



Pastor Bruce Kuenzel

September 4, 2023

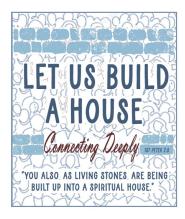
#### Worship

- In-person worship-9:00 am Sundays
- Online worship continues, and will be posted on the church website and Facebook page



#### **Church Council 2023**

Mike Boyack Laurie Brown Billie Chock Tim Current (treas.) Steven Dickey (pres.) Derek Horeis (v. pres.) Dan Paulson Lisa Spencer (sec'y.) Natasha Werner Pastor Bruce Kuenzel



#### **Contact us!**

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







LightOfChristLutheran.com Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com

The Church Council is requesting feedback from the congregation on Sunday service times, to evaluate potential needs to change. Please fill out the survey at the link below, giving your preferences and comments. There are several factors that weigh into the decision to make any changes, and this is one important piece of the puzzle. No changes will be made without adequate notice and partnership with other groups. committees, and staff. Thanks in advance for your feedback! Responses will be accepted through Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>.



https://forms.gle/oWwVJcJQX2MPChbk8

# Join us for Rally Sunday on September 10th!

#### **Backpack Blessing during 9am worship**

Children are asked to bring their backpacks with them to worship as we will share in a time of blessing upon their backpacks as well as a blessing upon each child for a great school year.





#### **Bible Presentation to** our early Explorers (3 years +)

At Light of Christ, we present to our 3-yearolds a Whirl Story Bible. This is the Bible the Explorers (children 3 years-2<sup>nd</sup> grade) will hear Bible stories from on Sunday morning. While

they will not need to bring them on Sundays, having the same Bible is a great way to share the Bible story again at home. We want to make sure your child is included in the presentation. If your child is 3 years old  $-2^{nd}$ grade and would like a Bible, please sign up at the link TODAY https:// www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F48A4AB22A4FCCF8-explorers1.

#### \*Rally Sunday Activities continue at 10am

Outdoor games and activities: bounce house, cake walk, bingo, ring toss, Bozo bucket toss, sucker tree, rock painting, face painting. Fall registration/orientation.



There will be food and other fun activities (come and see!)

#### **OUTREACH**

### A Wonderful Way to Put Faith into Action

Our next food distribution is on **Monday, Sept. 11**<sup>th</sup>. At **10:00 am** at Our Father's Lutheran Church in Rockford, we join with the other four churches to pack hundreds of boxes of various food items. We also load up our own LOC trailer with the boxes we distribute later in the day. <u>Click here</u> to sign-up for this shift.

You may also serve our neighbors and guests by coming to the church parking lot at **3:30 pm** to help us set-up for a 4:00 pm distribution of the boxes. Elementary school-aged through retired make up our wonderful team each month. Click here to sign up.









# Free Fresh Produce and Dairy

Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup> 4:00 pm—until gone

NourishingHOPE 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

#### 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

#### Hanover

Influence Church @ City Hall

11250 5th Street NE Hanover, MN 55341

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/onorishing-hope.html

### **Family Meals At Love INC**

Serving a family meal at Love INC Heartland's *Fresh Start Program* is a simple, impactful way to show the love of Christ. We have multiple openings to fill from September to November. Sign Up On Meal Train: bit.ly/fsmeals23



#### **Love INC Volunteers**

The Love INC ministry would not be possible without the generous hearts and hands of our volunteers. Do you have the heart to listen, clarify information, or pray with people over the phone? Our Connection Center (helpline) needs you! Get Involved Today: <a href="mailto:bit.ly/loveincvolunteer">bit.ly/loveincvolunteer</a>

#### CHURCH NEWS

### Adult Choir Rehearsals Begin September 12<sup>th</sup>!



Rehearsals are held every Tuesday, 6:30-7:30 pm. All skill levels are welcome! Talk to Katie for more information. You can reach her at <a href="mailto:katie.kohler@locdelano.com">katie.kohler@locdelano.com</a>

# What would you say Light of Christ's top priorities are?

How might you characterize our mission? Our Purpose? Our Giftedness?

Our Transition Team has been at work completing the Mission Site Profile. This is the main communications document used by churches, bishops, and pastoral candidates. This first step in our Call Process includes articulating some key aspects of our congregation as well as some of what we think we'll need or look for in our next pastor, as Pastor Bruce will move into retirement in the coming year or so.

On two upcoming Sundays, September 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, our Transition Team will share with you some key parts of the Mission Site Profile and invite your feedback. The MSP contains important descriptions, hopes and perspectives on our church. Please feel free to join us for about 50 minutes following worship, in the Sanctuary.



#### KIDS HOPE USA

IOPE Light of Christ partnered with an exciting program called KIDS HOPE USA and Delano Elemen-

tary last school year and it was VERY successful. We are hoping to add a few more mentors. Volunteer Light of Christ mentors spend 1 hour mentoring one 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 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 more with you about Kids Hope. If you are interested, please contact Terri at the church office and she will connect you with us. Thank you!

# Live-streaming to YouTube!

strengthen our faith.



