



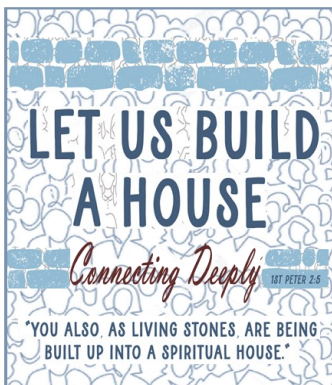
Worship

- In-person worship—**9:30 AM Sundays**
- Online worship continues, and is live-streamed to our [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#) pages



Church Council 2025

Laurie Brown (sec'y.)
Billie Chock (pres.)
Tim Current (treas.)
Pat Czock
Brandt Dinger
Heidi Goldbeck
Luke Jeseritz
Lisa Krause (v. pres.)
Ryan Tool
Pastor Tim Wheatley



Contact us!

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Join Us for Wednesday Night Worship on February 26th at 6:45!

We've been talking about adding a second worship service so this will be a trial of what a midweek service would be like. The service will be primarily youth-led, but the entire congregation is invited to attend! We hope you'll join us and share your feedback as we look to the future!

Shoe Collection/Recycling!

As we've done in past, the youth are collecting old sneakers to be recycled and to raise funds for their summer trips. A minimal amount of money is raised, but more importantly, the shoes dropped off are recycled and then don't sit in a landfill! The shoe collection bin will be in the Narthex from **Sunday, February 23rd – Sunday, March 23rd** and then be moved to the Fellowship Hall area... where it'll be located year-round for collection now. Thanks for supporting our youth and for helping our environment at the same time! This project is being done through [Got Sneakers](#). (Note: this project is being coordinated by Anneka Zaun for her National Honor Society project. Anneka went to Chicago last summer and is attending the N. Shore mission trip this summer!)

EXTRA SHOES?



Be a part of a good cause
and donate them!



Recycle



Re-use



Raise money

Drop your lightly used sneakers here!

600 million
people don't
even own a
pair of shoes

200 million
pairs of shoes
end up in the
landfill each
year

30-40 years
for shoes to
decompose

Classes for Parents of Youth

As chair of the Healing and Wholeness Committee, I (Sue Fink) want to share some of the great classes offered by NAMI MN (National Alliance on Mental Illness Minnesota). These classes are specific for parents of youth and are ZOOM classes so perhaps you can give these a try from your own home or computer. There is a current calendar with all the classes offered on www.namimn.org and some great education and resources, too.



Lunchbox Talks: 30 minute online conversations

Have you ever wished that someone would give you one solid skill that you could use with your child right now? Well, here it is. Join us for a 30 minute conversation that will focus on one practical skill each month for parents and caregivers that can change the trajectory of your relationship with your child. Included in your time with us, you will receive a brief introduction to the skill, be offered hands-on practice, and be provided resources to support you.

Time: 12:00 – 12:30 PM

- Wed, March 5: What Your Child's Behavior is Telling You
- Wed, April 2: How to Really Listen to Your Child
- Wed, May 7: The Power of Validation
- Wed, June 4: Empowering Kids through Boundaries
- Wed, July 9: De-escalating Intense Emotions
- Wed, Aug 6: Accepting the Way Things Are
- Wed, Sept 3: Building Family Wellness
- Wed, Oct 1: Supporting Kids Struggling with Executive Functioning
- Wed, Nov 5: Don't Forget About Self-compassion
- Wed, Dec 3: Building your Team

[Click for Zoom registration link](#)

Transitions

Learn how to help your teen or young adult access resources to succeed in school, employment and independent living. Understand the rights young adults gain when they reach 18 and how to help guide them if they are not ready for total independence. This class is for parents or caregivers of youth or young adults.

- Thursday, March 27, 2025: 6:30 – 8:30 PM

[Zoom Registration Link](#)

Understanding the Children's Mental Health System

This class gives parents and guardians a comprehensive overview of the children's mental health system, from assessment and diagnosis, to care and treatment, to public health insurance options, to supportive community services and parent advocacy. We review parent/guardian rights in the mental health and school system.

- Monday, March 3, 2025: 6:30 – 8:00 PM

[Zoom Registration link](#)

Understanding Early Episode Psychosis for Families

Learn about the signs and symptoms of psychosis, causes, treatment options and why early intervention is so important. Participants will learn how to advocate for and help a young person get back to work or school and achieve recovery. This class is for parents or caregivers of youth or young adults.

- Thursday, April 3, 2025: 7:00 – 9:00 PM

[Zoom Registration Link](#)

You're the Expert

This class stresses the value of parent engagement and advocacy to ensure the best care and treatment for your child in the doctor's office, the mental health system, and in public education settings. We focus on self care so parents and guardians can effectively advocate for their loved one in all settings.

