



Pastor Bruce Kuenzel

January 23, 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 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
- **Light of Christ**
- P Relate to others for spiritual growth
- 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

# Ladies E

# Ladies of Light

We invite all girls in grades 7-12 to a special event at Light of Christ on Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> from 5-9 pm! This event is being planned by 3 senior girls at LOC – McKenna Allen, Kaitlyn Malo and Ava Reierson. The night will be casual and fun including some games, crafts, time to hang out and connect and lots of great food! Here are the details:

When: Friday, February 3, 5-9 pm

Where: Light of Christ Who: Girls in grades 7-12

What: A great night of fellowship and fun!

Cost: 2 food shelf items & \$15 – includes food and a shirt

**RSVP:** By Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at this link

Contact Kirsten with any questions... we hope you'll invite a friend and join us for the first "Ladies of Light" event!





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

#### **OUTREACH**

# Caring Corner

(from Sue Fink of the Healing & Wholeness Committee)

As the New Year begins, your Healing and Wholeness Ministry is planning afresh to bring more education, support and resources for mental health to our congregation through our faith and the leading of the Holy Spirit. \*Several folks who have a heart for this ministry and/or work in mental health careers are needed to help us grow to meet the needs of our Light of Christ family.



⇒ We are also on the search for a person or persons to start up a fellowship and fun group for our senior members.

Please ask God for guidance as you find your purpose in serving at Light of Christ and contact Terri in the church office if you can serve in either of these endeavors or have questions for Sue Fink, chair of the ministry. Many hands are needed to do God's work!

This is week #4 in our 31 Days 2 Pray 4 Families with Mental Illness. Thank you for praying along with us each day and for sharing your personal prayers for services each Sunday.

Catherine P. Downing's Prayer Principles for mental illness concludes here:

"Finally, because God draws near to those who draw near to him, I am emboldened to express the reality of my wobbly faith ("I do believe, help my unbelief," as in Mark 9:24) and in doing so, I am able to rest in the truth that he alone is the giver and sustainer of life. Prayer places me close enough to God to "touch the hem of his garment" (Matthew 9:20-21), and there I find peace and hope.

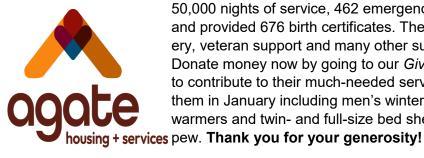
"Prayer, I have found, is the journey into extravagant grace.

"In the end, as I've prayed through the sufferings of our family and of others, I've discovered that prayer isn't so much a mystery to be bewildered with as it is the anchor to be secured by. Prayer, indeed, is the tether that ties us to the only One who is loving enough to respond thoroughly and the only One kind enough to wait with us as his own goodness unfolds."

Life is hard, but God is good ..... all the time!

# **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

# **MEMBER OPPORTUNITIES**



#### **Auction Donations Needed!**

We'd love your help to make our fundraiser on Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup> a HUGE success! One way you can do that is by thinking of items for auction donations. We encourage you to be creative and think outside the box... maybe you have a cabin or are willing to host a boat/dinner cruise? Do you have sporting tickets that you're willing to donate? Maybe you have a business or make awesome items that could be a great addition to our event... or maybe you have some things at home that have great value that you don't want or need any longer. This isn't a garage sale, but often there are items in our own homes that are new or *gently* used that would be great for our event! If you have questions, please contact Kirsten Kelly, Jennifer Slipka or Lesley Berscheid. Donations are due by Ash Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Thank you SO MUCH for your support!

## **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.

At our Congregational Annual Meeting on January 29, we will 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:

Healing & Wholeness

Worship & Music Youth & Family Children & Family Finance Property

Stewardship Technology Mission

Personnel

Community Life Library

Endowment Invitation Team (soon to be forming)



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 <u>new online Time and Talent sheet.</u>

# **CHURCH NEWS**

#### Watch for Tax Forms!

With our updated church management software, we have the capability to easily email out your contribution statements for



2022. Watch for an email in the coming weeks with your giving statement attached. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to Terri in the church office (763-972-2400 or <a href="mailto:terri.reuter@locdelano.com">terri.reuter@locdelano.com</a>)

# Stay Informed!

The current Church
Council meeting minutes
can be found on the church website.





#### **Light of Christ Quilt Group**

Quilters meet on Mondays at 10:00 am at church. No previous quilting experience necessary!

# Upcoming Belize Adult Meeting



Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm in the Living Room - meeting for all Belize adult participants and leaders.

## High School Fellowship

Join us for nights of fellowship, friends, faith, food and FUN! Here is our upcoming schedule (Wednesdays from 7:30-8:45 at LOC):

Wednesday, January 25 = Game
Night with McDonald's Fries for snack
(requested by the youth)

Confirmation youth heard a great speaker, Mel Harmon from Rivers of Hope, on January 18. If you missed the presentation, click here to watch it at home.



24/7 crisis line: 763-295-3433



# 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.
- **Grandparent/Kid Camp at Wapo July 18-21** Grandparent/Kid Camp is a 3-day program where multigenerational family groups can come enjoy camp. With a focus on giving grandkids and their grandparents an opportunity to do camp together, this camp is open to all the generations, from parents, to aunts & uncles, and even cousins. The program includes meals, lodging, and fun camp activities that range from swimming in the lake, campfires, crafts, and much more. Come make memories that will last a lifetime!

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!

Click this link for our dedicated LOC Camp Wapo registration link: <a href="http://lwlbci.com/loc-delano">http://lwlbci.com/loc-delano</a>