

# The Beacon

**Pastor Tim Wheatley** 

**September 22, 2025** 

#### 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











PLANT is what we're asking everyone to do. Yes, we're inviting everyone to find a unique or specific way to plant yourself in our LOC ministry. But we're also inviting each and every LOC family to take home one of our special seed packets with a small pot and plant the seeds when you get home. Plant. Water. Sunlight. Grow. Take the opportunity to talk and share about what it takes to grow something like these simple seeds, and how there's some similarities in growing in faith, too. Each packet has a Bible verse with it.

As weeks pass, send to Katie (katie.kohler@locdelano.com) a snapshot of your flower beginning to sprout and grow. But not just any 'ol picture -- one that has the faces of your household in the photo. And a comment about your experience. We'll begin posting these in the Sunday slides.

And watch for more info as the fall unfolds. Plant. Prepare/ Cultivate. Pledge (your first fruits).





# Caring Corner

# 1/00

# 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!

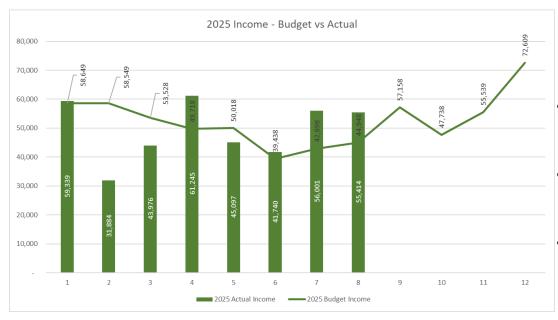
Through partnership with WestPointe Church, over 50 students are beginning their school year with new backpacks and supplies—special thanks to everyone who donated financially to support this community effort. Would you like to partner with us as a church, individual, or local business? Let us know at <a href="mailto:info@loveincheartland.org">info@loveincheartland.org</a> 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.

## **CHURCH NEWS**

## LOC Monthly Income - Actual versus Budget



# Year To Date Summary – August 2025

- YTD Budget \$397,756
   YTD Actual \$394,696
- Year to Date Actual is \$3,060 below budget
  - August giving above budget YTD within 1%

# Love INC Birthday Ministry



Love INC Family Advocate, Sabrina, picking up the October birthday bags for our Love INC neighbors. Please pray for the kids who receive these birthday bags assembled with care by this month's volunteers, Beth Coulombe & Vicki Noetzelman! Thank you for your support of this ministry!

### **Stay Informed!**

The current Church Council meeting minutes can be found on the <a href="mailto:church website">church website</a>.



## What will be your LEGACY?

Save November 2, 10:45 a.m. to ponder it.

## What Is a Memorial Garden?

A memorial garden is a space designed to honor and remember the life of a loved one. A private place for reflection, remembrance and meditation. A beautiful spot creating a serene and reflective environment. Light of Christ is blessed to have our own beautiful setting right outside our entrance.



We invite you to take a moment to visit our Columbarium and Memorial Garden to share in the tranquility and beauty it has to offer!

# We are so excited to welcome new members on Sunday, November 16th!



Become Part of Our Church Family

If you're interested in joining our church family, we invite you to attend a New Member Information Class on **November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30 PM**. To help us prepare, please let the church office know if you plan to attend. We're also here to answer any questions you may have.

### STAYING CONNECTED



# 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, <a href="mailto:tim.johnson@locdelano.com">tim.johnson@locdelano.com</a> for more information. All are welcome!

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 worshiping 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 28th, October 12, October 19th, 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



**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.* 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 <a href="mailto:lindsay.lindall@gmail.com">lindsay.lindall@gmail.com</a>

### STAYING CONNECTED



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 **Thursdays, October 9**<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</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. Please also contact Kirsten about any specific food needs/ requests. Hope to see you there!

## 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!



## **Centralized Sign Up**



All of our volunteer sign-ups are in one spot! Scan this QR code or go to this link (<a href="www.linktr.ee/">www.linktr.ee/</a>
<a href="mailto:lightofchristvolunteers">LOC Volunteer Sign Up Page</a>. We hope this will make it easier to find

the sign-ups and to volunteer!

### Follow Us on Instagram!

Check out our Instagram page! Our handle is @delanolightofchrist. Scan the QR code to get directly to the page.



# The HOOT Newsletter for September 2025

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

Happy autumn! We have started a 9-week Bible study series using the book, "Faith - Depending on God" by Dale and Sandy Larsen. 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!

