



May Worship

All worship services will be recorded and posted on the [church website](#) so you can watch and stay connected each week. Online worship will continue until the restrictions for large group gatherings are lifted.



Church Council 2020

Kylee Amdor
Wes Aylsworth
Carmen Hanson
Jennifer Hinker
Jon Holzer
Elizabeth Kohlhof
Dan Langner
Tom Sebelien
Stacy VanCura
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

Contact us!

Light of Christ Lutheran
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Delano, MN 55328
(763) 972-2400



LightOfChristLutheran.com
lochrist@frontiernet.net



Volunteers ready to pack for the produce drop on 4/29:
front row: Ben Kelly, Kirsten Kelly
back row: Wes Aylsworth, John McClelland, Alaina Grant, Rosie Grant, Jennifer Grant, Brad Pappas, Tracy Magner



Fresh Produce Is Distributed

In collaboration with Our Father's Lutheran Church in Rockford and through generosity of Second Harvest Heartland, Light of Christ (LOC) volunteers packed and distributed 57 boxes of fresh produce for area residents. Distribution took place at Light of Christ on Wednesday, April 29th with overwhelming response. While extremely grateful that produce was provided to 57 families, it was disheartening to have to turn away an additional 100 plus persons hoping to participate.

The response is indicative of the current need in our community and the positive impact LOC can have in participating in this type of collaboration. The hope is that this program will be available for an additional two dates in May and LOC will again provide both a location and volunteers willing to pack and distribute food.

A huge thank you to the following LOC volunteers serving the April distribution – Wes Aylsworth, John McClelland, Brad Pappas, Tracy Magner, Jennifer, Alaina and Kiera Grant, Amy Bigot, and Anne and Lexi Rothstein.



Stewardship in the Sunshine

A land that the Lord your God cares for. The eyes of the Lord your God are always upon it, from the beginning of the year to the end of the year. Deuteronomy 11:12

As a new member of the Stewardship Committee, I am continually learning more about the many ways stewardship opportunities present themselves. Previously when I heard the word stewardship I was often drawn only toward the financial aspects and would lose sight of the many other ways we can be stewards for Light of Christ and our community.

During this spring season, specifically one where so many things are cancelled or postponed yet the seasons of change are not, consider how you may be a **steward of the environment**. Things as simple as picking up trash while on a walk or offering to help a neighbor or friend with "socially distant" yard work will allow us to exercise our environmental stewardship. If you happen to pass by Light of Christ and have a few minutes to spare, consider taking a walk around the property lines and road ditches to do a quick clean up. A few minutes of your time as an environmental steward will help keep our grounds in good condition and ready for the day when we can all return.

Thank you! ~ Stewardship Committee

Call on the Light of Christ Prayer Chain

Then you will call on me and come and pray to me and I will listen to you. Jeremiah 29:12

Are you in need of a prayer during these difficult days? Do you know someone else in need of prayer? If so, please feel free to engage the Light of Christ Prayer Chain. The process is simple and 100% confidential. All you need to do is contact the church office either by email (preferred—lochrist@frontiernet.net) or phone (763-972-2400; please keep in mind office hours are currently limited to Wednesdays, 9:15-11:30 am) with your request. The church office then contacts the group of LOC members ready to pray for you as requested. Feel free to call on this team in your time of need. Anyone wishing to join the Prayer Chain should contact the Church office.

Free Meals Available for Seniors 60+

Wright County Community Action and the Delano Senior Center continue with their partnership in providing ten frozen meals to **Wright County seniors (age 60 plus)**. Meals will be delivered directly to homes for the duration of the CoVid-19 crisis. If you are a senior, or know of a senior, that would benefit from this program, please email senior@delano.mn.us or call 763-972-0574 to sign up. You can also contact the Delano Senior Center and their volunteers or staff are available to reach out to seniors that may be interested in participating.

If you would like to support this initiative, monetary donations would be greatly appreciated. Additionally, there is a need for temporary freezer space, preferably walk-in. Please call Terri Harris at 763-742-3113 if you have freezer space that can be shared with this program.

