



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!

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Delano, MN 55328
(763) 972-2400



LightOfChristLutheran.com
Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com

Help a Fellow Light of Christ Family

A couple of weeks ago, Stan and Edie Droneck lost their house to a fire so will need to rebuild. If you'd like to donate to help, a fund has been set up at **Bankwest**. Money can be deposited in person (*Rockford, Buffalo, Hanover branches*) or mailed to **Bankwest** to the *attention of the Droneck account: 5921 Main St., Rockford 55373*.



Pictures from the adult mission trip to Belize, February 24—March 2, that 14 Light of Christ members participated in.



Pack The Pews Sundays in March

March is Minnesota Food Share Month. Each year, Light of Christ has participated by "Packing the Pews" with donations for our local food shelf – Delano Helping Hands. Sundays through March 24th, please bring donations to the sanctuary or the donation cupboard outside the Living Room. Designated pews will be identified with signs made by our Voyagers (1-3 graders).

Not sure what to donate? The following are items that are more costly to source by the food shelf.

- barbecue sauce
- oatmeal packets
- coffee/tea
- canned meals
- canned meats
- cereals (children's cereals are very popular)
- Paper products (toilet paper/paper towels/facial tissues/napkins etc)
- paper products (toilet paper/paper towels/facial tissues/napkins etc)
- mayonnaise
- soups that can be meals
- pasta (other than spaghetti)
- feminine hygiene items
- jarred pasta sauce



March Fifth Sunday Offering

In March, our Fifth Sunday offering will go to Second Harvest Heartland – a food bank located in Brooklyn Park, MN. As a food bank, they provide low cost or free food to food shelves, schools, community centers and other organizations in Minnesota and western Wisconsin. Currently, they support over 1,115 agencies/organizations. Nearly two-thirds of the food they provide is fresh including meat, produce, bakery and dairy. Last year, they provided food to over 813,000 people.

Light of Christ has local connections to Second Harvest as well. Second Harvest provides food to Delano Helping Hands – our local food shelf. They also provide the food distributed through Nourishing Hope. Nourishing Hope provides food to six local churches for monthly distribution. Light of Christ has been one of the participating churches since 2020.

For every \$1.00 donated, they can provide 3 meals to hungry neighbors. We are looking forward to providing food to as many Minnesotans as possible through our Fifth Sunday donation in March. You can donate under the *March Fifth Sunday Offering* tile on our *Give* page, found by going to the [LOC website](#). You can also designate a check or cash specifically for *Second Harvest* in Sunday's collection plate or send it to Terri in the office. You can help feed a hungry family and make a difference! Please donate what you can.



Caring Corner

(from Sue Fink of the Healing & Wholeness Committee)

As our Healing and Wholeness Ministry group has attempted to discern how best to meet the needs of our LOC family and community, grief support keeps coming up. How do we as a congregation comfort and support people as they grieve the death of a loved one? We have considered having a grief support group, and just recently I have researched this topic and found a wonderful ministry called *Grief Share*. It is a nation-wide program that provides materials and training for individual churches to be able to offer faith-based, in-person grief support.

A couple times a year, a 13-week session is offered in various churches, several of which are near Delano and meet on various days and times to meet individual schedules. Each week a different topic is covered, starting with a video (presented by leading experts in grief counseling), then a workbook and leader-led group discussion. Currently this is the schedule for a few locations. They are currently in mid-session with classes ending in April. Some charge a fee of \$20 for all 13 sessions, others are free.

- ◇ Riverwood Covenant in Greenfield - Saturdays 9:30-11am (childcare offered)
- ◇ St. Paul's Lutheran in Hanover - Saturdays 9-11am
- ◇ Buffalo Covenant in Buffalo - Thursdays 4:30-6:15pm
- ◇ Freshwater Church in Waconia - Thursdays 6:30-8pm
- ◇ St. Mark's Lutheran in New Germany - Tuesdays 6:30-8pm
- ◇ Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Maple Grove - Tuesdays 6:30-8:30pm (runs through May 7)

There are many more location options which you can find online at griefshare.org. You can also register for an account for access to free videos, articles and other resources with insightful advice on how to handle common grieving situations, as well as daily emails that offer faith-based encouragement.

Since there are already many groups available, Healing and Wholeness feels it best to just offer the information rather than having our own group at this time. If you would like a companion to go along to get you started in a group, contact Sue Fink via the church office.

Lent Service Musicians

This year during Lent, we are once again singing the Holden Evening Prayer during our 7PM Wednesday services. 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. Thank you!



Order Your Easter Flowers

Honor or remember a loved one with Easter flowers and help decorate the sanctuary for our Easter services. Click [here](#) to place your order. Deadline to order is **next Sunday, March 10th**. Thank you for beautifying our church!



Lenten Worship & Suppers

Weekly Wednesday Lenten worship is held 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

- ⇒ **March 6**—pulled pork served by Chicago Mission Trip youth
- ⇒ **March 13**—chicken wild rice soup, beef taco soup & more, served by Spencers and Hansons
- ⇒ **March 20**—walking tacos served by BWCA trip youth

Holy Week Schedule

- **Palm Sunday, March 24th** at 9:30 AM
- **Maundy Thursday, March 28th** at 7:00 PM - Worship with Holy Communion
- **Good Friday, March 29th** at 7:00 pm - "Service of the Nails," a contemplative service with scripture, prayer, meditation, and music.
- **Easter Sunday, March 31st** at 8:30 & 10:30 am - A blend of classic and contemporary worship featuring a variety of music and plenty of celebration!



**HOLY WEEK
WORSHIP
SCHEDULE**

Lent Musical Devotions

During the season of Lent, 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 **Thursday** throughout Lent. The link to our YouTube page can be found here <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLKsWMFGKBf07k9w9MFFrqw>



Adult Choir Rehearsals

Adult choir rehearsal upcoming dates are 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 or just come to a rehearsal and try it out!

Donate from Your Smart Phone

Light of Christ offers a mobile version of our online giving page to make it easy for you to give anytime from your smart phone.



Simply scan the image you see here using your phone's QR code reader or go to the [church website](#) and locate the online giving page.

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 for more details.

CONNECTING

2024

A Great Way to Serve for about 8 weeks:

- Do you have a heart for **praying**, for helping to **deepen our spiritual walk with God and with one another**, then consider connecting with Lisa Spencer (shadybch@mchsi.com) and others with our Spiritual Life Team, a group who is organizing a couple of cool ideas for the month of April when we hold our Connecting Deeply capital appeal.
- Perhaps you've got energy for **event planning** and/or creating some good hospitality. Please reach out to either Derek Horeis (dkhoreis@yahoo.com) or Steven Dickey (sdickey016@gmail.com) as they make plans for an appeal kick-off event and for helping to make those April Sundays infused with some extra "something."
- If you're good at getting important information out to all of us through **mailings or other materials distribution**, consider reaching out to Terri Reuter (Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com) with some of our Admin tasks forthcoming.
- We're looking to make a connection with the call to generosity and deepening our connections with our **Children, Youth and Families**. Ready to invest a bit of time and faith into that endeavor, please reach out to either LaDonna (LaDonna.Ekern@locdelano.com) or Kirsten (Kirsten.Kelly@locdelano.com).
- What about **creative communication**? Like creating two-three minute brief videos of LOC folks sharing a bit of their faith story. Reach out to Laurie Brown (lauriewbrown0716@yahoo.com). She'll help with some ideas.
- And if you think you'd like to share some of your time and talents but you're **not sure where or how**, reach out to Tim Johnson (tdale57@gmail.com). He'll help get you connected!

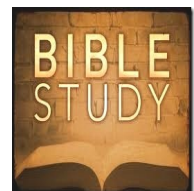
Connecting more deeply -- that's what this is all about! *"You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."* 1st Peter 2:5

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 **March 5th at 7:45 PM**. There is no need to register ahead of time. 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 [YouTube](#) page? Below are the links to past questions discussed:

- Introduction Video <https://youtu.be/SUP5E82IBSg>
- Where is God When the Innocent Suffer? <https://youtu.be/zNffKR1HfZU>
- Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People? https://youtu.be/juvWr_G-K-I
- What is the Meaning of Innocent Suffering? <https://youtu.be/VS5GmtleiFs>
- Can I Believe in Creation and Evolution? <https://youtu.be/O2QO4yJHLqY>
- Can I Believe in Creation and Evolution? Part 2 <https://youtu.be/nh3hcKXb9b4>



THE HOOT—O.W.L.S NEWS

Hello, OWLS! (Older Wiser Lutherans)

Happy March! We had a really fun gathering on February 15th with a potluck and Valentine trivia and bingo. Lots of great food and laughs.

On March 21st we are going to meet at LOC at 9:30AM and carpool to the Annandale Art and Textile Center followed with lunch at the Thayer House. See our OWLS bulletin board or artandweaving.com for more information. We will be meeting and observing the Heart of the Lake Weavers at work on their looms and have an opportunity to shop for unique items made from the beautiful textiles or other crafts from local artists. Please join us! **Contact Sue Fink (billandsue2931@gmail.com or 763-972-6005) By March 19th to sign up as we need to inform them each of number in our group.**

We will soon be starting our first Bible study called "Growing Older and Wiser." We'll meet 4 weeks this spring and finish up in the fall. Day and time to be determined. Stay tuned. The book is available through Sue Fink for \$8.00. Currently 14 folks have signed up. Give it a try!

Ideas coming up in the next few months:

- Art in Bloom at the Minneapolis Institute of Art on April 25th
- Barn Party at Finks with silly yard games
- Big Stone Mini Golf
- Gathering at Lake Ann at Dick and Beth Coulombe's
- Visit to St. John's University



February food packing and distribution for Nourishing Hope



Every month a group of us stay to pray for the concerns just shared by our Nourishing Hope guests. And, as you know, some of these prayers are lifted up in our weekly worship services, as well.

Monthly Food Distribution

The next food distribution is on **Monday, March 11th**. 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 below:

- **10:00 AM** packing food boxes—[click here](#)
- **3:30 PM** distributing boxes of food right here in our church parking lot—[click here](#)

Light of Christ Lutheran Church presents... The 2024 Youth Summer Trips Fundraiser!



Featuring Spaghetti Dinner, Online & Dessert Auctions!

Sunday, March 17, 2024

- 7:00 am Auction opens online (32auctions.com)
- 2:30 pm Auction in-person viewing at LOC (until 5 pm)
- 3:30 pm Wine/Beer Sampling & Entertainment
- 5:00 pm Auction closes/Spaghetti Dinner Begins
- 6:30 pm Live Dessert Auction
- 7:00 pm Auction Item Pick-Up



Online
Auction
QR Code

Spaghetti Dinner Tickets:

- * Ages 13+ = \$15
- * Ages 4-12 = \$10
- * 3 and under = Free

Tickets on sale before/after
LOC worship or by emailing
Kirsten.Kelly@locdelano.com

We are so excited for the upcoming yearly youth fundraiser! Spaghetti Dinner Tickets are on sale before/after worship (on Sundays and Lent Wednesdays) or by emailing Kirsten.Kelly@locdelano.com or by stopping at the church office. If you are able to donate and item for the online auction (<https://www.32auctions.com/LOCYouth2024>), we ask that you drop off donations by Monday, March 11th. We also hope you'll bid on items online (*3/17 from 7 am – 5 pm)!

Your support will help 22 youth going on our summer mission trip to Chicago as well as 6 youth going to the BWCA... along with the adults that give a week of their time to serve on these trips! We are SO GRATEFUL for all the ways you help our youth grow in their faith and relationships with one another. Hope to see you on March 17th!

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

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS



**Dinner and a Movie
HS Fellowship, Feb 25, 2024**

We had an awesome time making burrito bowls and watching a movie together at HS Fellowship last week! These events take place monthly and are for grades 9-12. Our next event will be **Sunday night, April 28th from 5-8 PM**. We don't have HS Fellowship in March due to the big youth fundraiser on 3/17.

Each month on the 2nd Friday, we have Friday Night Lights for grades 7-12 in the Living Room at church. These nights are tons of fun and include pizza and night games. We've also done Just Dance and karaoke along with puzzles and other games. Sometimes we also do a service project together. Join us for our next event on **Friday, March 8th**... this month it'll be at a **NEW TIME from 5-8 PM** since we have a 10th grade all-night Confirmation event that same night. Hope to see you there!



2/7/24

CONFIRMATION GAMES!



Each week at Confirmation we have games for our youth... either in small group, by grade level or with all 60 kids. This is a way to connect, build relationships and have fun at church! These photos are of minute-to-win it games back on 2/7/24. Your giving makes these events possible and helps our kids grow in their faith and have fun at church! Our next regular Confirmation night is **Wednesday, April 3rd from 6:30-8:00 PM**.

A glimpse of Pathfinders enjoying the nice weather



Register for Summer Bible Camp

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