Women's

Bible Study

We have added our YouTube page as a source of live-streaming. Please note, we will continue streaming on Facebook as well! Links to both our YouTube and Facebook pages can be found at <a href="https://www.lightofchristlutheran.com/worship/worship-schedule">https://www.lightofchristlutheran.com/worship/worship-schedule</a>

# Attention, Women! Women's Bible Study is resuming on Sept. 7th!

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

The women's bible study will meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>
Thursday of the month, 6:30 – 8:00 pm in the Living
Room at LOC. If you need to leave by 7:30 that is
okay. We will use the last 30 minutes for social time
if people want to spend some time visiting. We will
meet September – March. We will not meet in
December. The first meeting will be September 7<sup>th</sup>. If
you can't make it every time that is okay! We want you
to come when you can.

The study we will be doing for this session is *Blessed: Experiencing the Promise of the Book of Revelation* by Nancy Guthrie. Below is a summary of the study. Source: <u>Blessed: Experiencing the Promise of the Book of Revelation: Guthrie, Nancy: 9781433580208: Amazon.com: Books</u>

"Over 12 chapters, *Blessed* covers the full text of the book of Revelation, exploring its call to patient endurance as God's sovereign plans for judgment and salvation are worked out in the world. In this book, Guthrie shows how Revelation is less about when Jesus will return and more about who we are to be, what we are to do, and what we can expect to endure as we wait for Jesus to return to establish his kingdom in the new creation."

If you are interested in participating, please respond to Lindsay Lindall at <a href="mailto:lindsay.lindall@gmail.com">lindsay.lindall@gmail.com</a> We hope to see you in September!



# Fall Faith Journey for Children in 1st-6th grades



Registration open – sign up below now!

- Voyagers (1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grades) Wednesdays, 2:45 4:45 pm: <a href="https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/Voyagers.202166899">https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/Voyagers.202166899</a>
- Pathfinders (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades) Wednesdays,
   5:00-6:00 pm: <a href="https://">https://</a>
   lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/
   Pathfinders.2021616







## Youth Choir Beginning this Fall!

- Grades 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>
- Rehearsals take place on select Sundays, 10:30-11:00 am
- The choir will sing in worship around 4 times a year
- Contact Katie for more info at katie.kohler@locdelano.com

### **Explorer Volunteers**

Beginning Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, Explorers (children 3 years —2<sup>nd</sup> grade) will be excused from worship following the children's message to explore the Bible in an age-appropriate way. We have leaders for this time but need a second adult to maintain our "safe sanctuary" policy. Please take a moment to sign up so we can continue the explorer program.

Thanks! <a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F48A4AB22A4FCCF8-explorers">https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F48A4AB22A4FCCF8-explorers</a>

# Coming October 29th - First Communion at 9 am

Here at Light of Christ, we welcome children of all ages to receive first communion instruction and then come to the Lord's Table. First communion instruction times will be Sundays, October 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:00 pm. We do ask that parents accompany children to these instruction times. Please take a moment and let us know your family's intent to participate by completing the registration form at this link: <a href="https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/d50eac">https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/d50eac</a>

Thank you!

We look forward to welcoming your child into this high and holy moment in his or her faith life!



Over the next few weeks, we are going to be sharing different photos from our Belize mission trip. We took thousands of photos, and we hope these will help paint the picture of the incredible life-changing trip that we had! Our hearts grew so much and we hope you'll ask us about all of our stories. Because of you, 35 youth and 20 adults grew in their relationship with each other and with God...and loved and served in HUGE ways! If you'd like to hear some of our stories, here is a link to our return worship service that took place on Sunday, August 6: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/lightofchristlutheranchurch/videos/1246904489361179">https://www.facebook.com/lightofchristlutheranchurch/videos/1246904489361179</a>

Thanks for your love and support!





























While we were in Belize, we had many incredible meals together. The people of Belize were so generous, welcoming and shared amazing hospitality! We ate some meals at our service sites while other meals were shared at local restaurants or at our hotel. But all of our meals were times to connect and grow in relationship together and also be adventurous to explore and try new foods! The next two pages show photos of some of the incredible food that we ate on our first two days of service. Next week we will share photos of the work that we did at these locations.

Page 5

# U Janal Masewal

One of our service days was spent at U Janal Masewal, a family business run by one of our Belize adult guides (Frank) and his parents, siblings and their families. While we were there, we learned how to make traditional Mayan food and then got to eat what we made for lunch. In the afternoon we spent time working at a kid's camp (at a nearby school in San Antonio),











getting to know/love the local children, and also helping to dig a large hole for a septic system at U Janal Masewal (so they can add a bathroom to their property). The dirt and rocks that we dug up got put into the











foundation of a future addition to their family's home. It was a lot of hard work (in such hot weather and humidity) but also one of the most rewarding and heartfilling days of service we experienced! Frank's family touched our hearts and we are excited that Frank will be coming back to visit us in Delano in October!











# Oxmul Coffee Farm

While we were in San Antonio, Belize, one of our days was spent meeting James and his family and learning about their family business, Oxmul Coffee Farm. This is one of the only coffee farms in Belize

and it was incredible to learn the hard work, patience and love that is put into the process of producing delicious coffee! The beans are hand planted, grown, picked, peeled and roasted. While we were there, our group not only learned about the coffee production process, but helped to plant over 200 coffee tree

seedlings, dug and spread dirt to fill the foundation of a future home on the property, did some weeding and played with the local children. Oxmul is a slice of heaven and we all hope to go back again someday to visit!