Caring Cards

Is there someone you would like to receive a personally written message of support or encouragement from the Light of Christ family? Please complete this [form](#) and email or send to the church office. Or email the information below to lochrist@frontiernet.net. A card will be created and sent to the intended recipient.

Please send a card to: **Name:** _____

Address: _____

This person needs support dealing with:

grief depression, brokenness
 illness family discord

optional details:

To ensure an age-appropriate message, please indicate the recipient's age.

youth-young adult 30-60 60-100

*This outreach is provided by the
Healing and Wholeness Ministry.*

CARING CORNER

(Created by Light of Christ
Healing and Wholeness Ministry)



May is National Mental Health Awareness Month

Light of Christ's (LOC) Healing and Wholeness Ministry committee recognizes that this time of quarantine and isolation brings a new dimension of concern for all of us who struggle with (or love someone who does) anxiety, depression, loneliness, addiction, and many forms of mental illness.

Our connection as a faith community is so important and we hope you feel you can reach out for support, prayer, a listening ear. National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) has a "Mental Health Challenge" on their website (<https://www.nami.org/Home>) for daily ideas on coping/thriving with mental illness. We have created a God/faith-based daily calendar to support, comfort and inspire you to keep going! One day at a time...

May 4: "Make sure you test positive for Faith. Trust in God through it all."

May 5: "Keep your distance from doubt. Trust in God through it all."

May 6: "Isolate yourself from fear. Trust God through it all."

May 7: Practice gratitude

May 8: Cross something off your "to do" list

May 9: Eat a healthy snack

May 10: Thank God for all Mother's today. "A mother's hug lasts long after she let's go."

Take part in LOC YouTube church service and then at 9:45 sign on for Zoom Communion and connection with your LOC family.

**When the What Ifs Are Overwhelming-
Three Simple Practices for Anxiety in Uncertain Times**
[http://www.mentalhealthministries.net/resources/
covid/DiscoverHope.pdf](http://www.mentalhealthministries.net/resources/covid/DiscoverHope.pdf)

Notes of Thanks

Thank you for your generous donation through the "Pack the Pews" drive. We appreciate that you have changed the drive to monetary donations. The dollars will be used to purchase food from Second Harvest Heartland. For every dollar, we are able to purchase **\$9.00 of food**. We have seen an increase in the number of neighbors in need. We are so grateful we can be open to serve. *Co-chairs Sandy Kremer & Jeanie Pilarski*

thank you

Thank you for your generous donation to the Delano Senior Center's lunch program. Though we are currently in an uncertain time, we are looking forward to opening back up and bringing seniors together again over lunch and at our various activities. We appreciate your donation and we are honored to have been selected as the beneficiary organization for March.
Sincerely, Nick Neaton—Community Services Director

New Equal Exchange Online Store with FREE Delivery... order for yourself or brighten someone's day!

Light of Christ (LOC) youth are beginning a new "Online Store" with Equal Exchange items (coffee, chocolate, tea, nuts, etc.) as well as LOC Tumblers. You can order items online (<https://forms.gle/Td7By6ugsStCBALW7>) and then choose to have them delivered to someone's house to brighten their day (gift wrapping available) or order for yourself and have it delivered to your home! If you order for someone else, we encourage you to include a special note so they know who it is from. Payment for items can be made online or you can mail a check, but items will not be delivered until payment is received. Once the order is complete, a high schooler from LOC will deliver the item/s to the specified address (free within Delano and surrounding communities). We will make sure to follow CDC and social distancing guidelines during the entire process. All proceeds will benefit future youth trips/camp. What a great way to send a "thank you" to your child's teacher, get a gift for Mother's Day or just brighten someone's day! (Please note: since we're not sure how popular this will be, we are starting with the inventory that we currently have available. If we find that it goes well, we will order more Equal Exchange items and have them available once they arrive. Thanks for your patience and understanding. And we invite your feedback and input!)



Zoom Sunday School Is Happening!!

Each Sunday, we will be having live Sunday school lessons on Zoom. 3-year-olds through 2nd grade can log in from 8:30-9:00 and 3rd through 6th grade log in at 11:00-11:30 am. Watch your emails for more information!



