



Worship

Starting October 11—Indoor
Worship at 9:30 am (must
sign up)

Worship services will be
recorded and posted on the
church website. 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
- ✝ 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
lochist@frontiernet.net

TRUNK OR TREAT!

Light of Christ is hosting a Trunk or Treat Family Event on Sunday, October 25th! If you are not familiar with "trunk-or-treating", the premise is simple: people decorate the trunks of their cars with some sort of theme (not just limited to Halloween), set up in a parking lot, and give out treats to children. A "Boo Walk" will also be available for families to walk through. We have room for 15-20 trunks in the church parking lot and so please contact Catherine Borman or Jennifer Grant if you would like to volunteer to do a trunk or donate candy. Please use the link below to choose from 3 different time slots. 3:30-4:00 pm will be a drive-through only for those who prefer to stay in their cars. 4:00-4:30 pm and 4:30-5:00 pm are available for those who are comfortable with walking around. Costumes are encouraged, but not required (please refrain from ones that promote violence or horror since there will be young children attending). Come join us for a

spooktacular event!

Click [here](#) if you would like to attend the event.

Click [here](#) if you would like to host a trunk or volunteer.



Smize. Connect. Be vibrant.

The light of the eyes rejoices the heart, and good news refreshes the body.
Proverbs 15:30

"Smize" (smiling with your eyes) is a pop culture term nominated to be a new word in *Webster's Dictionary*. We all try to smize above our masks to help identify ourselves and convey emotion. With our smize, hands and donations we also extend Light of Christ's vibrancy.

*"Who we are and what we do hasn't changed.
Just how we do it."*

--Pastor Bruce

During the fall stewardship campaign, committee members will drop our masks (via Zoom) and give you a heartfelt look at why we each give to Light of Christ. We hope you'll identify with our stories, share our sense of blessings through LOC membership, and prayerfully build Light of Christ's vibrancy with your 2021 giving pledge.

We look forward to seeing your *smize* soon!
Cheri Ashfeld, Stewardship Committee

Silent Prayer and Meditation in the Sanctuary

The Light of Christ Sanctuary will be available for prayer and meditation every Wednesday from 4:30-6:30 pm and every Thursday from 11:30 am-1:30 pm.

Light of Christ has not changed who we are or what we do but pandemic concerns have changed how we live out our vision as a welcoming, accepting and enjoyable place to gather. We continue to find ways to learn and grow together – to be a place where people can bring their joys, their questions, their fears. We continue to be a faith community that finds peace in prayer and meditation.

Each of us has our own way to be close to our Lord in prayer and meditation and for many of us that closeness to God is most felt in our Light of Christ Sanctuary. This fall we want to again provide an opportunity where we can come to the Sanctuary to have private time with our thoughts, our prayers and our personal time with God.

Everyone planning time in the Sanctuary will be asked to utilize a [SignUp Genius](#) to select dates you choose to use the Sanctuary for personal meditation. Attached to the Signup Genius schedule is a drawing that denotes available Sanctuary seating – please select an available pew seat for your use during time in the Sanctuary.

This time is meant for silent prayer for each person in the Sanctuary and social distancing is to be respected. Masks and COVID-19 compliance are required. Again, this is quiet time for thought, prayer and personal connection with God.

Update on Delano Food Shelf

As you may know Jeanie and Sandy who have managed the Delano food shelf for the last 15 years have retired as of October 1. Three managers, Sue Stahlke, JoMarie Williamson and Sarah Hagen have been selected and have already begun their roles. Light of Christ will continue to have volunteers help the months of **December** and **June** and will also be adding the month of **March**. Dee Beilke who has arranged LOC volunteers for years is passing that role onto Lona Jose. She will be contacting previous volunteers about their interest in continuing as well as looking for new additional volunteers. **If interested, please contact Lona at 320-241-3943.** The work schedule remains **every Thursday afternoon as well as the last Thursday evening of our LOC months.** There are also additional days/times to volunteer with other tasks. If interested, contact JoMarie at lohwil@msn.com. Thank you to Dee, Jeanie and Sandy for your many years of leadership with the food shelf. We still look forward to working with you on the front line if interested! Thank you, Sue, JoMarie and Sarah for taking on this big volunteer job!

