



Pastor Bruce Kuenzel

June 10, 2024

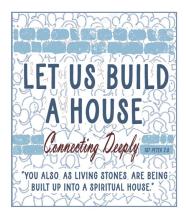
#### Worship

- In-person worship-9:30 AM Sundays
- Online worship continues, and is livestreamed to our YouTube and Facebook pages



#### **Church Council 2024**

Mike Boyack (vice pres.) Laurie Brown (sec'y.) Billie Chock Tim Current (treas.) Heidi Goldbeck Luke Jeseritz Lisa Krause Natasha Werner (pres.) Jon Wissink 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

# Free Fresh Produce and Dairy



Monday, June 10th 4:00-5:00 pm

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

#### Hanover

Influence Church @ City Hall 11250 5th Street NE Hanover, MN 55341

#### 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

#### Maple Grove

Rice Lake Bible Chapel

8801 Rice Lake Road Maple Grove, MN 55369

#### For assistance locating a specific site or for questions, please contact us at

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/nourishing-hope.html

## June Food Distribution

Thanks to so many of you who help this ministry serve our neighbors in need! Every month Light of Christ joins with five other West Metro churches to provide boxes of food -- dairy, produce, breads, other items. All six churches provide volunteers to help load some 700+ boxes of food at Our Father's Lutheran Church in Rockford from 10 AM to about noon. And then at 3:30 PM, another group of volunteers meet in our parking lot to prepare for 4-5:00 PM distribution to those who come. Many of our guests are further agents of compassion as some of them then deliver to other family or neighbors in need. All in all, this is a rewarding way to connect with other



church members, express one's Christian faith, and make a real difference in the lives of others. Often, we offer faith and encouragement booklets to those interested, and we always pray for the needs of those who share their prayer requests with us.

Our next food distribution is **Monday**, **June 10**<sup>th</sup>. Below are the links to sign up. No experience necessary. We have grade school youth to retired folks in friendship and service together. Any questions, please reach out to Tim Johnson (952/472-1755). Thank you for praying for this ministry!

- 10:00 AM packing food boxes—click here
- 3:30 PM distributing boxes of food right here in our church parking lot—click here

## **OUTREACH**

# Caring Corner

(from Heidi Wuerger of the Healing & Wholeness Committee)



As we prepare for the coming of a new Pastor, we realize there is excitement, but also sadness and some trepidation. In our church family we look at how this transition affects the whole person. We are given the ability to feel and go through the process we need and to remember:

Philippians 4: 6-7 Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

This gives us hope and excitement and leads us through a time with contradicting emotions of melancholy and thankfulness, as an exceptional friend, leader and Pastor needs to transition to another stage of life, adventure and enjoyment. His

deserved retirement is a path led by God: a time when we know the next chapter is imminent. And we are surrounded by God's presence and word:

Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light on to my path.

There is comfort in knowing a loved one is guided by a light on a pathway, yet there is still an acceptable grief. Historically we talk of the five stages of grief: denial, anger, bargaining, depression and acceptance. The important thing to know is there is not a specific grief journey. Each person has to process it differently, to ask for help when needed and to know the church community is here in support. To know that God knows this plan and always surrounds us and lives within us:

Jeremiah 29:11 For surely I know the **plans I have** for you, says the **Lord**, **plans** for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.

We are excitedly, but also anxiously awaiting a new pastor to walk beside us through the next phase of our adventure. We pray for the call committee as they search with God's grace for a person that fulfills our needs, helps us lead and supports us like family in this next part of our journey. Yet we know:

Ephesians 4:11-12 The gifts He gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.

Our intentions are not always God's intentions for His plans are laid and He and only He knows the path.

Deuteronomy 31:8 It is **the LORD** who goes before **you**. He **will** be with **you**; he **will not fail you** or **forsake you**. Do not fear or be dismayed.

So as we continue in this time of transition with many overflowing emotions, give yourself grace to feel. Allow yourself to be you and know that God and we, your family, are here for you. Yes, we are happy. Yes, we are sad. Yes, we are together. **God will never leave.** 



#### **Love INC Thrift in Howard Lake**

Our store is getting busier and we must grow our volunteer team. Thrift store tasks are accomplished by a group of dedicated volunteers with leadership from the store manager. Volunteers are people from local churches, people entering retirement, and even friends of friends! *Will you become a store volunteer?* Complete the form at <a href="loveincheartland.org/volunteer">loveincheartland.org/volunteer</a> or call the store at 763-999-7087 to get involved!

#### **Love INC Seeks More Facilitators**

We would like to offer more courses in our Fresh Start Program like Forgiving What You Can't Forget, and Becoming What God Intended. To offer these, we need people to lead them. Will you become a Fresh Start facilitator? Degrees in teaching, coaching, or mentoring are not required, but devotion to loving God and loving people is a must! Contact Lisa Green, Fresh Start Program Director at 763-999-7085 or <a href="mailto:lisa@loveincheartland.org">lisa@loveincheartland.org</a>

# **Adult Mission Trip 2025**

We will be heading back to Belize to continue our serving there through God's hand. Our dates for the mission trip will be **Saturday, March 1**<sup>st</sup> to **Saturday, March 8**<sup>th</sup>. We are looking at booking through Sun Country Airlines group travel. We are not sure about price yet, but we're hoping we can get airline tickets booked early to save on price. We are estimating the trip to cost \$1,500-1,800 per person. Please reach out <u>by June 30</u><sup>th</sup> to Pastor Bruce or Jennifer Grant if you are interested in joining the mission trip. We will schedule a meeting

in June to go over more details and questions, but feel free to reach out anytime with questions. We will again be partnering with *Just1Global* who will set up all trip details.



# Fifth Sunday Contributions in June

Our Fifth Sunday contributions in June will go to Karen Anderson, our ELCA global missionary in Chile. We have been contributing to her amazing efforts annually for

several years. She and others are continuing to strengthen and support the residents she works with to give them dignity through empowerment, mobilization and collective action while living their lives in poverty and in the brutal years of the military dictatorship. You can contribute during the month of June using the <a href="https://church.org/chu

# THE HOOT - June Activities for OWLS (Older Wiser Lutherans)

Our scheduled OWLS gathering on June 20<sup>th</sup> will start at NOON out at the Fink Farm!!! Bill and Sue will host a barn party, potluck, and outdoor games. We'll grill up some burgers and brats if y'all can bring sides or sweets or drinks. Please RSVP to billand-sue2931@gmail.com. (886 County Rd 30 SE, Delano) Hope to see many of you there. Happy SUMMER!



# **Capital Campaign Update**

Thanks to everyone who has pledged and/or made a gift to our Let Us Build a House campaign! Commitments to the appeal are still gratefully received! Right now we have 68 pledges totaling \$217,030.

The next step will be a congregational meeting (date to be set soon) in which we will present you with updated project options and cost estimates. We're working to finalize some of that so that everyone can be well-informed in terms of the best path forward. Final cost on the repaired steeple, including estimates on interior finishing will be provided. As well, we will have cost estimates on building security options, and also some better estimates on the parking lot. And, as has been shared already, the Building Committee has been working to create more cost-effective ways to enlarge the hallway leading into the Fellowship Hall, as well as enlarging the FH itself and making some improvements there, including a coffee bar. And we know some improvements will benefit the kitchen. So...exciting information coming!



# Planning to move?

Phone # or email address changed? Have you cancelled your landline? Please help us keep our records up-to-date by notifying the church office of any changes at <a href="terri.reuter@locdelano.com">terri.reuter@locdelano.com</a>. Thank you!

# Summer Youth Activity Nights!!

Put these dates on your calendar (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each summer month)! These nights are free and friends are welcome! A sign up link will be sent closer to the date.

- June 17
- July 15
- August 19
- Completed grades 6-7 from 7:00-8:00 PM;
   completed grades 8-12 from 8:00-9:00 PM



# make a splash this summen JOIN US FOR A SPLASH-TASTIC VBS ADVENTURE!!! SUNDAY, JULY 28th - WEDNESDAY, JULY 31st 5:15pm - 8:00pm LIGHT OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/ScubaVBS.859fd88245

# Summer Childcare

Are you looking for care for your child/ren this summer? Kirsten may be able to help! Youth often reach out to her with interest in finding a job... even if it's one or two days/ week or helping with driving to/from activities. Complete this short form (found at the link below) if you would like Kirsten to contact you about youth that are interested. And youth, you can complete this form if you are interested in having Kirsten help you get connected with a family that is looking for childcare. Have an awesome summer!

https://
lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/
form/babysitting



# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS



# **Graduate Recognition**

Congratulations to our 2024 graduates! May you always feel wrapped in the love of God and love of our congregation! LOC graduates are:

- Ben Cederberg
- ◆ Teague Collings
- ◆ Ella Dallmann
- ◆ Ben Engel
- Halle Gallus
- Ben Graunke
- Jake Heinzen
- Grant Horeis
- ◆ Ben Kelly

- Sarah Klinkner
- Cael Olson
- Nolan Peterson
- Grace Reiffenberger
- Sidney Schmit
- Jimmy Stigman
- Brogan Stoddard
- ◆ Taylor Tool
- Luke Tuchtenhagen