3rd—6th Grade Sunday School via Zoom



3-year-olds—2nd Grade
Sunday School via Zoom

New High School Mission Trip Opportunity

Since our 2020 HS Mission Trip to Denver has been postponed, Pastor Bruce and Kirsten are looking into the option of having a “Virtual HS Service Experience” at Light of Christ this summer instead. This experience would take place later in the summer (dates TBD) and would follow all CDC and social distancing guidelines. But we are hoping we can gather at church for some service learning videos put together by Service Learning Camps, as well as do some hands-on service activities that would benefit local social service agencies. Since this is a whole new opportunity and the dates have changed, we are opening it up to any high school youth (completed grades 7-12) that are interested. For more information or to express interest, please contact Kirsten Kelly **ASAP** so we know an approximate number. The cost of this experience would be around \$75-100.

Kid's Connect via Zoom!

Here is the remaining schedule for Zoom Connect times for grades 3-6. Hope you can join us!

- ◇ 3rd Grade = May 5, May 19 and June 2
from 3:00-3:30 pm
- ◇ 4th Grade = May 12 and May 26
from 3:00-3:30 pm
- ◇ 5th Grade = May 14 and May 28
from 3:00-3:30 pm



4th Grade Zoom Connect

Vibrant | Connected | Serving

As we continue to “shelter in place”, Light of Christ (LOC) staff and congregation commit to staying connected, providing support, and giving assistance wherever needed!

If you or someone you know is in need of support, please email Jinnelle Weis at locvolunteer@frontier.com or call her at 952-250-5527. If you can provide support, please call or email and I will gladly add you to one of the many ways in which we are connecting with our church family.

LOC members have volunteered to reach out through a multitude of different initiatives. We have offers to run errands for those less able to leave their home, assistance may be available for navigating online ordering and virtual communication opportunities. Many persons, including several of our LOC youth have been connecting with a note to say we are thinking of you or simply checking in with a “how are you doing” phone call. We continue saying “thank you” to all those on the front lines – our medical personnel, public and private school educators, grocery store employees and so many more.

More than ever, it is a time to nourish relationships, connect where possible and care for each other. We are alone **together** and staying vibrant, connected and serving where needed!



“Serve at or Beyond Light of Christ”

I do not remember exactly when Light of Christ adopted “The Marks of Discipleship” but I do know that today, more than ever, they are being lived out! All five are extremely important but especially amid these unusual times I am extremely thankful for so many of you who are “Serving at or Beyond Light of Christ.”

In the last 45 plus days we have had multiple initiatives designed to connect with LOC members, to thank persons on the front lines for keeping us safe and teaching our children, to extend services to those in need both in our congregation and community. In every case when we have asked for assistance to reach out, to connect, to help, to provide – our LOC members have been there to give of your time, your talents, your resources.

We are extremely fortunate as a congregation to have so many willing to volunteer no matter the need or commitment. A heart-felt **“THANK YOU”** to each one of you for your gifts and eager willingness to “Serve at or Beyond Light of Christ” – you are a blessing to each person you touch.

Conversation and Study on "Finding Peace in These Times"

An opportunity to connect with others to explore what's at stake with our sense of well-being amidst all of these changes and challenges.

We'll look at the six reasons people aren't at peace, what the Biblical word, *Shalom*, means, and explore other key texts.

Tuesday evening, May 5th, from 7-8 p.m., Light of Christ member, Tim Johnson, will lead an online/Zoom study on the evening's subject. If you would like to receive a link/invitation, or if you'd like a bit more information, please reach out to Tim via email, tdale57@gmail.com, or phone: 952-472-1755.

Tim will also share a simple **LIFE** approach to Bible study and discovery:

L -- Listen to what the Word says

I -- Internalize or meditate upon what you read and learn

F -- Follow your sense of how the Word or the Holy Spirit prompts you in the days following

E -- Enjoy the fruit of being connect to God. After all, Jesus said that he came that we might have life and have it abundantly!

All are welcome!!



What's Your Favorite Hymn?

