



Worship

- In-person worship—**9:00 am Sundays**
- Online worship continues, and will be posted on the [church website](#) and [Facebook page](#)



Church Council 2022

Mike Boyack
Tim Current
Steven Dickey
Carmen Hanson
Jennifer Hinker
Jon Holzer
Derek Horeis
Lisa Spencer
Natasha Werner
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!

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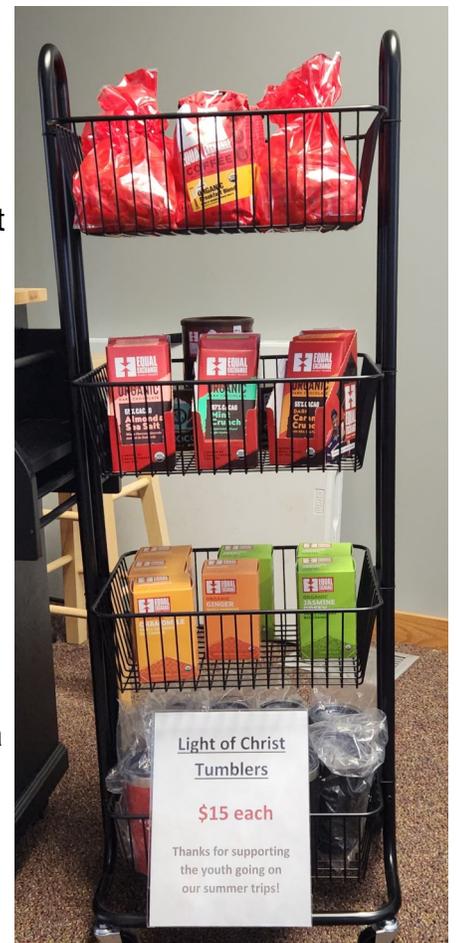


“Buy with Heart” this Christmas

We invite you to visit our Equal Exchange (fair trade) table in the Narthex or click [HERE](#) for our online store for some great gift options! Items for sale include:

- Chocolate
- Coffee
- Tea
- Cashews, almonds, and dried mangos
- 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, friends or stocking stuffers. 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 and for “shopping with heart” this Christmas.



Caring Corner

(from Sue Fink of the Healing & Wholeness Committee)

Merry Christmas from your Healing and Wholeness Committee: Lona Jose, Julie Wischmann, Lisa Hemmer, Lisa Spencer and Sue Fink.

We want to share some prayers for peace and hope from Crosswalk.com. May you be blessed with Holy Pauses as Advent heralds the celebration of our Savior's birth.



For a Holy Pause

Lord, I bow my heart before You and honor You. Help me to choose not one but many holy pauses this holiday season. Please nudge me by Your Spirit and remind me to step away from the Christmas crazy and get alone with you. In Jesus's awesome name, Amen.

A Prayer to Keep God at the Center During the Holidays

Lord, we worship You during this Christmas season.

You are our wonderful Counselor, mighty God, everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6).

We choose to put You at the center of our family life as we celebrate Your birth. Keep us from distractions and help us to invite You into all our family activities. Teach us to pray and help us to glorify and worship You in our family during this busy time of year.

Give us a spirit of wisdom and revelation that we might know You better (Ephesians 1:17). Thank you for being Immanuel, "God with us." Open our eyes to realize this each day as we interact with others. Help us to be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as You forgave us (Ephesians 4:32).

Show us creative ways to love and care for those outside our home. Fill us to overflowing with Your love for the lost. Teach us to do acts of kindness to those who are in need at this time of year. May our family be a refreshment and light to others.

We ask You to touch with salvation those in our family who do not know You. Open their hearts to Your great love for them. Help us to share Your Truth and be Your light. You are the Savior of the world. Amen.

A Prayer for Christmas Hope

Lord Jesus, as we celebrate the season of Christ's birth, there's nothing that stands brighter than hope. The thrill of hope. The excitement that no matter what life brings us, we can still have hope because of that night divine, that night when our precious Savior was born in a stable.

This life is hard, sometimes unbearable.

The loss of a loved one who fought the fight against cancer so valiantly.

The unwanted divorce that left us wondering if anything in our lives had been real.

The pain of infertility that leaves us devastated every single month.

The hurt of watching a child walk away from the truth of God's word.

There's no end to the painful circumstances we face in this life, but no matter the pain, we always have the thrill of hope, the promise that our Savior has won the victory.

We pray for those who are experiencing loss this Christmas: relational, financial, spiritual and physical.

We pray for those who are coping with loving a prodigal and our friends and family members whose hearts are far from You. We pray for those dealing with unemployment and addictions and chronic sickness ... and unending pain and frustrations of all kinds. Thank You, Lord, that You are The Wonderful Counselor and Prince of Peace, even in the midst of our not-so-merry circumstances.

Finally, Lord, we ask You to grant us peace. Peace in our homes, peace in our churches, and peace in our hearts, when the world all around us spins out-of-control. Help us to stay focused on You, this Christmastime and always. Thank You for loving the whole world enough to send the greatest gift, Your Son, so that we might truly have a very merry Christmas. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Christmas Eve Benediction/Prayer

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child. Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

God's blessings to all our Light of Christ Family!!

Where Can You Serve?

