



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!

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



LightOfChristLutheran.com
Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com

Check out our Advent/Christmas
Worship and Children's Christmas
Program schedules inside!



NourishingHOPE

Free Fresh Produce and Dairy

Monday, December 12th
4:00-5:00 pm

Boxes of fresh produce and dairy products will be available for drive through pickup on a first come, first serve basis at the following locations:

Corcoran

St. Thomas Catholic Church
20000 County Road 10
Corcoran, MN 55340

Rockford

Our Father's Lutheran
3903 Gilbert Ave SE
Rockford, MN 55373

Hanover

Influence Church @ City Hall
11250 5th Street NE
Hanover, MN 55341

Delano

Light of Christ Lutheran Church
3976 County Line Road SE
Delano, MN 55328

Buffalo

Buffalo Covenant Church
1601 Highway 25 North
Buffalo, MN 55313

For assistance locating a specific site or for questions, please contact us at nourishinghope.oflc@gmail.com or Facebook Messenger.

NourishingHOPE is a ministry of Our Father's Lutheran Church, in cooperation with four area churches. Our vision is to relieve area food insecurity and promote wellness in mind, body, and spirit for people East-Central Wright County. For information on you or your organization partnering with NourishingHOPE, please visit our website at www.ourfatherschurch.org/nourishing-hope.html

Food boxes are for anyone at all! Please come by to get one. Or, pass on the information to someone else!

Help Local Families—Still Items Left

The Light of Christ Children & Family Ministry Team is pairing up with *Friends-4-A-Cause* for the 3rd year. With LOC's generosity we will be helping 13 local families who are struggling to have a brighter Christmas by providing gifts and spreading Christmas joy. Sign up at this [link](#). Gift drop-off will be before and after service on **December 4th and 11th**. Final gift drop



-off will be **Tuesday, December 13th from 6:00-8:00pm**. Please also pray for each one of these families. Please contact *Kim Wortz* with any questions 952-457-9253 or kimw1517@gmail.com.

“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.

Monthly Food Distribution

The next distribution will be on **Monday, December 12th**. If you would like more information or would like to sign up to help, please reach out to Tim Johnson.... or click on one of the following links:

- **11:00 am at Our Father's** for packing boxes (register at this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-food>)
- **3:30 pm here at LOC** for distribution of the boxes (register at this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-food1>)

Thanks to all who help in this ministry!

Caring Corner

(from Julie Wischmann of the Healing & Wholeness Committee)



Stress and the Holidays

As we enter the blessed holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas, we anticipate the gifts of family and being together. Holidays are supposed to be a welcome break from the stress and strain of work and life. However, unfortunately, that is not always the case, whether it be family discord, gift-giving decisions, financial struggles or simply not enough hours in the day. There are some simple things to try, even for a moment, to alleviate some of the stressors.

The financial burden of the holidays can create excessive stress during a season intended to be full of joy, connection, and generosity. Polls show that almost 90% of Americans feel some kind of anxiety or stress about the holidays. According to a survey done by the American Psychological Association, money and finances are the number one cause of stress for Americans. Generosity comes in so many forms... creativity in gift giving, planning a budget, and giving of yourself without losing your self-care.

Sugary treats are the best during the holidays, and most of us give ourselves permission to stray from healthy eating habits. You don't have to give up those yummy treats, however. Be mindful of portions, eat slowly and perhaps take a short walk after a meal.

Finally, reach out for help and know it's okay to say no. We tend to want to be all things for all people. Take that moment to reflect and cherish those people and things that mean the world to you.

Wishing you all a most blessed holiday season filled with hope, health, and happiness.





Advent & Christmas Schedule

The season of Advent is upon us! Below is our upcoming Advent/Christmas service schedule:

- **12/11:** Voyagers (grades 3-4) present “An Advent Adventure” & Club 5/6 (grades 5-6) presents “A Super Christmas” at 9 AM
- **12/18:** 3-year-olds-2nd graders present “The First Christmas” at 9 AM
- **12/24:** 2, 4, 10 PM Christmas Eve Services
- **12/25:** No Worship

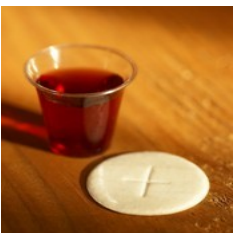
Cookie Exchange!

Sisters of LOC is hosting a cookie exchange on Tuesday, December 13th from 6:30-8:00 pm. We will serve wine, non-alcoholic fizzy water, and snacks. We ask each person who is participating to bring 3 dozen cookies and say what you're bringing along with copies of the recipe. Sign up at this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0B4DA5AA29A0FD0-cookie>



Altar Guild Volunteers Needed!

We need extra altar guild volunteers to help with some of our larger upcoming services, specifically, Christmas Eve (12/24). If you are interested in helping and/or have questions, contact Kylee Amdor at kylee.amdor@gmail.com. Being a part of the altar guild is a wonderful way to serve Light of Christ!



Memorial Angel Ornaments

We are offering congregation members the opportunity to purchase angel ornaments this Christmas season in honor or in memory of loved ones. Each ornament will have a spot where you can write your loved one's name. They are \$8 each. All money will go towards our Columbarium fund. We



will have a table set-up in the Narthex for purchasing through **December 18th**. If paying by check, please make it payable to **Light of Christ** and note **columbarium** in the memo portion. You can either take your ornament home with you or place it on our Christmas tree in the Narthex until after Christmas Eve. Merry Christmas!

