



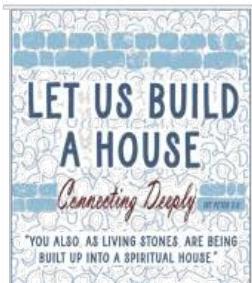
Worship

- In-person worship—**9:30 AM Sundays, with experimental services at 8AM on 4/6 and 11AM on 4/13**
- Online worship 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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On Sunday, March 23rd, we celebrated the installation of Pastor Tim by Bishop Jen Nagel. And a big **thank you** goes to the Community Life Committee for providing another delicious brunch!



Caring Corner: Strengthening Mental Health Support in Our Church Community

(from Rachel Boyack of the Healing & Wholeness Committee)

For the past five years, the Healing and Wholeness Committee has been committed to raising awareness, providing education, and offering resources to support mental health within our congregation. Through the Caring Corner articles featured in *The Beacon*, our church website, emails, Facebook, and the *Delano Herald Journal*, we have strived to provide valuable information to help navigate mental health challenges.



Recently, we surveyed our Light of Christ members to better understand how these resources are being received and how we can improve. We deeply appreciate everyone who took the time to share their feedback.

What We Learned

- **Content Value:** A majority (53.1%) of respondents rated the Caring Corner articles as helpful, with many finding them a meaningful resource for addressing mental health concerns.
- **Recommendation Potential:** Over half of the respondents (57.5%) said they would likely recommend our resources to someone in need, highlighting their impact in our community.
- **Engagement with The Beacon:** While readership varies, many engage with the Caring Corner articles, with 41.2% reading them occasionally and nearly 30% engaging more regularly.
- **Preferred Formats for Information:** The majority of respondents (74.2%) prefer to receive mental health information through a section in *The Beacon newsletter*, followed by temple talks during church services (54.8%) and guest speakers or workshops (51.6%). Website updates (29%) and bulletin board postings (9.7%) were also mentioned as useful but less preferred formats.
- **Mental Health Topics of Interest:** Anxiety (65.6%), grief and loss (59.4%), faith over fear (46.9%), and stress (46.9%) were among the most requested topics for future resources. Caregiver support and mental wellness were also highly ranked.

Looking Ahead

This feedback will help shape how we continue to support mental health awareness and education in our community. We are exploring ways to enhance our content, including additional resources on stress management, grief, faith-based mental health perspectives, and mindfulness practices.

We also welcome suggestions on how we can make mental health support more accessible and meaningful to you. Whether through workshops, small group discussions, or digital resources, we are committed to walking this journey of healing and wholeness together.

If you have ideas or specific needs, please reach out—we are here for you.

The Healing and Wholeness Committee

Can You Help?

Take a look at our new **Time & Talent board** in the **Narthex, across from the Welcome Center!** You'll find large **Sticky Notes** with a variety of ways you can lend a hand.

It's easy to participate:

- ✓ **Browse the notes** to see current needs.
- ✓ **Find one that fits your gifts or schedule.**
- ✓ **Take it with you** as a reminder to follow through!

Here are a few examples:

- **Write 1-2 notes of thanks** to an LOC volunteer or staff member.
- **Donate a box of non-perishables** for our Food Distribution Ministry.
- **Help format the Study Guide** for the upcoming *Unshaken* Bible study.
- **Wash 3-5 windows** in the Fellowship Hall or Narthex.

Have a short-term need? If you're on a team and could use extra hands, **add a Sticky Note** to invite others to help!

Thank you for sharing your Time & Talents—Together We Thrive!



Delano Food Shelf

Thank you for those who volunteered at the food shelf in March including Dave Anderson, Cheri Ashfeld, Vicki Noetzelman, Sharon McKisson, Laurie & Harlan Grimm, Paulette Podratz, Jewel Ekern, Maxine & Lowell Johnson, Lisa Hemmer, MaryAnn McKay, Cheryl Collins, Ann Bassett, Carrie Quamen, Dee & Len Beilke, Dewey Swenson, Bea Zerull, Steve Freese, and Charlie & Lona Jose. Thank you also to Jewel Ekern and Jerry Podratz for picking up all the donated food once a month at Kwik Trip and Coborn's for the food shelf. You all make a difference by helping so many people in need!! Thank you also, LOC members, for your food and monetary donations this March. Also thank you to the LOC kids and the OWLS who helped with food collection delivery. Thank you also to JoMarie Williamson for being one of two who do an excellent job of managing the food shelf. You are doing a great job!! Our next volunteer month will be June. We look forward to working with you then!



The Joy of Generosity

Giving generously is not just about supporting the church; it's about experiencing the joy of living in God's abundance. When we give freely of our time, talents, and treasures, we discover how God blesses us in return. Together, as we commit to generosity, **we thrive** in faith and purpose. Consider how you might experience this joy in a new way at LOC.