Caring Corner

Created by Light of Christ
Healing and Wholeness Ministry



Faith Over Fear

Excerpts from Interfaith Network
on Mental Illness website (INMI.us)

(Encouragements from Sept 21, 2020)

Many actors are stoking fear today. For sure, the fear of the virus is out there. But our fears are heightened by those who question the science for treating the virus. We're denied certainty when we need it the most. Our fears are fueled by the rhetoric of law and order. Our fears extend to the health of the planet. The news shows us thousands of acres of land on fire, glaciers melting, and sea level rising. We fear that not enough is being done to address climate change. Many lives have been crushed or are on the brink of chaos. Yet people try to hold on to hope, even as their fears rise.

Fear may be useful in keeping us safe and protected. Yet, contagious fear that now swirls within and around us in our daily lives can paralyze us. Fear can keep us from sleeping well. It can keep us from supporting programs and organizations that help those in need. We turn inward, so that we do not reach out to give or receive help. Fear can keep us so upset that our own health is jeopardized. And fear can contribute to depressing thoughts and even egregious actions may be energized by these fears.

Faith over fear. What can that mean? Faith can mean trust. The question is in what and whom can we invest our trust when fears erode our well-being? We can have faith that we will find positive energy within and around us. We can have faith that our creative drive will renew us. We can have faith in a power greater than ourselves. We can have faith that we, like others, can come through the uncertainty and anguish of these days to stand on the rock of what is true. We can have faith that "this, too, shall pass," and that we can navigate the turbulent waters ahead. This edition of Encouragements focuses on faith over fear and offers ways to see that our fears can be addressed. Fear need not incapacitate us!

Psalm 46:1 *God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in time of trouble.*

Be a Star!

Our staff continues to welcome kids, youth, families and/or adults of all ages to help us with our video recording for worship! Parts of worship that we've been looking for include the Lord's Prayer, Apostle's Creed and First Reading. Confirmation youth can use this for Service Hours and HS youth could use this for NHS hours. Contact Kirsten Kelly or Katie Kohler if you'd like to participate and submit a recording!



Upcoming Worship Plans!

We are excited to announce that beginning October 11th we will hold one indoor worship service every Sunday! The service will start at **9:30 AM**. A SignUp Genius will be sent to members. **Members must sign up in order to attend the indoor worship service.** There will be a seating chart attached to the SignUp Genius and all members will choose seats ahead of time. The chart will be further explained in the SignUp Genius. The indoor worship will not replace our online services. We will continue to post online worship services as well. As with the outdoor worship service, worship indoors will look a little different than previous indoor services:

- ◇ *In order to comply with COVID-19 guidelines, we cannot accommodate more than 75 people. Make sure to sign up **ASAP** as all spots are first come, first serve!*
- ◇ *We ask all congregation members to please wear a mask. Children ages 3-5 are encouraged to wear masks, but it is not required. Children 2 years and younger are not required to wear masks.*
- ◇ *We ask congregation members to please refrain from singing along with the songs as this is a high-risk activity in group settings. Instead, feel free to hum along or just listen and enjoy!*
- ◇ *We will not participate in group prayer, since speaking together in a large group is also a high-risk activity.*
- ◇ *If you are experiencing COVID-like symptoms or have been exposed to a person diagnosed with COVID, please remain at home.*

We are so excited to begin gathering again! Thank you in advance for your patience and cooperation as we navigate through all these guidelines. The safety of the whole Light of Christ family is and will always be of the utmost importance.

START YOUR DAY WITH PRAYER & MUSIC

Devotions will now occur on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. Member song requests will be featured in Saturday's devotions instead of

Friday's devotions. Click [here](#) for the latest devotional message. If you would like to submit your favorite hymn and how it has affected your faith journey, email Katie at

locworshipmus@gmail.com).



Connect and Converse during Zoom Bible Study

Sundays 6:30-7:30 p.m. via Zoom

Come to explore what God's Word says for life today. Each week we take a portion of Scripture. All are welcome!

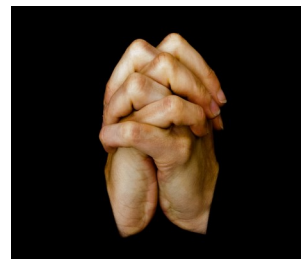
In order to get a Zoom link, email Tim Johnson at tdale57@gmail.com

You may be as active in the discussion as you like. We all learn a little something from each other as we ponder the power and beauty and truth of God's Word.

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, which is 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.