During our Saturday devotion we are hoping to share members' favorite hymns/Christian songs and how those songs have played a part in their Christian faith. If you are interested in sharing, please contact Katie at locworshipmus@gmail.com. Video and written statements are both accepted. Katie will share your statements and sing the songs during Saturday devotions. If you wish to remain anonymous that's fine too! We are excited to hear from all of you!

Submit Your Family Pictures

Light of Christ Members: don't forget about pictures for the online Church Directory! While we are all staying safe at home, this may be a great time to gather the family members and take a picture of the gang. All you have to do is email your picture to **Terri at the church office** who will coordinate adding it to our directory.



Get Your Daily Devotions

Pastor Bruce and Worship and Music Director, Katie Kohler, post a morning devotion five days a week — Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday—which can be found on our [website](#) under the "Staying Vibrant Despite the Virus" tab ([Worship/Music/Devotions](#)) or on our [YouTube channel](#).



Church Library Has Many Resources

Just a reminder that even though the public libraries are closed, the church library has many books and resources for members to check out, and for all ages and topics. Just stop in during office hours (currently Wednesdays 9:15-11:30 am) to check it out while still remaining socially distanced!



COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR 60 & OLDER



The Central MN Council on Aging (CMCOA) has provided Federal Older Americans Act (FOAA) funding to Catholic Charities to provide both congregated and home-delivered meals in Wright County for decades. In January, Catholic Charities developed a partnership to deliver home-delivered meals to low income older adults 60+ through two of Wright County Community Action's (WCCA) Mobile Food Shelf routes in Delano and Waverly. CMCOA also provides funding to WCCA for grocery/RX delivery. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, older adults

nationwide are being encouraged to remain at home. We want to ensure older adults have adequate access to food during these times of uncertainty. There are several options for individuals 60 years and older to consider if services are needed:

Reassurance

Do you know an older adult who may be isolated during the Covid-19? These providers are available with support and a friendly visit via the telephone to older adults. CMCOA, through the FOAA, is funding these agencies to provide this service to older adults in Wright and surrounding counties.

Well Connected is a community made up of participants, staff, facilitators, presenters, and other volunteers who care about each other and who value being connected. All groups are accessible by phone from wherever you are at no cost to you. 877-797-7299



Meals/Groceries/RX Covid

CMCOA, through the FOAA, is funding these agencies to provide grocery/medication delivery, frozen meals through curbside pickup, and home delivery to older adults in Wright and surrounding counties. To keep clients and volunteers safe during the Covid-19 pandemic, services will be provided as a knock & drop service. These are provided on a donation basis and no one is turned down for inability to pay. For grocery delivery/medication delivery, contact Wright County Community Action 320-963-6500

Need Help Finding Community Resources? Call Senior LinkAge Line at: 1-800-333-2433



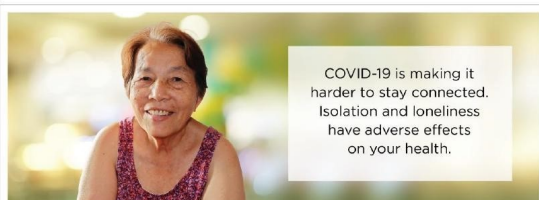
MINNESOTA'S LINK TO A LOCAL EXPERT



Social Connect
Calm your body and celebrate the good things in life.

Social Connect

Keeping seniors active during these changing times can be challenging, yet is for vital their wellbeing. One option is the Stay Active and Independent for Life (SAIL) program for seniors. SAIL is a weekly program for adults that is designed to reduce the risk of falling by teaching participants how to perform exercises that improve strength, balance and fitness. SAIL can be offered through a virtual platform such as a laptop or through televisions within a site. The SAIL class is facilitated by a trained leader.



Additionally, CMCOA will be offering a Social Connect virtual class for seniors. Participants will do gentle chair yoga movements, learn about ways to reduce stress and connect with others. These 45-minute sessions will be conducted by phone or Zoom and offered Tuesdays and Thursdays through May. For registration contact: Darcy Rylander, Central MN Council on Aging drylander@yourjuniper.com 320.253.9349.