



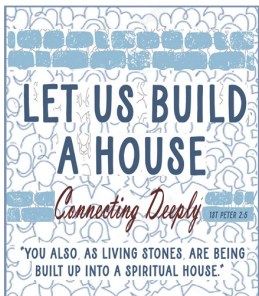
## Worship

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



## Church Council 2025

Laurie Brown (sec'y.)  
Billie Chock (pres.)  
Tim Current (treas.)  
Pat Czock  
Brandt Dinger  
Heidi Goldbeck  
Luke Jeseritz  
Lisa Krause (v. pres.)  
Ryan Tool  
Pastor Tim Wheatley



## Contact us!

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



[LightOfChristLutheran.com](#)  
[Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com](mailto:Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com)

## Back to school - a time to celebrate!

And so we did! **Rally Sunday** was our big kids program kick off! After a beautiful summer we welcomed all the students back here for one big hurrah before the fall season. The sun wasn't the only thing shining that day. After the backpack blessings during service children of all ages enjoyed games, food, and fellowship. Happy faces of young and old shone around LOC. A big shout out to the Children and Family Committee for organizing this fun event and an enormous thank you to all the volunteers.



## Caring Corner



### Rooted in Faith: Healing and Wholeness in Community

(from Rachel Boyack of the Healing & Wholeness Committee)

This September, our theme at Light of Christ is “Rooted in Faith.” Just as a tree needs deep roots to withstand storms and flourish in every season, our mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being requires deep grounding in faith, community, and belonging.

Mental health is not separate from our spiritual life. It is nurtured by it. When we are spiritually grounded, we are reminded of God’s steady presence and love. This grounding provides a foundation that holds us firm when life feels overwhelming. In moments of loneliness, stress, or uncertainty, our faith reminds us that we are never truly alone.

Equally important is belonging. We were created for connection, to live in relationship with one another. Feelings of isolation can deeply affect mental health, yet God’s Word points us to the healing power of community:

“So we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.” – Romans 12:5

Participation in community, whether in worship, small groups, service, or simple fellowship, strengthens us. When we gather, share burdens, celebrate joys, and encourage one another, we reflect the wholeness God desires for all of creation.

The Ministry of Healing and Wholeness exists to help us live into this vision. By focusing on healing and by intentionally addressing loneliness and mental illness, we seek to embody Christ’s love and create spaces where everyone belongs.

This September, we invite you to reflect: Where are your roots planted? How is your faith grounding you in this season? And how might you reach out to deepen your connections with others in our community?

Let us remain rooted in faith, growing together in healing and wholeness.

### Gardeners: do you have extra produce from your garden?



The Food Shelf is open to drop off donations from 5:00-6:00 every Tuesday evening and 9:00-11:00 every Thursday morning. If you want to arrange a drop-off at another time, please call the Food Shelf @ 763-972-4455 and leave a message. We will get back to you to arrange a drop-off time.

### Come Join LOC Kids Hope!



LOC has been partnering with an exciting fun program called KIDS HOPE USA and Delano Elementary for the last three school years, and it has been VERY successful. We are excited to have most of last year’s volunteer mentors return and are also hoping to add a few more mentors. Volunteer LOC mentors spend one hour mentoring the same child, one day a week at the elementary school during the school year, and we do our best to work with your schedule. Delano Elementary staff selects the students. The primary goal of this one hour is **building a friendship relationship with the student, having fun, and to help the child feel more comfortable in their school setting.** We are happy to tell you more about the program if you are interested in joining us. This very successful program has been helping kids for over 25 years and is located in more than 40 states including MN. We look forward to talking with you about Kids Hope. If you are interested, please contact Lona Jose or talk to Terri at the LOC office and she will connect you with us. Thank you!

### Love In the Name of Christ - National Gathering



Love INC affiliates will unite together on September 23-25, 2025, to worship, dive into workshops, and more! Please pray for the Love INC Heartland team as we get ready to attend.