COME VISIT THE CHURCH LIBRARY



Even as public libraries are reopening, keep in mind that 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 distant!

Spark

Fall Spark started for 3rd and 4th grades. We talked about how God is the vine and we are His branches. One of the activities that the children did that focused on this theme was a craft project that included several artistic elements. They also played a game in which two teams had to race against each other to put the words of John 15:5 into the correct order. After more games including gaga ball, they moved onto having a more in-depth conversation with Pastor Bruce. They eventually formed into smaller groups and got to show off their acting skills when they did several skits about people showing kindness to those who were not being treated well. Overall, there was a lot of energy burned and much contagious laughter.



Thank You for Our Bibles!

Children and youth (3-year-olds, 3rd and 7th grade) received their Bibles in outdoor worship on Sunday, September 13th. Many families contribute to help purchase the Bibles but much of the money comes from your giving. **THANK YOU** for helping to place the scriptures in the hands of our kids and helping them grow in faith!



Sunday School Information



Please join us for 1 more Sunday school lesson outside, October 11th.

- 4-4:30 pm 3-yr-olds -- 2nd grade (1 parent would need to stay)
- 4:45-5:30 pm 3rd-6th grade (can be dropped off, no parent needed)
- Meet in the church parking lot, distancing ourselves. If the weather does not permit us to be outside, then we would host a Zoom call from 4-4:45 pm for all grades. An email will be sent out either Saturday night or Sunday morning with the Zoom link. Face masks will be optional while we are outside.

Please sign up [here](#) if you are able to attend.

Still haven't signed up?? Don't worry - you can still do that [here](#).

Our Children & Family Ministry staff is planning our upcoming weeks as we enter the colder months. We will continue to make decisions keeping the health and safety of our children and the capacity of our staff priority factors.

Weekly HS Bonfires

Youth in grades 9-12 are invited to join us for weekly bonfires on Sunday evenings from 7:00-8:30 pm until it's too cold to meet outside.

Locations will vary, so watch your email for updates! Kirsten also has a Snap Chat group which she uses to update the HS youth. Let her know if you want to be added to this group! Next **Sunday, October 11th** the bonfire will be held at the **church**. Please bring your own chair. Hope you can join us!



Masks and T-Shirts for Sale

Staff had extra Light of Christ masks and t-shirts made and they are available for sale on our [online store](#). Masks are \$5 each and shirts are \$10. Shirts are available in youth sizes XS through XL. After you place your order, payment can be made [online](#)



or when you pick up the item/s. The office is open Wednesday mornings from 9:30-11:30 or Sunday afternoons from 3:30-4.

Unwanted School Supplies

I was having a conversation recently with some parents about what they do with leftover/extra school supplies. I know we all have a lot of opened or partially used supplies at home that could still be used instead of thrown away (notecards, markers, pens, colored pencils - however, we do not need any crayons). Please keep us in mind and email our CYF staff if you have something that you think could be donated. Thanks for your partnership in ministry! -Kirsten Kelly



Change for Children

Our children and youth are organizing the 2nd Annual Change for Children to raise money for the [ELCA Global Barnyard](#). (Watch a short [video about the Global Farm Challenge!](#))



Last spring, this project exceeded our expectations and we raised \$1,447.97! This allowed us to purchase 2 cows, 3 goats, 3 pigs, 10 chicks and 2 sets of seeds and gardening tools (which are given to families around the world to create sustainability and food for their families). To learn more about the ELCA [Good Gifts program](#).

This year we are setting our goal a bit higher and hope to raise \$1,500 over the summer months! We encourage families to make a Change for Children jar at home and you can bring that change when you attend Sunday school. The last day to drop off your change will be Sunday, October 11th. Donations can also be made [online on our giving page](#) (make sure to indicate "**Change for Children**"). Thanks for your support as we collect change and come together to make "Change for Children"!

How You Spend Your Money Makes a Difference!

Do you drink coffee or tea? Eat chocolate, nuts or dried fruit? Did you know that the Light of Christ high school youth sell Equal Exchange products, even during COVID? If you've never heard of Equal Exchange (EE), here is a [short video](#) about why EE purchases are important. Each purchase supports small farmers around the world (and now more than ever, we need to be supporting these small family-owned farms, which are struggling to survive) as well as our youth right here at Light of Christ! Order through our [online store](#) and have them delivered to your house **FOR FREE** (or to a friend to brighten their day)! You can make difference with your purchases!

