



July 22, 2024

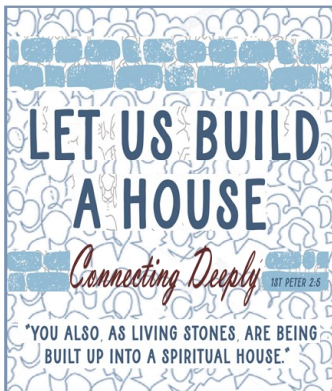
## Worship

- 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



## Call Committee and Bridge Pastor Update

Dear Congregation Members,  
The Call Committee wanted to provide an update on our search for our next Pastor. We are continuing in the process and engaging with candidates that we have been impressed by and have had really great, thoughtful discussions with and amongst the committee.

The committee is carefully reviewing the information gathered during the interviews, setting up second-round interviews, and visiting the candidates' current churches either in person or virtually. As this process continues on, Council will be naming a Bridge Pastor soon that we can share with you to help us through this transition period. In the meantime, we will be leveraging guest pastors for Sunday services.

The Call Committee will continue to provide updates to the congregation as we have them. In the meantime, we kindly ask for your continued prayers for wisdom and guidance as we discern the best candidate to lead our congregation forward.

Thank you for your patience and support.

Sincerely,

*The Call Committee*

*Cheri Ashfeld*

*Mike Boyack*

*Billie Chock*

*Rhonda Current*

*Pat Czock (alternate)*

*Sophia Grant*

*Paul Ludwig*

*Erin Olson*

*Natasha Werner (alternate)*



## Contact us!

Light of Christ Lutheran  
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Delano, MN 55328  
(763) 972-2400



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

The church office will be closed the week of July 21 while Terri is on vacation. ***There will not be a Beacon issue for July 29.***



## Caring Corner

(from Sue Fink of the Healing & Wholeness Committee)



July is Disability Pride Month, a month dedicated to promoting awareness, acceptance, and empowerment of people with disabilities.

This month, the Minnesota Council on Disability highlights the unique experiences and perspectives of people within our community. We also take this opportunity to recognize the attitudes and barriers that continue to limit our full participation in society.

Excerpts from a guest blog post by Lance Hegland, citizen advocate:

"Throughout history, we've learned that disability can happen for different reasons, like genetics, accidents, illnesses, or simply getting older. Disability is just a part of being human. When I say "disability," I'm talking about unique circumstances, not something that's good or bad. It's like different shades of blue, such as turquoise, teal, and indigo. Each shade has its own strengths and weaknesses, benefits and drawbacks.

Sadly, some people only see disability as bad or undesirable. They might think people with disabilities are weak, helpless, or dependent on others. That's not true. And it's hurtful.

Such prejudice about disability can cause people to overlook the advantages, strengths, and benefits of disability. They likely don't know about all the valuable things that we offer our families, friends, and communities. This lack of understanding often leads to discrimination: treating us differently than those who don't seem to have a disability.

When we face discrimination and exclusion, we have fewer opportunities to contribute to and benefit from humanity and society. This makes our lives even more challenging.

But here's the truth: everyone and everything has challenges, weaknesses, and drawbacks. However, the advantages, strengths, and benefits can outweigh these challenges if we practice compassion, wisdom, and persistence.

We are just as human as anyone else. Because of our unique challenges, we often need to find creative solutions. So, we are often inventive. We help remind society about how adaptable and determined human beings are, even when facing big hurdles. Many of the technologies people use every day were created by people with disabilities to address their own challenges, such as automatic doors and voice dictation. Plus, our diversity gives us all opportunities to practice empathy, understanding, and creativity for each other while recognizing our interdependence.

To experience the goodness and benefit of disability, we all need to work on consciously overcoming our natural tendency to focus on negatives. We must practice compassion, wisdom, and persistence for ourselves and others. By identifying the gifts that we offer, we can build and celebrate the pride that we have for ourselves. By getting to know the gifts of others throughout our community, we can celebrate our individual and community pride together; all for one, one for all; diversified unity, unified diversity. Then, we can better support each other in staying healthy, safe, respected, and included. We can experience the incredible strength and beauty of humanity working together."

