



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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(763) 972-2400



LightOfChristLutheran.com
Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com

January Food Distribution

Our neighbors' food needs are increasing! And Light of Christ is here to help meet those needs. A few ways you can help our food distribution ministry:

- Sign up to help with food box packing on Monday, Jan. 9th at 11:00 am at Our Father's Lutheran in Rockford. Time commitment between 60-90 minutes. Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0848a9a72aaaf85-food#/>
- Sign up to help with distributing those boxes of food here in our church parking lot later that afternoon. Arrive at 3:30 pm. Time commitment no more than 60 minutes. Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0848a9a72aaaf85-food1#/>
- Sponsor our own Light of Christ food or personal care item drive. We're increasing from 75 to 90 this month. And, while some months the boxes have a good amount of food, there's always need. An example would be to host a TP drive for 4 or 6 packs of toilet paper. Speak with or email Tim if you're interested....952/472-1755 or tim.johnson@locdelano.com
- Pray for this ministry. And pray for the requests of our guests. Prayer requests can be found at the Welcome Center.



Congregational Meeting



Congregational Annual Meeting
Sunday, January 29 at 10:30 am

January Fifth Sunday Offering



Our January Fifth Sunday offering will be sent to **Agate Housing & Services** in Minneapolis. This was previously **St. Stephen's** prior to consolidating in 2021 with **House of Charter** also in Minneapolis. Both organizations began in the

1950s-1960s. Their goal is to support individuals and families experiencing homelessness in achieving permanent, affordable housing as well as many other services including ending hunger with the help of free public meals, free showers, employment outreach and assisting in obtaining birth certificates/ID supports if needed. Their goals are to help people live with more hope ahead. In 2021 alone this organization served 70,465 meals, provided 50,000 nights of service, 462 emergency shelters, provided street outreach to 3600 people and provided 676 birth certificates. They also assist with mental health and addiction recovery, veteran support and many other support services. **WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!** Donate money now by going to our [Give](#) page and clicking on the [Fifth Sunday Agate link](#) to contribute to their much-needed services. We are also collecting much needed items for them in January including men's winter coats (large or X large), all sizes of gloves, hand warmers and twin- and full-size bed sheets. Please leave them in the designated church pew. **Thank you for your generosity!**

“Buy with Heart”

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 or friends. 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.”

Caring Corner

(from Sue Fink of the Healing & Wholeness Committee)

Happy New Year to our dear Light of Christ family! May this be a year of blessings, healing and wholeness. Last January we introduced "31 Days 2 Pray 4 Families with Mental Illness." Each day of the month a new prayer was emailed so we could each learn of the needs of those facing mental health challenges and collectively pray for those specific needs.



So many of you intentionally told us how much this exercise in faith and prayer meant to you, so we are going to do it again. Every day members will receive a prayer via email. You can also access the entire 31-day prayer guide on our website [by clicking here](#). There are hard copies in the Narthex as well.

Please forward the prayers to those in your life who may be struggling and in need of prayer support. When you're going through a tough time, it's so hard to pray for yourself. Also, the long, dark, cold winter can be a more difficult time for some folks so let's lift them up in prayer!

This prayer devotional was written by Catherine P. Downing who has written books, blogs, etc. as a parent of a son who has had a very long journey with severe mental illness. She has shared her four "Prayer Principles" on a blog and each week we will share one with you.

- First, because mental illnesses are brain disorders, pray as you would for any other physical sickness.
- Because God can and does heal bodies, always pray for healing.
- Because that healing often comes through medical and therapeutic means, pray for doctors, counselors, and chemists.
- Because healing is enhanced by intentional body care, pray for good rest, nutrition, and exercise.
- Because in his providence, God doesn't always cure everyone, pray for patience, wisdom, and enduring faith.
- Prayer is an act of open-handed expectation!

Psalm 34:18 "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

Shared Ministry

It takes all of us finding special places to offer our time, our talents and passions. God's given each of us important and essential contributions to offer. A new year can be a great time to make a new commitment, to plug in, to get connected in a new way, to take a step of faith.

Ministry Teams and Committees are small groups of folks like yourself who want to help make a difference. No experience? No problem! We all help each other as we go. New and fresh eyes and ideas are sometimes the most needed thing. So, don't let inexperience hold you back. Plus, teams and committees are a wonderful way to get to know others, to better understand how God's church works, and to experience your faith come alive in a new way.

Our end of January Annual Meeting is when we refresh and renew our connections and commitments through these teams and committees.

As you might know, there are a number of ministry "tasks" which these teams help to oversee. But it certainly doesn't mean these teams/committees do all the doing. It's a mix. Here are the various teams and committees:

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

If you'd like more information on any of them, please reach out to Tim Johnson. If you'd like information on some of the many ministry tasks there are to do, check out our new online Time and Talent sheet.

<https://www.lightofchristlutheran.com/serve/time-and-talents>



Stay Informed!

The current Church Council meeting minutes can be found on the [church website](#).

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 Christmas Party Fun!



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

Bible Story Time begins January 8, 2023

Bible Story Time is an exciting new program for our 3-year-olds to 2nd graders. Beginning Sunday, 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>

It's Time to Sign Up for 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!

