



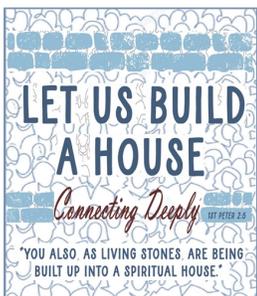
Worship

- 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

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!

Sunday Fellowship Breakfast – October 5th

The Mission/Evangelism Committee will be serving a pancake breakfast following 9:30 church service on **October 5th**. We would love to have you join us for great food, great conversation, and a few fun activities. We are also taking individual/family pictures for those who are interested.



Caring Corner

Get ready LOC family!



This Wednesday, October 1st at 5 PM sharp join us for our annual Walk-a-Mile-in-My-Shoes Event to commemorate Mental Health Awareness Week, the first week of every October. This event promises to be bigger and better than ever. We strongly encourage parents and siblings to join the youth and entire congregation in support of mental health.

We will start out in the sanctuary for a short presentation and to write names of people we care about who have experienced mental illness so that we can pray for all of them. There will be some giveaways in the Narthex.

At 5:15 we'll take a group photo and then walk the half mile to Elm Avenue and back. (This is a busy traffic time, so adult volunteers will be needed to serve as safety patrols as we cross County Line Road.)

Upon our return to church, we will be treated to pizza, veggies and fruits, cookies and beverages provided by your Healing and Wholeness Ministry.

Your sign-up is essential to assure we order enough pizza!!! Please use the QR code included on the flyer found on Facebook, on the front page of this issue, or around the church. You may also call the office to RSVP.

And guess what else? Wednesday is the first WOW night (Worship on Wednesdays), so come join the confirmation youth for worship in the sanctuary at 6:15.

***FREE WILL DONATIONS WILL SUPPORT OUR COLLABORATIVE MEMBERSHIP WITH MENTAL HEALTH CONNECT. THANK YOU!**

WEAR GREEN!

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.

Serving Our Neighbors in Need — Together



Thank you for supporting our **Food Distribution Ministry!** Every month, about **90 neighbors** receive fresh produce, dairy, and other essentials through this vital outreach. Light of Christ is proud to partner with **five other churches** in our region to care for those in need. The next distribution is **Monday, October 13th**.

“Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” — Matthew 25:40

This ministry is a beautiful expression of **Together We Thrive**—offering our **time, talents, and treasures** to bless others:

- **9:45 AM at Our Father’s Lutheran in Rockford** – pack boxes of food. Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-food>
- **3:30 PM at Light of Christ** – unload the trailer and prepare for distribution. Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-food1>
- **After clean-up** – help **pray over the requests** shared by our neighbors.

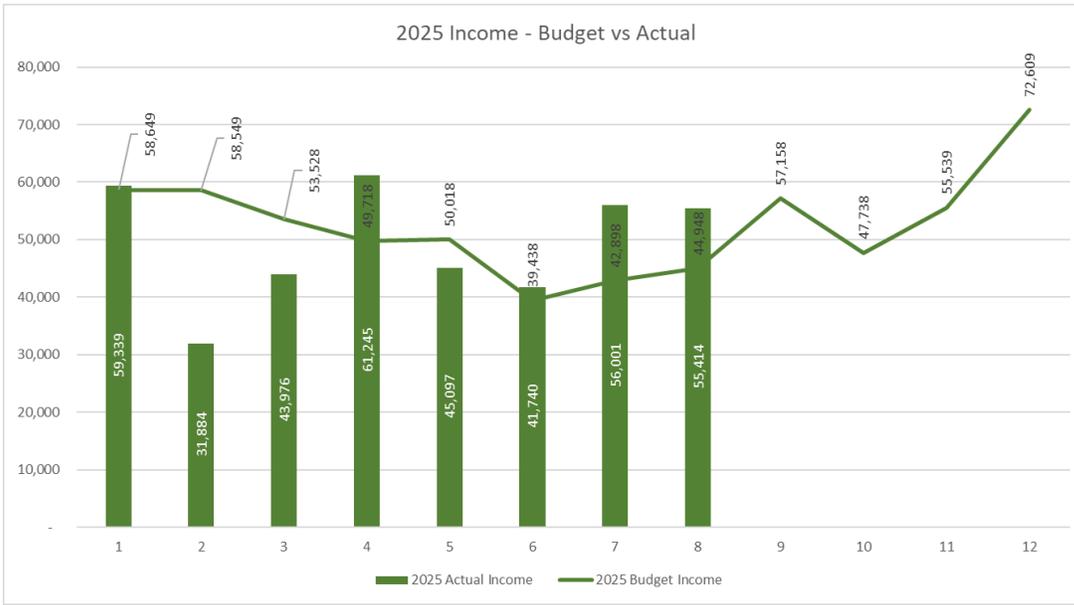
Your generous giving and hands-on help make this ministry possible. **Thank you for thriving together in faith and service!**

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!

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%



Your Legacy:

Take a one-question poll

Question: ***Do you know that Light of Christ has an Endowment Fund?***

And if you're aware of it, ***Do you know it's a tool you can use to create your legacy?*** (Okay, two questions!)