Light of Christ member, Al Bunker, has faced her own challenges with disabilities and had these wise words to share:

"First, we need to disable the 'R' word. 'Retarded' has no place in how we see or treat others. Actually, a low percentage of people with disabilities have slowed mental development. Using the "R" word is extremely hurtful and unkind. When a person called me that, I went home and cried. I look normal until I speak, use my trembling hands, or walk. My mind is normal. Don't make assumptions based on how a person looks or acts."

"If you come upon a person with a visible disability, don't assume they need help, since it may just take them more time and they can ask if they need your help."

"Having a disability is hard, but LIFE is hard! We ALL have struggles we face. I just want the world to be kind and inclusive of all human beings. Like Jesus!"

"I encourage you to participate in <https://www.bestbuddies.org/minnesota/>. Best Buddies is an organization that pairs an able-bodied person with one who is disabled for outings and activities. Or, support Special Olympics as an able-bodied partner and have some fun!"

We are **all** God's children. Let's remember that.

## THANKYOU!

### June Fifth Sunday Contributions for Missionary Karen Anderson

Thank you for your generous Fifth Sunday contributions in June to Missionary Karen Anderson in Chile. We collected \$700! That shows how our congregation is so generous to those who need our support. We have contributed to her efforts for several years and it is making an amazing difference for those who work with her. **Thank you!!**

### 2025 Offering Envelopes

To eliminate the ***purchased-but-unclaimed*** envelopes that are wasted, we're asking each family that ***wants*** pre-printed envelopes to request them from the church office by **AUGUST 12<sup>th</sup>**. Either email [Terri in the church office](mailto:Terri in the church office) or call 763-972-2400. This "OPT IN" method will greatly benefit the office supplies budget. Thank you!



## Celebrating 40 Years

### Light of Christ is turning 40!

2025 is the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Light of Christ. The Church Council is planning to appoint a 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee of four to six people to spearhead our celebration. We'd like to have an anniversary committee that reflects the make-up of the congregation: male and female, different ages, long-time members/partners and newer members/partners, and so forth. If you'd like to be considered to serve on this committee, please let a member of the Church Council know of your willingness to serve. Thank you!

### Pastor Kebin's Visit

We are excited to announce that we are hosting our brothers/sisters in Christ from Belize. Pastor Kebin, his wife Ani, and their two girls Gaby (age 5) and Hollie (age 2) will be coming to Minnesota in mid-August.

Pastor Kebin will be joining us and speaking at the 9:30 AM church service on August 25<sup>th</sup>. Kebin is an amazing, charismatic, God-serving Christian who wants to spend time with our congregation and talk about his mission work in Bella Vista, Belize and his life experiences in Christ.

We will also be hosting a church potluck picnic for Pastor Kebin and his family on **Wednesday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 6PM**. More information and sign-up will follow in the coming weeks. Please join us for this time together sharing Christ's love and fellowship.

We have asked Pastor Kebin what his family needs are, and we have included below what donations they could use for his family and church. We will also take monetary donations. Please specify your donation is for **Pastor Kebin/Church of San Iglesia, Bella Vista, Belize**.

- ♦ **Church needs:** laptop, live translator device, monetary donations
- ♦ **Pastor Kebin's family needs:**
  - Summer clothes
  - Ladies' pants size 6, dresses small, shoes size 6, shirts small
  - Men's pants 30x28, shirt small or medium, shoes size 8
  - Children's shoes size 5 and size 9, clothes 2T and 5T or larger
  - Monetary donations for his family to purchase a house by his church

There will be a bin in the Narthex to place donated items.

We ask you to keep Pastor Kebin, his family, his Belizean congregation, and the people in Belize in your prayers.

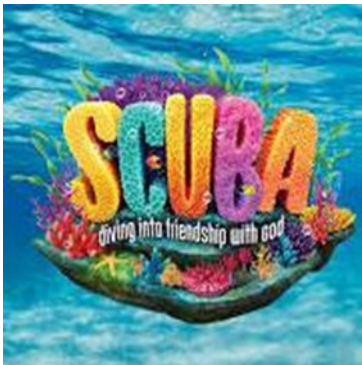
If you have any questions **please contact Jennifer Grant @ 612.226.8181** or email [jconnection.jg@gmail.com](mailto:jconnection.jg@gmail.com).



