



## Worship

- **In-person worship—  
9:30 AM Sundays**
- **Online worship  
continues, and is live-  
streamed 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



## Pastor Transition Decision

Light of Christ Partners,

As you know, the Call Committee was unsuccessful in identifying a viable pastoral candidate to replace Pastor Bruce this coming summer as planned. As a result, Pastor Bruce has graciously offered to extend his retirement date from 7/31/24 to 12/31/24 to help the situation. After significant discussion, deliberation, and prayer, the Council has decided to move forward with a bridge pastor instead of accepting this generous offer from Pastor. There are many reasons for this, but first and foremost, the Council makes this decision knowing that this is not the timing that Pastor originally wanted and that it would cause disruption for his family and personal plans for retirement. Further, we have no guarantee that extending Pastor's retirement to 12/31/24 would enable a direct transition to a new pastor as desired. This timing would create a tight timeline and pressure on the Call Committee with no guarantee that they could successfully identify and hire a new pastor by 12/31/24, which would ultimately require the help of a bridge pastor at that time anyway. Additionally, we have heard from candidates that not having a bridge pastor is unusual and we also would need to find guest preachers for 9 Sundays this fall that Pastor has (rightfully!) already committed to his retirement plans.

For all of these reasons, Council has made the decision to hire a bridge pastor to enable Pastor Bruce to fulfill his original retirement plans and allow the call process to continue as needed. We are blessed with a great staff, strong committees and great momentum as a congregation and want to send Pastor Bruce off without any personal stress or strain.

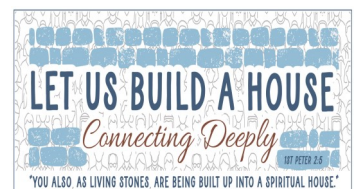
Please reach out to any of the Council members with any concerns or questions about this decision. Thank you.

Church Council  
*Mike Boyack*  
*Laurie Brown*  
*Billie Chock*  
*Tim Current*  
*Heidi Goldbeck*  
*Luke Jeseritz*  
*Lisa Krause*  
*Natasha Werner*  
*Jon Wissink*

## Capital Campaign Update

Thank you! We continue to grow the response totals for our Capital Campaign. Right now we have 67 pledges for a total of \$214,030. We continue to receive pledge cards, which are in the pews and also out in the narthex.

All gifts and pledges are a blessing to this effort! If you haven't as yet turned in a pledge card we invite you to do so. Watch for details for a congregational meeting to provide some options on our next steps.



## Contact us!

Light of Christ Lutheran  
3976 County Line Road SE  
Delano, MN 55328  
(763) 972-2400



[LightOfChristLutheran.com](http://LightOfChristLutheran.com)  
[Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com](mailto:Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com)

## 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:

Phillipians 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:

Psalms 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.**

## 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](#)

## 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 **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 **by June 30<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.



The church office will be closed on Fridays through August 30<sup>th</sup>.

## Annual Church Picnic

Join us for fellowship and fun at the Church Picnic on **Tuesday, June 11 from 6:30-8:30 PM!** We will be serving dinner in front of the church. Let us know how many will be attending! Picnic food will include chicken, potatoes, coleslaw, and bread catered by Coborn's. All you need to bring is a lawn chair and your appetite! Sign up on the SignUp Genius link here if you can attend!



<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080D48AFA729A1FF2-49704117-church>

## THE HOOT - JUNE ACTIVITIES for OWLS (Older Wiser Lutherans)



Whoo-whoo is interested in joining the "flock" on **Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM** for an afternoon of mini golf at **Big Stone Mini Golf in Minnetrista???** It's a really fun and interesting place in the country with weird sculptures and animals. The forecast is for 75 degrees and breezy. We can carpool from church at 12:30 or meet there. Contact Sue Fink to sign up.

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 [billandsue2931@gmail.com](mailto:billandsue2931@gmail.com). (886 County Rd 30 SE, Delano)

Hope to see many of you at each event. *Happy SUMMER!*

## 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 [church website giving link](#), in the collection plate each Sunday, or send your contribution to Terri in the church office, specifying "Fifth Sunday offering." Thank you for helping to make a difference in their lives of these people in Chile.