- Thursday, May 22, 2025: 6:30 – 8:00 PM

[Zoom Registration Link](#)

Caring Corner

(from Sue Fink of the Healing & Wholeness Committee)



Faith Over Fear

As responses come in from our Healing and Wholeness survey, one concern that stands out is wanting more information and help regarding "Faith Over Fear." Indeed, we are living in uncertain and scary times. But hasn't each generation from the beginning in the Garden of Eden? We live in a whirlwind of responsibilities, endless news alerts, illness and grief. But God has promised us that He is the Almighty God, who has come to earth in Jesus to be our Savior and has overcome this earthly and finite world. Each of us has been put on this earth, in this place, in this time for God's purpose and grand plan. He gave us his word in Jesus and the Bible for guidance and assurance on how to make the most of our time here.

What is fear? It is the unpleasant emotion caused by the belief that someone or something is dangerous or unknown. Fear does not come from God, but from the enemy who delights in watching us suffer. It is easier to embrace fear rather than faith because it is a natural response, whereas faith is a choice. Although fear and anxiety are given to us by God to protect us from imminent danger or to spur us to take action to bring us to a safe resolution, it is not an emotion that is not without long-term ill-effects. If we live in constant anxiety and fear, our bodies and souls will wear out and we'll succumb to mental illness, spiritual illness or chronic illness. In the Bible, Jesus tells us that we will have troubles in this world, it is a guarantee, but he also tells us to take one day at a time "for tomorrow has enough trouble of its own."

What is faith? It is complete trust or confidence in someone or something that is safe and well-known. No matter what our fear may be, God is still stronger and more powerful than any circumstance. We can choose to give all our fears over to God and "he will uphold you and give you strength." Choose worship over worry. Being willing to confront that which we fear will make our faith grow. Rather than wasting time and effort trying to find your own answers and obsessing on how to do that, pray first that God will step in and free your mind of intrusive negative thoughts and help you get off the hamster wheel that goes nowhere. Worry can prod us to find helpful solutions and organize our priorities, which is good, but obsessive worry can lead us to burnout and panic and paralyze us.

Faith is a gift from God, not something we have to invent on our own. How do we grow our faith? A good place to start is to begin each day with prayers of praise and gratitude, and to ask for God's guidance through each and every circumstance you encounter that day. It's okay to worry but choose to let yourself worry for a set amount of time, say 15 minutes each day, but then give those worries up to God. I had the amazing experience of hearing Corrie ten Boom speak at my church when I was in LCW (Lutheran Church Women) as a young mother. She and her family were devout Christians who hid Jews during WWII. She and her sister spent time together in a concentration camp and it was her faith that brought her peace and endurance. I learned a most valuable lesson from Corrie who told us she lived by asking God daily, "Just for today, Lord, show me the way."

I pray that you and our collective LOC family continue to grow in faith toward God and one another so that we can find "the peace that is beyond our understanding" and share our worries and fears with one another, encourage and pray for one another.

*"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives.
Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."
John 14:27*

Mini-Chocolate Gift Bags Make Great Gifts!



20 mini chocolates for \$5.00—
see Equal Exchange sales in the
narthex. Thanks for
supporting our LOC Youth!



Serve A Meal - Love INC Heartland



Build community by serving a meal at our Fresh Start Program! Fresh Start is a series of life skills courses we offer to our neighbors in need. We have five nights left to fill, sign up today: bit.ly/fsmealtrain

THE HOOT NEWS for February from Sue Fink

For the next couple of months, our planning committee is thinking of visiting the Delano Senior Center for lunch with a tour and calendar of activities presented. Next, organizing a "lunch-and-learn" with Subway sandwiches and various speakers to teach us about funeral planning, endowments and financial planning, and our Columbarium process. In May we will once again venture out for field trips and tours. If you have ideas to share, contact Sue/Bill Fink, Jewel Ekern, Lona Jose, or Laurie Grimm.

Emails are sent out to folks on our OWLS roster about our upcoming events, but all retirees are welcome and encouraged to join us. If you are interested in joining this fun group of 30+ friends, please contact Sue Fink at billand-sue2931@gmail.com.



Lenten Worship

Join us for Ash Wednesday worship on **March 5th at 7:00 PM**. The service will also be [livestreamed](#). Weekly Wednesday Lenten worship begins on March 12th at 7:00 PM and will incorporate the Holden Evening Prayer service, as well as feature the 10th graders' faith statements. A meal will be held at 6:00 PM before each service. *(no meal on Ash Wednesday due to spring break)*

Centralized Sign Up

We have a new way of sharing volunteer sign-ups... all in one spot! Scan this QR code or go to this link (www.linktr.ee/lightofchristvolunteers) to view the new *LOC Volunteer Sign Up Page*. We



hope this will make it easier to find the sign-ups and to volunteer! Our staff would love any feedback you have on this new page. Thanks to the Children & Family Ministry Team for their initiative on this!

Sign Up to Serve a Lenten Supper!