We all wonder how we'll be remembered, and if there's something we can do 'now' to ensure we make a positive impact. That's the purpose of the Endowment Fund. *It grows funding for Light of Christ's future.*

Join us after the **November 2** worship service for a presentation by ELCA Foundation Planned Giving rep Joe Sullivan. Learn how gifts to the church can happen now or later, be cash or stocks, be property or homes, can even be crops not yet grown! Joe will have materials you can take home and discuss with your family as you do estate planning.

Treats provided by the Endowment Fund Committee and Columbarium Board.

TOGETHER WE THRIVE



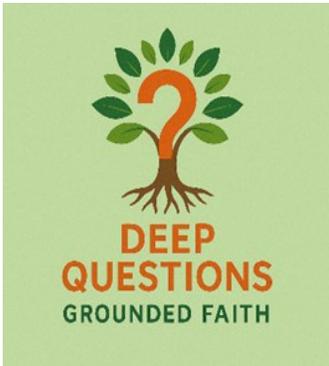
Thank you, Light of Christ!

Because of your regular and extra gifts, we're within reach of our ministry budget. Your generosity keeps worship vibrant, disciples growing, and our missional partnerships strong. If you're able to make a gift this month—or set up a recurring one—it will help us cross the finish line with confidence. We're grateful for every gift and every giver!

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!





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 for more information. All are welcome!



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 through 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



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.

TOGETHER WE THRIVE



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



When you walk down the hall to the offices you may not notice it, but there on the wall is our Living Charter of Light of Christ. It is signed by our first charter members, it is also dated January 27, 1985. Which means this year is our 40th anniversary! Now we decided not to have a great big celebration, you know the one I am talking about: cookbooks, parades, sermon series, and maybe a song written for the occasion. I don't disagree, sometimes churches can get so stuck in the past and what has been done they don't look forward enough! And here at Light of Christ we are very focused on what we are doing for God's kingdom right now. Yet I would like us to have a little celebration, so we are celebrating November 16th at the 9:30 service. We are trying to invite former employees and all charter members to join us for that day. If you know any, please pass this invitation on. Mostly we want to invite you to come that day and celebrate what God has done here in this place. Where 41 years ago there used to be a field producing grain, today we are a congregation producing many fruits of the Spirit!

The service will include—a special litany, choir, and Praise Team, some special prayers, and of course cake afterwards. And of course, we will also be inviting new members to join us that day because nothing tells about who we are more than reaching out in the gospel and welcoming others to share their gifts. So please make plans to join us the 16th for a celebration of God's goodness (and cake).

Pastor Tim Wheatley

New Members Being Received 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 2nd at 5:30 PM**. To help us prepare, please let the church office know by October 29th if you plan to attend. We're also here to answer any questions you may have.



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!

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 30th: LaDonna is planning an unforgettable Halloween party. *See page 6 for more info!*

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

December 18th: 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.



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 9th and 23rd 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!



It's an Owl-O-Ween Party You Won't Want to Miss!

**Food - Fun – Laughter – Tricks and Treats
This Owl-O-Ween Spooktacular just can't be beat!**

PRIZES FOR BEST COSTUME!!

PRIZES FOR MOST SPOOKTACULAR FOOD!!

This is a potluck event—bring a food item to share (appetizer, entree, salad, dessert).

PRIZES FOR --- hmm, guess you'll have to wait and see what this could be!!

OCTOBER 30 at 12 NOON in the LOC Living Room

RSVP appreciated – LaDonna at ekernil@gmail.com or text 320-212-2583

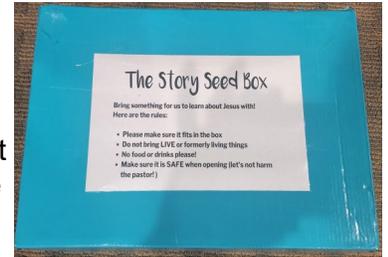
Youth Choir Begins in November!

We will once again have youth choir this year for ages 3rd-6th 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.

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-2nd 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/go/10C0F48A4AB22A4FCCF8-56773893-thebox>

Confirmation Calendar



- 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)



Last week our 1st to 3rd grade kids started the first in the series of *Voyagers get Senior Seasoning*.

It is my wish to bring more seniors together with our younger Voyager groups for fun activities. There are so many ways we can enrich each other's lives. Last week they used hammers and nails and strings and wooden discs to create pieces of art. If you have friends or you yourself enjoy spending limited time with kids but aren't able to make a weekly commitment, this is the opportunity. Everyone signs up for only one day/2hours at a time.

Here is the link for sign up. Dates will be added as the year progresses.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-58508216-senior>



CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY EVENTS

Pathfinders and Voyagers enjoyed this week's story of Jesus in the temple. The readers theater put on a play for the Voyagers. Look closely..... do you see Pastor Tim as 12-year-old Jesus? He never shies away from any opportunity to have fun with the kids. Our fabulous Katie introduced some new songs for worshiping and small group volunteers picked up the conversations tailored to each group's needs. God showed up and it was glorious.



Support Our Youth!

We invite you to visit our Equal Exchange (fair trade) table in the Narthex for some great products! Items for sale include: chocolate, coffee, tea, cashews, almonds, dried mangos, and 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!





CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS



**FMSC
Sept
24
2025**