## 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 [terri.reuter@locdelano.com](mailto:terri.reuter@locdelano.com). 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**



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# make a splash this summer!

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.850fd88245>



## June Birthdays

Janet	Heinzen	June 01
Brandon	Johnson	June 01
Megan	Arneson	June 02
Sean	Ihde	June 02
Michael	Klaphake	June 02
Jeanne	Schansberg	June 02
Adam	Brown	June 03
Joelle	Schleper	June 05
Tanner	Sievers	June 05
Ben	Evjen	June 06
Louisa	Jaunich	June 06
Amy	Murphy	June 06
Beckett	Hiltner	June 07
Lydia	Wissink	June 07
Adam	Johnson	June 08
Jodi	Lind	June 08
Bridget	Mielke	June 08
Kirby	Quamen	June 08
Charlie	Reiffenberger	June 08
Bruce	Schantzen	June 08
Katie	Vatnsdal	June 08
Ann	Bassett	June 09
Dakota	Kuchenmeister	June 09
Sean	Lohmann	June 10
Natalie	Dinger	June 11
Cecilia	Jaunich	June 11
Collin	Schmidt	June 11
Norah	Berscheid	June 12
Kimberlee	Knisley	June 12
Jordan	Wiest	June 12
Kimberly	Beyer	June 13
Brady	Green	June 13
Ben	Kelly	June 13
Justin	Lindall	June 13
Oliver	Reiffenberger	June 13
Sidney	Schmit	June 13
Ella	Brown	June 14
Chet	Graunke	June 14
Paul	Pearson	June 14
Ian	Caple	June 15
Alice	Hanson	June 15
Sarah	Thorstad	June 15
Roland	Carlson	June 16
Gabriel	Custer	June 16
Ryan	Thomas	June 16

**Do you remember when we used to list members' birthdays in the Beacon? Community Life Committee is bringing this back! Next Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup> after 9:30 AM worship, we will have birthday treats to celebrate June, July, & August birthdays! We will continue to celebrate birthdays quarterly so everyone's birthday will be acknowledged. Don't forget to wish someone a *Happy Birthday* this quarter!**

**For those celebrating, may blessings be upon you and let faith guide your heart all year. We hope your birthday is one of joy, peace, and love.**

Jon	Arneson	June 17
Jacob	Heinzen	June 17
Gage	Olson	June 17
Mariah	Fryer	June 18
Isaac	Schoen-Behnke	June 18
Nolan	Wortz	June 18
Rylan	Bistodeau	June 19
Joelle	Wallace	June 19
Mia	Behnke	June 20
Devin	Crawford	June 20
Terri	Reuter	June 20
Sadie	Russenberger	June 20
Brynlee	Crawford	June 21
Michael	Hartnett	June 21
Daniel	Lind	June 21
Kaitlyn	Malo	June 21
Shirley	Banick	June 22
Isaiah	Behnke	June 22
Abigail	Gierke	June 23
Brad	Spencer	June 24
Lucas	Checkal	June 25
Brynn	Caslavka	June 26
Shane	Caslavka	June 26
Ross	Hemmer	June 27
Brian	Harstad	June 29
Maxine	Johnson	June 29
Lucas	Olson	June 29





## July Birthdays

Cora	Boyack	July 01
Stephanie	McClelland	July 01
Deanna	Olson	July 01
Annika	Reiersen	July 01
Kim	Haley	July 02
John	Klinkner	July 02
Mathew	Noetzelman	July 02
Mitch	Rue	July 02
Kayla	Banick	July 03
Joshua	Holzer	July 03
Lilly	Holzer	July 03
Kim	Wortz	July 03
Lydia	Nelson	July 04
LaDonna	Ekern	July 05
Tate	Gallus	July 06
Camdyn	Kohlhof	July 06
Liesel	Kohlhof	July 06
Angela	Malo	July 06
Samuel	Fink	July 07
Samuel	Haley	July 07
Christopher	Meyer	July 07
Ryan	Anderson	July 09
Barry	Graunke	July 09
Taran	Allison	July 10
Brantley	Fritz	July 11
Janine	Holter	July 11
Anne	Rothstein	July 11
Kiera	Grant	July 12
Chris	Andrews	July 13
Jeff	Caple	July 13
Abigail	Coyle	July 13
Jenna	Bunker	July 14
Holly	Mikkelsen	July 14
Tara	Olson	July 14
Lanaya	Schnettler	July 14
Madeline	Engel	July 15
Daniel	Halbersma	July 15
Laurie	Brown	July 16
Gracie	Peterson	July 17
Jackie	Peterson	July 17
Mary	Schultz	July 18
Seth	Wiest	July 18
Kayla	Myhre	July 19
Melissa	VanCura	July 19