#### 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.

# **Sunday Announcements**



If you would like to share any church-related announcements on Sunday morning, please let Katie know by the Wednesday prior to the service. We will do our best to accommodate, but there may be Sundays where we cannot fit it in, and another Sunday may work better. Thank you!

# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS

### Youth Choir Begins in November!

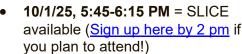
We will once again have youth choir this year for ages 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade! The first rehearsal will be for Lessons and Carols (12/7) and will take place after worship on **11/9**.

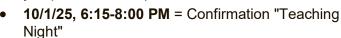


Rehearsals are 30 minutes long. Sign up using the QR code or contact Katie with any questions (katie.kohler@locdelano.com). The full schedule is on the sign-up form. All levels welcome! You do not need to make every rehearsal to be a part of the choir.

### Confirmation Calendar







- 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)

### What's in the Box?

This is a question that Pastor Tim will not be able to answer until he opens the box in worship. During the children's message, Pastor Tim receives the box, opens it and then will connect what is in the box to the children's message. Does your child think they can stump Pastor Tim? Here's the chance to find out! Sign up your child (1 year old-2<sup>nd</sup> grade) for a Sunday when you will be in worship. You can pick up the box the Sunday prior or during the week (the box will be on a shelf in the church library). If you want, your child can bring the item on Sunday and sneak it into the box without Pastor Tim seeing it before worship. Sign up at the link below:

https://www.signupgenius.com/





# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY EVENTS

# Voyager and Pathfinder kick off!

We had a wonderful start with our kids' groups. All about you was the main theme. Getting to know each other's names and literally lifting each other up with games, worship and fellowship. A total of 82 kids attended last Wednesday.























# 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!

# September Birthdays

Tyler Mielke September 01 September 01 Grant Horeis September 01 Finnegan Brown Mary Wheatley September 01 Mary Allen September 02 September 02 Maddie Knislev September 02 Kristin Lemmerman Donald Palan September 02 Darius Clare September 03 September 03 Matt Nohner Prinsen September 03 Gary Nathan Schultz September 03 Trettin September 03 Abby September 04 Val Donahue Chris Gross September 04 Mackenzie Motzko September 04 September 04 William Nohner September 05 **Paige** Froehle September 06 Allen Bawek Johnson September 06 Rowan Michaela Todd September 06 Hiltner Landon September 07 Stephanie Larison September 07 Valerie Nee September 07 September 07 Abigail Olson Reiffenberger September 07 Lynsey Amdor September 08 Aaron September 08 Beilke Leonard Palan September 08 Eric September 09 Brandon Haugen September 09 Alexander Ihde September 09 Ben Cederberg September 09 Weston Anderson September 09 Josiah Wheatley Stephanie Almquist September 10 Lisa Boecker September 10 Marcus Hanson September 10 September 10 Caden Jeseritz Heidi Wuerger September 10 Steve Freese September 10 September 11 Vicki Noetzelman September 11 Lori Skogman September 11 Rowan Anderson

The Community Life Committee wants to celebrate your birthdays! Next Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup> after 9:30 AM worship, we will have birthday treats to celebrate September, October, and November birthdays! We celebrate birthdays quarterly so everyone's birthday will be acknowledged. Don't forget to wish someone a Happy Birthday this quarter!

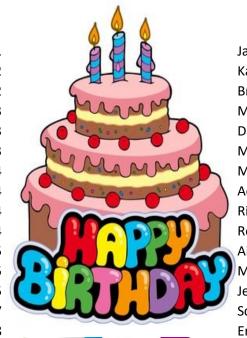
For those celebrating, may blessings be upon you and let faith guide your heart all year. We hope your birthday is one of joy, peace, and love.



Diane Beilke September 13 Jon Wissink September 13 Joey Bitterman September 13 Harlan Grimm September 15 Kevin Olson September 15 Rachel Kopperud September 16 **Thorstad** Marshall September 16 Fink September 17 Zachary Stacy VanCura September 17 Kara **Emmer** September 17 **Brooks** Janike September 17 Kendall Geistfeld September 18 Maxwell Schmit September 18 Nolan Thorstad September 18 Matthew Coyle September 19 Michael Gallus September 19 Grace Caple September 19 Colette Wamre September 20 Lauren September 20 Krysan Emilia Bidle September 20 Florence Shrode September 20 Evan Amdor September 21 Wendy Meyer September 21 Kinslee Gross September 22 Everley Prickett September 22 Tiffany Allison September 23 Amber Eichten September 23 Maia Nee September 23 Charlotte Olson September 23 Jason Thompson September 24 Brennen Meyer September 26 Philip Radermacher September 26 September 26 Devin Russell September 27 Lona Jose Adam Kopperud September 27 Carter Peterson September 27 Jana Geistfeld September 28 Gregory Krause September 28 Becky Coyle September 29 Daxton Custer September 29 Geistfeld Jameson September 30 Mya Motzko September 30 Crystal Stahlke September 30