## Last Chance for Valleyfair!

Light of Christ youth and friends are headed to Valleyfair on Tuesday this week (**July 23<sup>rd</sup>**). If you're interested in going but haven't registered yet, please email Kirsten at [Kirsten.Kelly@locdelano.com](mailto:Kirsten.Kelly@locdelano.com). Here are the details:

- ⇒ **When:** Tuesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>
- ⇒ **Time:** 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM (at the park from approximately 10 AM - 5:30 PM). *New as of last year:* youth 15 and under must be accompanied by an adult after 4 pm, so depending on our ages and numbers (of youth and adults), we will adjust plans as needed.
- ⇒ **Who:** Light of Christ youth and friends (completed grades 7-12 and grads. ;)
- ⇒ **Cost:** \$40 (check or [online](#)). This includes \$36 for the group ticket and some money to cover transportation. Transportation will depend on our numbers, adults attending, etc.
- ⇒ **Bring:** Sunscreen, spending money (*optional*) or a cold lunch (we will provide a cooler with ice packs), swimming stuff if you plan to go in the waterpark.
- ⇒ **Note:** Youth will spend the day in the park in groups of 2 or more. We cannot guarantee that each group will have an adult with them but we will have a check-in time (when we eat lunch) and have a contact number for at least one youth in each group.



## Help is still needed!

If you are interested in assisting in either of the following areas, please contact LaDonna in person, via phone 320-212-2583 or email at [LaDonna.Ekern@locdelano.com](mailto:LaDonna.Ekern@locdelano.com).

◇ **Tidal Treats: Sunday, July 28:** We need a person or two who would be willing to prepare, serve, and clean up after our snack time. The snack on Sunday is "crunch coral." This involves putting crunchy Cheetos into a cup for kids to grab.

◇ **Crew Leaders:** In search of 2-3 people who would be willing to be Crew Leaders. To be a Crew Leader, you need two important qualifications: you love the Lord and you love children. During VBS, you'll visit different activities (stations) around the church with a small group of children. You're not in charge of preparing or teaching activities; you just get to be there and help kids enjoy the activities as you shepherd the members of your Crew. Because your Crew is small, you'll get to know and affirm each member by asking questions, really listening, and being encouraging.



## Youth & Children's Ministry Registrations

- ⇒ **Voyagers** (1<sup>st</sup>- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade; 2024-25 year): Early registration now open at link below. **Save \$20 if paid in full by Aug. 15<sup>th</sup>.** <https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/Voyagers.20216689919>
- ⇒ **Pathfinders** (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade; 2024-2025 year): Early registration now open at link below. **Save \$20 if paid in full by Aug. 15<sup>th</sup>.** <https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/Pathfinders.202161654>
- ⇒ **Confirmation** (7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grade; 2024-2025 year): Early registration now open at link below. **Save \$20 if paid in full by Aug. 15<sup>th</sup>.** <https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/Confirmation2024-25>



## Final Summer Youth Activity Night!

Join us for our last night of summer fun! We'll have outdoor games and ice cream – all are welcome!

- ⇒ **Monday, August 19<sup>th</sup>**
- ⇒ **7-8 PM** = completed grades 6 & 7
- ⇒ **8-9 PM** = completed grades 8 and up (including college-aged youth)

Friends are welcome and these nights are free (thanks to the support of our congregation). Hope to see you there!



## CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS

**BLESSED** to be able to dedicate a new Pray Ground rug, purchased with funds provided by our Endowment Committee. Blessed by the special donation, we are also able to provide a couple infant tummy time items in our Pray Ground area.

Thank you for enhancing our worship space by welcoming and inviting our younger members.



Thank you for your support and making it possible to be at WAPO Seeds!

***"I loved all the games we got to play and all the songs that we got to sing."***

Rilynn Peterson

***"I had a great time. I loved hanging out with friends from Light of Christ."***

Lydia Sievers

***"Had great time. Want to stay a week next year!"*** Charlotte Olson

Olen enjoyed his time at camp. He said his ***"bunkmates were pretty rambunctious, but otherwise he had a good time."*** Kevin Johnson



**THANK YOU  
FROM  
LOC SEEDS!**