2022 Annual Reports are due **before December 12th**. Please email them to Terri in the church.office when ready. Thank you!



2023 Offering Envelopes



If you requested preprinted 2023 offering envelopes, they are now available to be picked up in the narthex.

2023 Pledges & Online Giving

If you need to change your automatic contribution amount due to your 2023 pledge, please log in to your [MyVanco account](#) or contact Terri in the church office to make the change. Your pledge card does not authorize the church to make these changes.

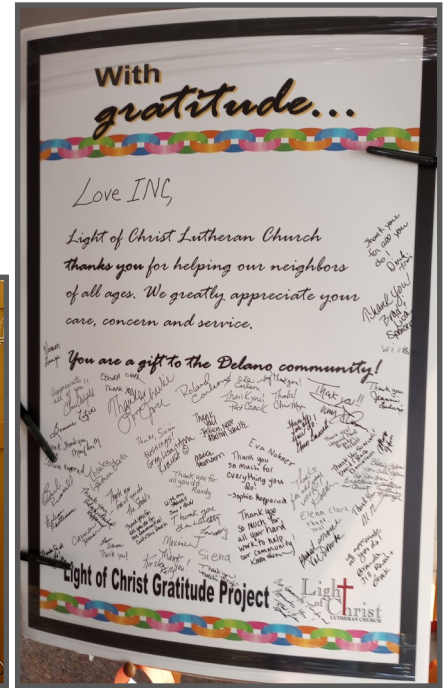
You might find it helpful to [watch this video](#), which will walk you through the steps to cancel your current transaction and then create a new transaction. Vanco is working to add the “edit” option for 2023! Please contact Terri in the church office if you have any questions.

STAYING CONNECTED

Our Generosity Project began by expressing our gratitude to Love INC staff and volunteers. Light of Christ folks brought coffee and morning treats, along with our large signed Thank-You Card from our church. We learned a bit more about their ministry, and we enjoyed some good fellowship together.



YOU can help us to thank and bless yet another organization here in the Delano/Wright Co. area as a part of our appreciation for the work and faithful service of others. We'll help you get set-up. But it's really pretty simple. Choose a day/time that works for the organization and yourself, encourage thank-you card sign-ups over the course of a couple of weeks (we'll get the card ordered for you), decide upon snacks, purchase them (we'll reimburse you), and help recruit a few people to help on that day. Sign-ups can be made at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0848a9a72aaaf85-gratitude1>. Or reach out to Tim Johnson at tim.johnson@locdelano.com



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?



December is a great time to consider serving in a new way. 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 (soon to be forming) |
| Endowment | 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.

Generosity Makes Ministry Possible

We've each been blessed in order to be a blessing to others. In fact, giving and sharing is critical to the vitality of our very lives. Reminds me of an example of this.

There are two major bodies of water in the land where Jesus walked. One is the Sea of Galilee, a beautiful lake 13 miles long and 7 miles wide, filled with fish and surrounded by lush foliage.

The other body of water is the Dead Sea, 50 miles long and 11 miles wide, the shoreline of which is 1300 feet below sea level. There are no plants of any kind in or around the water. There are no fish or any kind of swimming nor squirming creatures living in or



near the water. As a matter of fact, what you'll see on the shores of the Dead Sea is white, crystals of salt covering EVERYTHING. According to [extremescience.com](https://www.extremescience.com), fish accidentally swimming into the waters from one of the several freshwater streams that feed the Sea are killed instantly, their bodies quickly coated with a preserving layer of salt crystals and then tossed onto shore by the wind and waves.



Both the Sea of Galilee and the Dead Sea are fed by the Jordan River. There is really only one difference between these two bodies of water, really only one thing that causes the Sea of Galilee to be beautiful

and alive while the Dead Sea is barren and lifeless. The Sea of Galilee has an outlet; the Dead Sea does not! Water flows through the Sea of Galilee. Water flows into the Dead Sea but not out!

I think it's the same with our lives. While the culture is obsessed with getting and having, our faith calls us into generosity – giving and sharing what we have, blessing others with our resources, being, as Jesus said, like “living streams.”

While giving and pledging is a part of how we ensure that our church's ministry happens, it's also how each of us keeps healthy, faithful, and alive with blessings flowing through us as God intends. If you haven't as yet, I encourage you to join the growing number of Light of Christ households who make a commitment to our shared ministry. Making a pledge is a fine way to do that. Pledge cards for 2023 are at the Usher Station or can be found by [CLICKING HERE](#).

Friday Night Lights!

13 youth attended our first Friday Night Lights event at River City Extreme in Monticello. We had a great night of cosmic bowling, laser tag and arcade games! Thank you to Jennifer Slipka for planning this event, and to Bob and Jennifer Slipka for attending as adult leaders. Watch for future events like this to get out and connect with friends!



High School Fellowship

Join us for future nights of fellowship, friends, faith, food and FUN! Here is our upcoming schedule (Wednesdays from 7:30-8:30):

- * 12/7 - Serving at Delano Food Shelf
- * 12/14 - Cookie baking & Christmas movie
- * 12/21 & 12/28 – **No HSF** (Christmas Break)



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

During the December 11th worship service at 9 AM:



**“AN ADVENT ADVENTURE:
PROPHECY AND PROMISES COME TRUE”**
presented by the Light of Christ Voyagers!

AND



presented by the Light of Christ Club 5-6



During the December 18th worship service at 9 AM:

“THE FIRST CHRISTMAS”
presented by the Light of Christ
3-year-olds – 2nd grade Sunday school children