Shared Ministry is what makes Light of Christ a vibrant church that needs all of our gifts and abilities in order to make the greatest impact. Do you have a place you serve? Are you plugged in? Are you growing in your faith by being connected to a team or ministry?



We have so many opportunities to use your energies, creativity, ideas, time and faith. The following are teams and committees which meet regularly in order to accomplish a variety of ministries. If you would like a bit of information on any of these, please reach out to any staff or council member or email tim.johnson@locdelano.com.

Worship & Music	Healing & Wholeness
Youth & Family	Personnel
Children & Family	Stewardship
Finance	Technology
Property	Mission
Community Life	Hospitality & Inviting
Endowment	(soon to be forming)
Library	

We generally affirm a full slate of new and returning committee and team members at our January meeting, though we welcome new folks at any time. Please pray about where and how you can best serve.

Altar Guild Volunteers Needed!



We need extra altar guild volunteers to help with Christmas Eve services. If you are interested in helping and/or have questions, contact Kylee Amdor @ kylee.amdor@gmail.com. Being a part of the altar guild is a wonderful way to serve Light of Christ!

Share Your Talents!

Volunteering is not only a great way to put your faith into action, but also an important way that you help make our ministry happen at Light of Christ. As you might imagine, there are many ways to serve. Just a few include helping worship and fellowship to be a blessing to people's lives.

Ushers. Greeters. Prepping Sunday coffee, purchasing/bringing treats. Helping to run the soundboard or online streaming. Altar Guild. Communion assistants. Readers/lectors. Special music. Praise band. Choir.

Training is available for each of these. Links to sign up are below, as well as on the website and often in the Sunday bulletin. Or for more information, reach out to Tim Johnson at Tim.Johnson@locdelano.com. Thanks for all you do!

Ushers: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-spring1>

Greeters: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-sunday2>

Altar Guild: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-altar>

Soundboard: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-outdoor1>

Communion Asst.: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-light>

Lectors: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-lectors>



Confirmation and HS Youth Serving in the Community

Confirmation and HS youth did small group service projects on Wednesday, December 7. We had groups at various locations including caroling at The Legacy, sorting donations at the food shelf in town, playing bingo with nursing home residents and packing meals at Feed My Starving Children in Chanhassen. One group also helped with the Love INC Christmas Sharing event on Friday, December 9th. Thanks to the Guides for all of their time in organizing these great projects! We are so grateful for our youth and Guides and all of their hard work and love they share.



Our next Friday Night Lights event is coming up in January! This time we'll stay in for a fun night at church. Here are the details:

- **Who:** 9th – 12th grade youth and friends
- **What:** Movie and night games!
- **When:** 7 - 11 pm, Friday, January 6th
- **Where:** Light of Christ Living Room
- **Register:** by Wednesday, January 4 at [this link](#)
- **Cost:** \$5

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS

On Sunday, December 11th our Voyagers (3rd/4th grade) did an amazing job at sharing how Christmas is more than just a cute baby in the manger. Christmas is God's promise fulfilled in the gift as Jesus who died for our sins and rose again to save people like you and me.



The Club 5/6 did a "super" job at reminding us that God didn't send Jesus to make our lives easier or take our job – but came and called us to follow in doing justice, loving kindness and walking humbly with God.



Special thanks to all who helped with these programs – it is much appreciated. Thank you to the students who adapted and volunteered to fill in for students who couldn't be there due to illness. Prayers for all who were/are ill that God's healing presence will be with you - Emmanuel!

Bible Story Time begins January 8, 2023

Bible Story Time is an exciting new program for our 3-year-olds to 2nd graders. Beginning January 8, 2023, our 3 years-2nd grade students will be dismissed from worship to go to a Bible story time.

Prior to worship each Sunday, parents will sign in their children who are participating in Bible Story Time. The children will go to worship with their parents but then will be dismissed to go to Bible Story Time following the children's message. Bible Story Time offers age-appropriate Bible stories using video, songs, and activities with take-home pamphlets. The children will return to worship prior to communion. (approx. 20 minutes).

In May we will evaluate and compare Bible Story Time to the previous Sunday school schedule before deciding which we will be offering in the fall of 2023. *From January to May there will be no Sunday school at 10:10 am.*

Following our Safe Sanctuary policy, each Sunday we will need a minimum of two unrelated adults (i.e., no husband/wife combinations) to help with the Bible Story Time. If you are interested, please sign-up using the following link. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F48A4AB22A4FCCF8-bible>



Still looking for that perfect Christmas gift? Consider a trip to Bible Camp!

- **Wapo One-Day (Grades K-2) – June 25**

A one-day introduction to camp that will feature fun activities of Camp Wapo in a single full day of energy and excitement!

- **Wapo Youth Camp (Grades 4-9) June 25-30, Aug. 13-19**

An action-packed week of fun activities and new friendships that will stretch campers to new heights of joy and growth.

- **Seeds Summer Camp (Grades 1-3) – June 23-25**

The perfect introduction to summer camp for our youngest campers, Seeds Camp is filled with fun and safe opportunities to learn and grow.

The above dates are times when Light of Christ has reserved spots – **registration is Jan.15-Feb 15**. LOC offers \$100 toward students going for the week, \$50 for those who do the weekend, and the one-day is free. This is possible due to the camp scholarship fund. Sponsor a child, the benefits last a lifetime!