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, 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](#)

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](#)

Worship SCHEDULE

Experimental Worship Services

On **Sundays, April 6th and April 13th** (Palm Sunday), we will hold two services:

- ◇ **April 6th at 8:00 AM & 9:30 AM**
- ◇ **April 13th at 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM**

This is another experiment, like our previous Wednesday service, and not a permanent change we will make any time soon. Thank you!



New Member/ Partner Sunday

There will be a new member orientation on **Sunday, April 13th from 5:30-6:30 PM**. If you or someone you know is interested in joining Light

of Christ, please contact the [church office](#) for more information. Our next reception of new members/partners will be on **May 4th**.

Lenten Worship

Weekly Wednesday Lenten worship is at 7:00 PM incorporates 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. On April 2nd, the Belize MT group will be serving "A Taste of Belize," with rice & beans, chicken, & more. On April 9th, Church Council will serve sloppy joes.



HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- ◇ **Palm Sunday**, April 13th at 9:30 & 11:00 AM - Festive worship with a variety of music and musicians, along with First Communion recipients.
- ◇ **Maundy Thursday**, April 17th at 7:00 PM - Worship with Holy Communion.
- ◇ **Good Friday**, April 18th at 7:00 PM - "Service of the Nails," a meditative service with scripture, prayer, and music.
- ◇ **Easter Sunday**, April 20th at 8:30 & 10:30 AM - A blend of classic and contemporary worship with many musicians, music, and plenty of celebration!

Serve Day... Coming on May 10th!

On **Saturday, May 10th**, Light of Christ will be hosting our first annual Serve Day! On this day, we will all come together to help and support our church and community. Some of the projects may include volunteering at the Delano Food Shelf, Feed My Starving Children, local nursing homes, Love INC, as well as projects around church (light maintenance and cleaning, making cards for military members, outdoor projects, etc.). We know this is a busy weekend (with fishing opener and Mother's Day) but it would be wonderful if we could all come together to serve others and give back! More info (and a sign up link with project times/info) will be coming soon... but save the date! This project is being coordinated by HS youth, Abby Gierke, for her NHS project (along with Kirsten Kelly). Thank you!



THE HOOT NEWS from Sue Fink



On **April 24th** (note the change in week due to Holy Week), we are going to have a “Lunch and Learn” event in the Living Room. We’ll start at noon with a Subway sandwich lunch and at 1PM we have 2 speakers scheduled. Andrea Karels, with Iten Funeral Home, is going to offer information on end-of-life/funeral planning. She is also enlisting a lawyer-friend from Buffalo who will speak on financial planning, “getting your ducks in a row,” so to speak. We’ll also have information on LOC’s columbarium and new funeral reception guidelines. Should be a very informative day!

In May we will have our *first summer outing* (yay!) -- either a fun show or field trip, *to be determined soon*. If you have any fun ideas, please let your OWLS planning committee members know: Lona Jose, Jewel Ekern, Laurie Grimm, Sue and Bill Fink.

Hebrews 10:24-25 “And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day of the Lord drawing near.”

Casting Our Cares on God

Ever feel like you’re carrying the weight of the world? In this week’s session of *Unshaken: Trusting God in an Anxious World*, we’ll talk about what it truly means to give our worries over to God—and why that’s easier said than done.

Whether you’ve studied the Bible for years or are just dipping your toes in, this study is for you. Come be encouraged and connect with others who are walking the same road. **Join us this Thursday at 9:30 AM or 7:00 PM!**

SESSION TWO from our Unshaken Bible Study is available for you. Contact the church office for a copy.

Everyone is invited to participate by attending our Thursday 9:30 AM session here at church or our 7:00 PM study session, also here at LOC. Or, you can use the above links.



LIGHT OF CHRIST CHURCH
Paint night



JOIN US ON APRIL 3RD FOR A NIGHT WITH THE LIGHT OF CHRIST WOMEN’S GROUP. THE FUN STARTS AT 6:30PM IN THE DOWNTOWN SOCIAL (OLD LUPINE) BUILDING. CHOOSE FROM THREE DIFFERENT PROJECTS TO CREATE. COST \$30

STUDIO527

REGISTER AT WWW.STUDIO527MN.COM OR
CLICK ON THE QR CODE



Upcoming LOC Sisters & Community Life event

Please sign up using the QR code in graphic above or at this link: <https://www.studio527mn.com/collections/adult-workshops>

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!



Follow us on Instagram!

Check out our new Instagram page! Our handle is **@delanolightofchrist**. Scan the QR code to get directly to the page.

Looking for Mountains of Fun?



You Otter Be Here!

◆ New Friends ◆ Amazing Experiments ◆ Creative Games ◆ Super-Fun Snacks
◆ Surprising Adventures ◆ Incredible Music

Light of Christ Lutheran Church

Sunday, July 13th – Wednesday, July 16th

5:00PM – 7:15PM

Register online:

<https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/TrueNorth>



Sign Up for Summer Bible Camp and VBS!

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>



As the Food for Friends food drive comes to a close, our Voyagers did an amazing job sorting the food and getting it ready for delivery.





Bowling and Laser Tag at River City Extreme



10th Grade Confirmation Group 3/21/25

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS