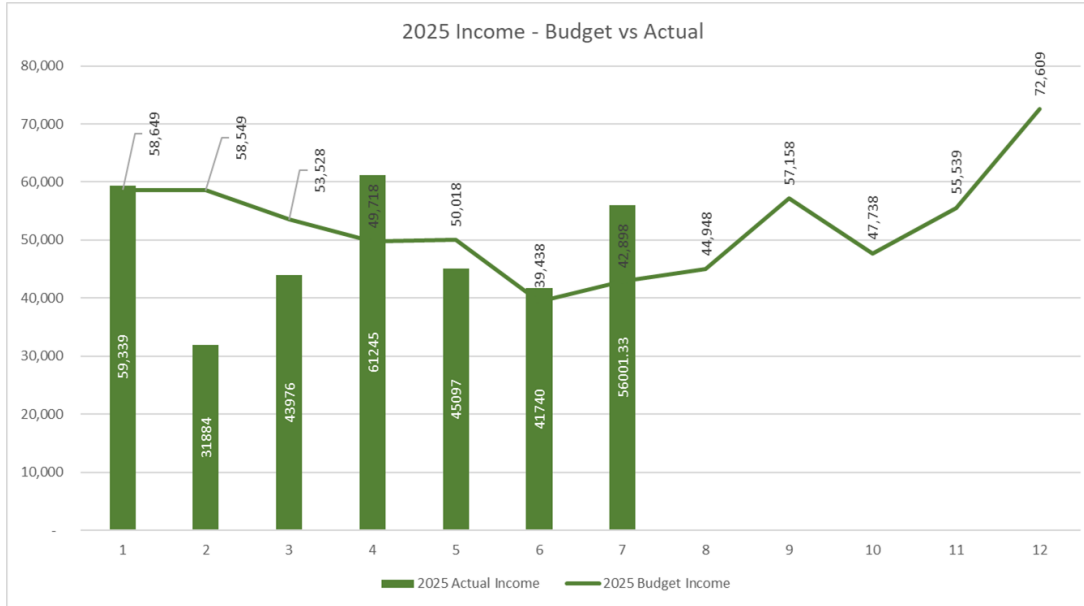
### New School Supplies For 50+ Students!

Through partnership with WestPointe Church, over 50 students are beginning their school year with new backpacks and supplies—special thanks to everyone who donated financially to support this community effort. Would you like to partner with us as a church, individual, or local business? Let us know at [info@loveinheartland.org](mailto:info@loveinheartland.org) or call our main office 763-972-6547.

### Meaningful Meals At Fresh Start Program

Over 35 adults and 15 children are part of our *Fresh Start Program!* Mealtime offers a meaningful way to connect and grow together as a community. Will you support this growing community? You can serve a meal or pray for the *Fresh Start Program* today: [bit.ly/fsmealtrain](http://bit.ly/fsmealtrain).

## LOC Monthly Income - Actual versus Budget



## Year To Date Summary – July 2025

- YTD Budget \$352,798  
YTD Actual \$339,281
- Year to Date Actual is **\$13,517** below budget
- July giving above budget



## Adult Choir Has Begun!

Weekly rehearsals are Tuesdays 6:30-7:30 PM. All skill levels are welcome! If you are interested or have any questions, talk to LOC's Worship and Music Director, Katie!

## Together We Thrive!

Where have you planted yourself? It's a part of our faith walk -- to plant ourselves in the work of the Lord. This month we invite everyone to consider an intentional place or way you plant yourself in our shared LOC ministry. Our weekly bulletin has ideas. Our website is full of opportunities. Or reach out to any staff person or Council member for help in finding your niche.

- **"Rooted and built up in him..."** Colossians 2:6-7
- **"Like a tree planted by water..."** Jeremiah 17:7-8
- **"Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord..."** 1 Corinthians 15:58
- **Together We Thrive!!**

TOGETHER WE THRIVE



Grace and Peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,

Did you realize that this is the 40<sup>th</sup> year of Light of Christ here in Delano MN? It is true, from the prayers and vision of people just 40 years ago this building and worshipping community came to be! Recently, I gathered together with some of our charter members and heard a lot about what it was like to build that first church building. During that discussion I realized I knew very few of our stories, but I think this might be a great time to collect some of them. I am inviting everyone, of any age to meet with Katie after the service in the choir room after church on the Sundays of September 28<sup>th</sup>, October 12, October 19<sup>th</sup>, or October 26<sup>th</sup>, in order to record a story about our church! We are looking for quick 2-minute stories about life here at LOC. It could be your favorite memory from years ago, or even just something that you find meaningful. Some will be shown in worship during the next months (and maybe at a 40<sup>th</sup> year celebration), but all will be saved for future generations of Christians in this place. Please join us for this great telling of stories as we try to capture a moment in time and record the history of LOC.

Blessings,  
Pastor Tim Wheatley





## Got questions? We all do!

Join with others this Thursday at 9:15 AM or 7:00 PM as we explore "Where is God When Life Hurts?" No Bible study experience necessary. And each can participate as you feel comfortable.

Materials are also available from our first study on "What is Faith? And, Why Does it Matter?"

Sign-ups on the Welcome Center. Or reach out to Tim Johnson, [tim.johnson@locdelano.com](mailto:tim.johnson@locdelano.com) for more information. All are welcome!



## Baptism Informational Meeting Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 8 PM

In the Lutheran church (ELCA) we baptize at every age because we believe God does the work and I can not be any more worthy of God's love at 6 weeks than I can at 40 years old. This has led to most people choosing to baptize their children as infants. If you have not been baptized and would like some info about baptism at LOC (especially if you are not an infant), please attend this short meeting for youth and parent/s. If you're interested, you can also schedule an individual meeting after that with Pastor Tim to talk more specifics for your family. Youth need to be baptized before they are Confirmed (since Confirmation is an "Affirmation of Baptism").



**Attention, Women!** As life and schedules get busy for the fall, please consider taking time out for yourself and joining us for the women's Bible study starting in September. Participating in a Bible study is a great way to dive deeper into the word and gain new insights that strengthen our faith.

The women's Bible study will meet **the first and third Mondays of the month, 6:30 – 8:00 PM at LOC, with September 15<sup>th</sup> as the first meeting.** The first Monday of the month we will meet in the Living Room. On the third Monday of the month we will meet in room 106. If you need to leave early at any point that is okay. **We will meet September – June. We will not meet in December.** If you can't make it every time that is okay! We want you to come when you can.

We will be doing **two Bible studies by Nancy Guthrie**. The first half of our time together we will study her book *God Does His Best Work with Empty*. The second half we will study her book *Even Better than Eden*.

### ***God Does His Best Work with Empty***

Join Nancy Guthrie in discovering why emptiness has never been, and never will be, a problem to God. As Nancy pulls back the curtain on God's work to fill up emptiness as revealed throughout the Bible, you'll experience page after page of grace and hope that your emptiness can and will be filled. You'll begin to see that God really does do His best work with empty—as he fills it with Himself.

Source: [God Does His Best Work with Empty: Guthrie, Nancy: 9781496439697: Amazon.com: Books](#)

### ***Even Better Than Eden***

Experienced Bible teacher Nancy Guthrie traces 9 themes throughout the Bible, revealing how God's plan for the new creation will be far more glorious than the original. But this new creation glory isn't just reserved for the future. The hope of God's plan for his people transforms everything about our lives today.

Source: [Even Better than Eden: Nine Ways the Bible's Story Changes Everything about Your Story: Guthrie, Nancy: 9781433561252: Amazon.com: Books](#)

We hope to see you in September! If you are interested in participating, please contact Lindsay Lindall at [lindsay.lindall@gmail.com](mailto:lindsay.lindall@gmail.com)



## Bible Study/ Discussion Group for Moms of Pre- Teens/Teens

As we work to be a community where all feel connected and cared for, we are trying a new time/group for moms of pre-teens and teens. Join us on **Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup> from 8:15-9:45 AM** (right after school drop-off) to meet with some other moms and talk about life, faith and parenting. This will be very laid back with zero prep or expectation. Coffee, creamer and treats provided. We'll discuss future meetings & times with those who attend or express interest... so email Kirsten if you're interested but cannot attend on 9/18. Please also contact Kirsten about any specific food needs/requests. Hope to see you there!

## Confirmation Calendar

- **9/17/25, 6:15-8:00 PM** = Small Group Night at LOC
- **9/24/25, 6:00-9:30 PM** = FMSC Service Night -Chanhassen
- **10/1/25, 5:45-6:15 PM** = SLICE available ([Sign up here by 2 pm](#) if you plan to attend!)
- **10/1/25, 6:15-8:00 PM** = Confirmation "Teaching Night"
- **10/8/25, 5:45-6:15 PM** = SLICE available ([Sign up here by 2 pm](#) if you plan to attend!)
- **10/8/25, 6:15-8:00 PM** = Confirmation "Teaching Night"
- **10/15/25** = No Confirmation (MEA)



## The HOOT Newsletter for September 2025



Come join the Older Wiser Lutherans (OWLS) for fun, fellowship, and faith!!

Happy autumn! We are starting a 9-week Bible study series using the book, "Faith - Depending on God" by Dale and Sandy Larsen on **Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>**. All are welcome! Please join us after worship each Sunday in room 101 of the Education wing. You may purchase a book for \$10 through Amazon or Sue Fink can order one for you. Your faith and friendships are sure to grow!

On **Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>**, we are having our first fun event of this church year. Bill and Sue Fink are hosting a barn party BBQ at noon at their home at 886 County Road 30 SE, Delano. Grilled sandwiches will be provided, and you may bring a side dish, dessert or beverages to share. This will be an outdoor event so come dressed for fun and games!! In case of drenching rain, we will reschedule, but our barn is warm and dry. Please RSVP by **Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>** to [billandsue2931@gmail.com](mailto:billandsue2931@gmail.com).

## Calendar of events

**October 30<sup>th</sup>**: LaDonna is planning an unforgettable Halloween party. Stay tuned!

**November 20<sup>th</sup>**: 5:00 PM supper at the Ox Yoke Inn followed by holiday lights at Sovereign Estate Winery in Waconia.

**December 18<sup>th</sup>**: Christmas potluck and white elephant gift exchange. Start searching your closets for a unique gift, nothing to purchase. This was a "**HOOT**" last year!!

All events are subject to change so let Sue Fink know your email address and phone number in case we need to get news out to everyone. Also, watch the bulletin and Beacon newsletter for updates.

Get ready to make lasting friends who share the love and light of Christ.

# Walk For Mental Health

## Light of Christ Lutheran Church Wednesday, October 1 at 5 pm



5:00 pm - Meet in the Sanctuary for a short program

5:15 pm - Group photo / Leave LOC for the Walk

5:45 pm - Return to LOC for FREE pizza and fellowship

6:15 pm - Confirmation Worship on Wednesday (WOW)

Parents are encouraged to participate with their children/youth.

Please RSVP if you will be joining us for a FREE  
pizza dinner served at 5:45 pm by scanning the  
QR code to the right.

*Pizza provided by the Healing and Wholeness Committee*



*The first week of October is Mental Illness Awareness Week.  
Join the Healing and Wholeness Committee and Children and Youth  
Ministries to bring awareness to mental health.*

*Free will donations will be collected to help cover LOC's membership  
fee to Mental Health Connect, a collaboration to provide resources  
and support for our church community.*

## Wear green for mental health!