Kevin	Rothstein	July 20
Theresa	Wallace	July 20
David	Anderson	July 21
Drew	Kane	July 21
Emilia	Olson	July 21
Gordon	Torgerud	July 21
Elizabeth	Kohlhof	July 23
Patrick	Nee	July 23
Nate	Nielsen	July 23
Maggie	Klason	July 24
Becky	Arneson	July 25
Nicholas	Holmer	July 25
Rick	Schmit	July 25
McKenna	Allen	July 26
August	Jaunich	July 26
Jordan	Lemmerman	July 27
Ethan	Underhill	July 27
Eileen	Huetteman	July 28
Lindsay	Lindall	July 28
Grant	Prinsen	July 28
Sue	Fink	July 29
Tate	Olson	July 29
Andelyn	Streich	July 29
Julie Ann	Wischmann	July 29
Marc	Kohlhof	July 30
Bryce	Beyer	July 31
Bill	Fink	July 31
Ava	Werner	July 31
Mya	Werner	July 31



## August Birthdays

Lindsay	Wallace	August 01
Wyatt	Wray	August 02
Cora	Evjen	August 03
Bridget	Hanson	August 03
Jeffrey	Boecker	August 04
Doug	Schaust	August 04
Weston	Gabrick	August 05
Sarah	Spanier	August 05
Cody	Hanson	August 08
MJ	Pearson	August 08
Rhonda	Current	August 09
Travis	Knisley	August 09
Zach	Miller	August 09
Jessica	Prinsen	August 09
David	Gast	August 10
Sarah	Gielau	August 10
Jill	DeMars	August 11
Tara	Holmen	August 11
Monica	Gabrick	August 12
Lydia	Hemmer	August 12
Eric	Mikkelsen	August 12
Allison	Warne	August 12
Hailey	Anderson	August 13
Tyler	Finkelson	August 13
Caron	Ihde	August 13
Michael	Pink	August 13
Nicholas	Black	August 14
Blake	Mullen	August 14
Kathryn	Sandberg	August 15
Amanda	Thonn	August 15
Amy	Graunke	August 16
Myron	Klinkner	August 16
Levi	Peterson	August 16
Craig	Schansberg	August 16
Chase	Wortz	August 17
Emerson	Brown	August 18
Ryan	Green	August 18
Breck	Johnson	August 18
Adam	Schleper	August 18
Kali	Anderson	August 19
Dave	Robinson	August 19
Emma	Knisley	August 22
Scott	Sandberg	August 22
Natasha	Werner	August 22



Dalton	Curtis	August 23
Charlie	Lockrem	August 23
Ava	Samuel	August 23
Lisa	Andrews	August 24
Tracy	Bistodeau	August 24
Isabel	Fink	August 24
Levi	Haugen	August 24
Beckett	Ludwig	August 24
Janelle	Russenberger	August 24
Landon	Lundquist	August 25
James	Stigman	August 25
Brandt	Dinger	August 26
Carter	Larison	August 26
Eric	Sandberg	August 26
Traci	Torgerson	August 27
Ken	Almquist	August 28
Sarah	Evjen	August 28
Carter	Schmidt	August 28
Kristy	Klaphake	August 29
Caleb	Prickett	August 29
Bob	Slipka	August 29
Al	Bunker	August 30
Jessica	Cook	August 30
Mya	Sievers	August 30
Brock	Wuerger	August 30
Gretchen	Wuerger	August 30
Jennifer	Droneck	August 31
Nathan	Ness	August 31
Teagan	Spanier	August 31
Nicholas	Truax	August 31