 60-100

*This outreach is provided by the
Healing and Wholeness Ministry.*

Caring Corner

*Created by Light of Christ Healing
and Wholeness Ministry*



We can all help prevent suicide. Every year, the Lifeline and other mental health organizations and individuals across the U.S. and around the world raise awareness of suicide prevention during September, National Suicide Prevention Month.

#BeThe1To is the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline's message for National Suicide Prevention Month and beyond, which helps spread the word about actions we can all take to prevent suicide. The Lifeline network and its partners are working to change the conversation from suicide to suicide prevention, to actions that can promote healing, help and give hope.

Ask

Research shows people who are having thoughts of suicide feel relief when someone asks about them in a caring way. Findings suggest acknowledging and talking about suicide may reduce rather than increase suicidal ideation.

Be There

Individuals are more likely to feel less depressed, less suicidal, less overwhelmed, and more hopeful after speaking to someone who listens without judgment.

Keep Them Safe

A number of studies have indicated that when lethal means are made less available or less deadly, suicide rates by that method decline, and frequently suicide rates overall decline.

Help Them Stay Connected

Studies indicate that helping someone at risk create a network of resources and individuals for support and safety can help them take positive action and reduce feelings of hopelessness.

Follow Up

Studies have also shown that brief, low cost intervention and supportive, ongoing contact may be an important part of suicide prevention, especially for individuals after they have been discharged from hospitals or care services.

If you need free and confidential support call the **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-273-TALK(8255)**

You can also text 741741 for help through the Crisis Text Line.

(This info is from SuicidePreventionLifeline.org.)

Be a Star!

Our staff continues to welcome kids, youth, families and/or adults of all ages to help us with our video recording for worship! Parts of worship that we've been looking for include the Lord's Prayer, Apostle's Creed and First Reading. Confirmation youth can use this for Service Hours and HS youth could use this for NHS hours. Contact Kirsten Kelly or Katie Kohler if you'd like to participate and submit a recording!



Sunday School Information

Join us on Sunday, September 20th at 4 pm., for our Blessing and Kick off celebration! We will explain how Sunday School will look this fall, followed by a fun-filled obstacle course. [Click here to sign up](#) to attend the celebration to help us in the planning process.

Sunday School registration is now open!! Click [here to register for Sunday school!](#)

We have been working hard on planning what is the safest way to bring our Light of Christ children back. We appreciate your patience, grace, and flexibility as we move into our new school year. We have planned through the fall and will reevaluate what the colder months will look like in October. Here is what we have planned:

- ◇ Sunday School: **September 27th, October 4th and 11th (18th off for MEA)**
- ◇ We would like to take advantage of our nice fall days and be able to meet outside while the weather permits.
 - **4:00-4:30 pm** 3-yr-old-2nd grade (1 parent would need to stay)
 - **4:45-5:30 pm** 3rd-6th grade (can be dropped off, no parent needed)
 - Meet in the church parking lot, distancing ourselves. If the weather does not permit us to be outside, then we would host a zoom call from 4:00-4:45 pm for all grades. An email will be sent out either Saturday night or Sunday morning with the zoom link. Face masks will be optional while we are outside.

SPARK

Light of Christ's after-school program, SPARK, will be starting soon with some changes from past sessions. One change is that 1st graders will now be invited to join in the fun! The second major change will be the schedule. Due to the pandemic, we will first hold 2-week sessions for each grade (1st-6th) this fall and then resume with more 2-week sessions in late spring. The reasoning behind this is so that we can take advantage of the warmer weather and hold sessions outside (weather permitting). All sessions will still be from 3:00-5:00 pm, but we are not only having them on Wednesdays, but are now including Tuesday sessions. For more detailed information and to register your child, you may go to the following link: [SPARK Registration 2020-2021](#).



We apologize for omitting Nick Farniok's name with the list of newly confirmed youth in last week's issue. Nick was confirmed on August 30th.