Lenten suppers will be served prior to each Wednesday Lenten service from March 12 through April 9 (*no supper on March 5/Ash Wednesday due to it being spring break*). **Groups and/or individuals are invited to serve a Lenten supper.** A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the office area; or you can contact Terri in the church office. A free-will offering taken at each meal may be used for a cause designated by the meal's hosts.



Follow us on Instagram!

Check out our new Instagram page! Our handle is [@delanolightofchrist](https://www.instagram.com/delanolightofchrist). Scan the QR code to get directly to the page.

Stay Informed!

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



Gratitude for Your Generosity

Thank you, Light of Christ partners, for your faithful giving of time, talents, and treasure! Your generosity fuels the mission and ministry of our church, allowing us to share God's love with our community and beyond. When we give together, **we thrive** as a faith community, growing in mission and impact. As we continue to serve together, let's ask ourselves: *How is God calling me to grow in generosity this year?*

Planning to move?

Phone # or email address changed? Have you cancelled your landline? Please help us keep our records up-to-date by notifying [Terri in the church](#) office of any changes. Thank you!



Please Support the Youth with an Auction Donation!

Our youth are currently looking for donations for our online auction taking place on **Sunday, March 16th**! New and gently used items will be accepted through Monday, March 10th. Here is a list of donation ideas:

- Gift cards
- Toys
- Unwanted Christmas gifts
- Event tickets
- Cabin rentals
- Personally hosted events, such as dinners/boating
- Handmade items
- Jewelry
- Sports equipment
- Books
- *No used clothing, please!*

Our auction will be online again this year from **7:00 AM–5:00 PM on March 16th**, with items on display at church from 3:00-5:00 PM. Thanks for your support of our summer 2025 trips!



Spaghetti Dinner Tickets On Sale NOW!



Get your tickets for the 2025 Youth Spaghetti Dinner (and LIVE Dessert Auction) before they sell out! This fun, annual event is taking place on **Sunday, March 16th**. Here is the schedule of events:

- 7:00 AM Auction opens online (**view auction items at the QR code below**)
- 3:00 PM Auction in-person viewing at church (until 5 PM)
- 4:00 PM Entertainment and Wine/Beer Sampling
- 5:00 PM Auction closes and Spaghetti Dinner Begins
- 6:30 PM Live Dessert Auction
- 7:00 PM Auction Item Pick-Up

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for youth, ages 4-12. Ages 3 and under are free! Tickets can be purchased from the church office (during regular business hours) or any time before/after worship – until they are sold out!

Thank you for attending and supporting our youth!



Confirmation Offering Project Raises \$667.90 for Belize!

The Confirmation youth have been doing a fun offering project over the past several months to raise money to build a gaga pit for the kids in Belize (at Pastor Kebin's church). The 3 grades competed against each other in a project called "Penny Wars," which was organized by Avery & Emery Klaphake as their NHS Independent Service Project at Delano HS. Kids brought in money and put them in 3 different jugs...the silver coins, bills and checks counted as positive points for their grade and then they put pennies in the jugs for the other grades which gave them negative points. The 8th grade class ended up winning with 27,117 points and 7th grade came in close behind with 23,931 points. Below are the totals from the project. Thanks to Avery and Emery for their efforts on this important project! We hope to share some pictures and videos of the new gaga ball pit that the group will build in early March on their trip. The additional money raised will go towards other projects that the group is working on. Congrats 8th grade and thanks to all for your support!



First Communion—April 13

Preparing for First Communion sessions will be offered on March 30 and April 6 from 6 – 7 PM. Please sign up at this link if you are interested: <https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/3dbef5>



Confirmation Penny Wars - Offering Project for Belize				
	7th Grade	8th Grade	9th Grade	
Pennies	-1869	-448	-461	
Silver Coins	11100	7965	1620	
Bills/Checks	14700	19600	9000	
TOTAL POINTS	23931	27117	10159	
Pennies	\$ 18.96	\$ 4.48	\$ 4.61	
Silver Coins	\$ 111.00	\$ 79.65	\$ 16.20	
Bills/Checks	\$ 147.00	\$ 196.00	\$ 90.00	
TOTAL RAISED	\$ 276.96	\$ 280.13	\$ 110.81	\$ 667.90
		Winners!		Total Raised!

Confirmation Calendar

(All events are 6:15-8:00 PM unless noted otherwise. See more details included on [this page](#).)

- **2/26** — Confirmation teaching night/youth-led worship
- **3/5** — Ash Wednesday (no "regular" Confirmation; worship as a family at 7PM)
- **NOTE:** We'll have SLICE from 5:45-6:15 each Wednesday night that we have Confirmation.



Sign Up for Summer Bible Camp!



Registration for camp at Camp Wapo! Scholarships will be provided again this year! Invite a friend and join us for a life-changing week at camp this summer!

- **Seeds (Grades 1-3): June 20-22**
- **Wapo Youth (Grades 4-8): June 22-27 and July 27-August 1**
- **Wapo One-Day (Grades 1 & up): June 25**

LOC Specific Registration Link: <https://lwlbc.com/loc-delano>