# October Birthdays

Taylor	Berscheid	October 01
Arlo	Hiltner	October 02
Nora	Lindall	October 02
Douglas	Laddusaw	October 03
Jordan	Spencer	October 03
Aksel	Caslavka	October 03
Lesley	Berscheid	October 04
Eric	Parpart	October 04
Douglas	Schuette	October 04
Aaron	Sievers	October 04
Jamey	Boecker	October 05
Dennis	Lohmann	October 05
Matthew	Motzko	October 05
Vincent	Pavik	October 07
Lydia	Sievers	October 08
Heidi	Hiltner	October 09
Carrie	Quamen	October 09
Steve	Brown	October 10
Tim	Johnson	October 10
Jack	Magner	October 10
Miles	Eichten	October 11
Ashley	Savage	October 11
Casey	Schmidt	October 11
Casey	Carson	October 11
Sarah	Bersie	October 12
Jen	Peterson	October 14
Bradley	Czock	October 15
Sydney	Imamura	October 15
Anna	Krause	October 15
Sami	Tool	October 15
Kirk	Reierson	October 16
Waverly	Sjulstad	October 16
Dylan	Thompson	October 17
Eric	Anderson	October 18





Jack	Prinsen	October 18
Karly	Schmidt	October 18
Brad	Wiyninger	October 19
Michelle	Bunker	October 20
Dale	Russenberger	October 20
Margaret	Thompson	October 20
Maya	Carson	October 21
Addison	Dallmann	October 21
Rick	Zabel	October 21
Reagan	Sjulstad	October 21
Ailsa	Boyack	October 22
Megan	Dallmann	October 23
Jessica	Holmer	October 23
Scott	Rundle	October 23
Erin	Olson	October 24
Mary	Johnson	October 25
Jeremy	Prickett	October 25
Lisa	Spencer	October 25
Debra	Schantzen	October 26
Hailey	Ness	October 27
Erin	Johnson	October 28
Bradley	Bruhn	October 29
Claire	Bruhn	October 29
Katherine	Bruhn	October 29
Mariah	Todd	October 29
Kurt	Truax	October 29
Laci	Custer	October 29
Carol	Heyen	October 30
Liam	Olson	October 30
Janice	Styve	October 30
KellyAnn	Lockrem	October 30
Brannon	Imamura	October 31
Max	Lotzer	October 31

# November Birthdays

Mike	Ingebrigtson	November 01
Liam	Dornfeld	November 02
Emme	Savage	November 03
Grace	Horeis	November 04
Kristine	Lotzer	November 04
Brittany	Hartnett	November 04
Eva	Nohner	November 05
Curt	Reuter	November 05
Rachel	Boyack	November 06
Derek	Spencer	November 06
Heidi	Goldbeck	November 07
Braelyn	Ludwig	November 07
Greg	Ulberg	November 07
Dominique	Clare	November 08
Elisa	Carson	November 09
Diane	Irish	November 10
Corey	McLagan	November 10
Austin	Lundquist	November 11
Claudia	Schmidt	November 12
Craig	Krysan	November 12
Joseph	Coyle	November 14
Erin	Green	November 16
David	Wuerger	November 16
Josie	Strobl	November 16
Kelly	Haugen	November 17
Sarah	Ness	November 17
Kylee	Amdor	November 18
Greg	Bersie	November 18



Kali Anne Jessica Ava Sarah Tim **Nicholas** Lydia **Bryce** Charlene Kent Catherine Wyatt Jane Lewis Kerri Penke Ellie Ryan Tool **Brennan** Slipka Seth Dana Tyler Sheryl Stan Collin Joshua Ben Engel

Cook

Terry

Larson November 18 **Farniok** November 19 Motzko November 19 Reierson November 20 Gierke November 21 Current November 22 **Farniok** November 22 Gierke November 22 Stahlke November 22 Warne November 22 Wischmann November 22 **Borman** November 22 **Borman** November 23 November 23 November 23 Stahlke November 23 November 23 November 24 Klason November 26 Anderson November 26 Anderson November 27 Laddusaw November 27 Droneck November 28 Magner November 28 Rothstein November 28 November 28 Werner November 29 November 30