Important Confirmation Dates and Information

Although Confirmation will look very different this year, we are planning to do the best we can while keeping our youth, Guides, and staff all safe. We will be meeting with the Wellness Task Force to talk about how we can conduct Confirmation, SS, and Spark in a low risk fashion. That being said, we appreciate your flexibility, understanding, and grace as we navigate this school year. For safety reasons (and space restrictions), we are not planning to do any "in person" large groups this year with all 3 grades. Instead, Pastor Bruce and Kirsten will record their large group teaching, and then videos will be shared in the small groups. We may have some grade-specific events once we have a chance to assess how the school year has started. Small groups will meet outdoors each week (weather permitting, at various locations) beginning the week of September 14 through MEA. We are still looking for adults to be Confirmation Co-Guides (co-lead a small group of 6-8 kids), so please contact Pastor Bruce or Kirsten if you are interested! Here are some important dates to put on your calendar:

- **1st Night of Small Groups** = Evenings the week of September 14 (day/time determined by Guides/families)
- **Outdoor weekly small group fellowship meetings taking place until MEA**
- **More info to come about after MEA once we get underway with the school year**

Confirmation youth should continue to work on Worship Notes and Service Hours and complete the [online forms on our website](#).

Please feel free to contact us with any questions, ideas, or feedback. We are all in this together and we appreciate your partnership!

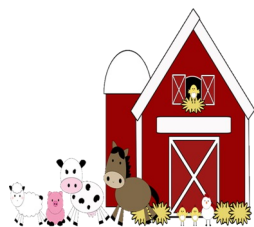


HS Kick-Off Bonfire

All high school youth (current grades 9-12) are invited to join us on Sunday, **September 20th from 7:00-8:30** for a bonfire to kick-off the fall ministries. Mark your calendar... more details to come!

Change for Children

Our children and youth are organizing the 2nd Annual Change for Children to raise money for the **ELCA Global Barnyard**. (Watch a short [video about the Global Farm Challenge](#)!)



Last spring, this project exceeded our expectations and we raised \$1,447.97! This allowed us to purchase 2 cows, 3 goats, 3 pigs, 100 chicks and 4 sets of seeds and gardening tools (which are given to families around the world to create sustainability and food for their families). To learn more about the ELCA [Good Gifts program](#).

This year we are setting our goal a bit higher and hope to raise \$1,500 over the summer months! We encourage families to make a Change for Children jar at home and later we will share details about how you can drop off your donation. Donations can also be made [online on our giving page](#) (make sure to indicate "**Change for Children**"). Thanks for your support as we collect change and come together to make "Change for Children"!



How You Spend Your Money Makes a Difference!

Do you drink coffee or tea? Eat chocolate, nuts or dried fruit? Did you know that the Light of Christ high school youth sell Equal Exchange products, even during COVID? If you've never heard of Equal Exchange (EE), here is a [short video](#) about why EE purchases are important. Each purchase supports small farmers around the world (and now more than ever, we need to be supporting these small family-owned farms, which are struggling to survive) as well as our youth right here at Light of Christ! Order through our [online store](#) and have them delivered to your house **FOR FREE** (or to a friend to brighten their day)! You can make difference with your purchases!



Snap a Family Picture for the Online Directory

Light of Christ

Members: let's stay connected while having to be apart from one another! Don't forget about pictures for the online Church Directory. All you have to do is email your picture to [Terri at the church office](#) who will coordinate adding it to our directory.



Call on the Light of Christ Prayer Chain

Then you will call on me and come and pray to me and I will listen to you. Jeremiah 29:12

Are you in need of a prayer during these difficult days? Do you know someone else in need of prayer? If so, please feel free to engage the Light of Christ Prayer Chain. The process is simple and 100% confidential. All you need to do is contact the church office either by email, which is preferred—(lochrist@frontiernet.net), or phone (763-972-2400; please keep in mind office hours are currently limited to Wednesdays, 9:15-11:30 am) with your request. The church office then contacts the group of LOC members ready to 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.



COME VISIT THE CHURCH LIBRARY



Even as public libraries are reopening, keep in mind that the church library has many books and resources for members to check out, and for all ages and topics. Just stop in during office hours (currently Wednesdays 9:15-11:30 am) to check it out while still remaining socially distant!