



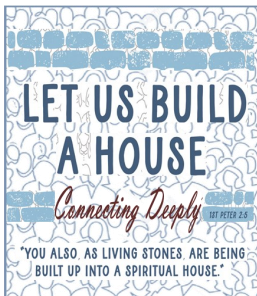
Worship

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



Church Council 2026

Fred Caslavka
Pat Czock (sec'y.)
Brandt Dinger
Heidi Goldbeck
Luke Jeseritz (treas.)
Lisa Krause (pres.)
Justin Lindall
Erin Olson
Ryan Tool (v. pres.)
Pastor Tim Wheatley



Contact us!

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We're excited to be going on our Fall Confirmation Retreat to Lake Wapogasset Lutheran Bible Camp in Amery, WI again this year! Each year this retreat proves to be a significant faith-shaping and relationship building event (with friends and with God)! This overnight retreat includes fellowship time, games, campfire worship, discussions, food/snacks and lots of outdoor time (where we can see the incredible stars at night)! This Beacon article has 2 purposes:

1. To share the info with Confirmation Families so they can save the date and register!
2. To invite congregation members to support our youth and families through a donation to help off-set the cost of this retreat. If you are able to make a contribution, please talk to Kirsten. Thank you SO much!

What: Overnight Retreat at Lake Wapogasset Lutheran Bible Camp in Amery, WI – Faith, Fellowship, Food and FUN!

Who: Confirmation youth (grades 7-9) and adult leaders. **This retreat is expected for all Confirmation youth and is SO worth it!**

Leave: Friday, October 23 at 5:00 PM; we will carpool from LOC (transportation is still being arranged).

Return: To LOC on Sunday, October 25 at 1:00 PM.

NOTE: If youth have an older sibling being Confirmed on Sunday, October 25, Kirsten will be leaving early and they can ride with her. We hope they'll still attend!

Cost/Person: \$200-225 (depending on numbers, transportation and scholarships available - this will cover transportation, food/snacks, lodging and a bit to help cover the cost of adults). Scholarships are always available, if needed - talk to Kirsten. See below for payment info.

Register: Online here:

<https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/FallWapoRetreat2026> (no later than 10/16). There will also be a short Wapo form sent to families this fall.

Confirmation families, thank you for registering for this retreat so that we can plan ahead (on things like transportation and adults needed); and LOC congregation, thank you for any financial assistance you can provide to support the faith of our youth!

August Fifth Sunday Contributions for Drawn to the Word November 1st Event



The designated recipient of the **August Fifth Sunday special offering** is the “**Drawn to the Word**” painting event on **Sunday, November 1**. The painting’s theme is “**Drawn to the Light of Christ**” and will be done by Pastor Paul Oman during our worship service that day. In addition to being able to help pay for our painting, we can all be a part of the events that our church members and staff are planning for that day. We are so excited to watch Pastor Oman paint this beautiful 50x70 painting that will hang in our sanctuary, and also to be an active participant in the day’s events. Watch for more details about the event to be shared in upcoming bulletins and Beacon newsletters. The cost for this painting is \$4275 so your generous contributions are much appreciated to help support this meaningful ministry and creative expression of faith. Donations can be made at the **Give** link on the [LOC website](#), choosing the *August Fifth Sunday Offering* tile. You may also note on your check or envelope this designation and place in the offering plate or send to Terri in the church office. **Thank you very much for your generous August Fifth Sunday contributions in support of this Light of Christ treasure!**

NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Walking the Way of the Good Samaritan

Neighbors in Need: Sharing Christ’s Love with Our Neighbors

Each month, our Neighbors in Need ministry provides rice, beans, cooking oil, and laundry soap to approximately 50 local immigrant families. On Sunday, September 6, everyone is invited to stay after worship and help pack the rice and beans for distribution. It is a simple, hands-on way for people of all ages to serve together—and with plenty of helpers, the packing goes quickly!

Please continue bringing bags of rice, dried beans, bottles of cooking oil, and laundry soap to the collection area in the narthex.

Why do we do this? Because Jesus calls us to love our neighbors—not only with our words, but also through generous and compassionate action. When families face uncertainty and struggle to afford basic necessities, we have the opportunity to come alongside them with dignity, welcome, and care. What a blessing it is to share what we have and to see Christ present as neighbors serve neighbors!

Mission Belize!

Pastor Kebin Rosa and family will be visiting Delano in August from Bella Vista, Belize. The Rosa family will attend church service with us on Sunday, August 30th. Pastor Kebin will do the sermon, talk about mission work in Belize, the Hope Center, and new projects in his church. Please help us welcome them on the 30th – they are excited to see past mission trip participants, familiar faces, and would love to meet new people from our church.



Come and Join Our Kids Hope Mentor Group



Our mentors have been mentoring kids at Delano Elementary for 4 years. We would love to have you join our mentoring group this fall. Mentors do not tutor but just have fun with their kiddo. You would meet with the same student for one hour once per week for the school year. It is fun for our mentors and very fun for the kids that are selected by their classroom teachers. The mentors can be from LOC or other local folks. We are flexible with your schedule. If you would like more information, contact Lona Jose, or Terri at the LOC office if you need my phone number.

We would love to have you join our group!



Worship with Confirmation

Faith Statements

Our final worship service with 10th graders sharing their Faith Statements will be on **Sunday, September 20** at 9:30 AM.

Please attend or watch online to support these youth sharing their faith! You can rewatch previous services on your YouTube page at this link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/>

Stay Informed!

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



**MEETING
MINUTES**

Attention, Women! As life and schedules get busy for the fall, please consider taking time out for yourself and joining us for the women's Bible study starting in September. Participating in a Bible study is a great way to dive deeper into the word and gain new insights that strengthen our faith.

The women's Bible study will meet the **1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, 6:30 – 8:00 PM, in the Living Room at LOC, starting on September 21st**. We will meet September – April, and *not* meet in December. If you need to leave early at any point or can't make it every time that is okay! We want you to come when you can.

The Bible study we will be doing is *Prayer: An Adventure with God from Life Guide Bible Studies*.

As David Healey leads you through the prayers of men and women in the Bible (Mary, Abraham, Moses, Daniel and more!), you will gain new insights into why, what and how to pray. And you will experience more fully the adventure that prayer can be.

Source: [Prayer: An Adventure with God \(LifeGuide Bible Studies\): Healey, David: 9780830830534: Amazon.com: Books](#)

We hope to see you in September! If you are interested in participating, **please respond to Lindsay Lindall at lindsay.lindall@gmail.com**.



Thank You, Nourishing Hope Volunteers!

A heartfelt *thank you* to everyone who helped with the August 17 Nourishing Hope food distribution—those who packed food in Rockford, transported it, and served our neighbors here at Light of Christ. Your willing hands, generous hearts, and joyful service made the day possible. 100 packed full food boxes were distributed!

Our next food distribution is **Monday, September 13th**. We have some key volunteers who will be out of town, so this may be the perfect time to sign up!

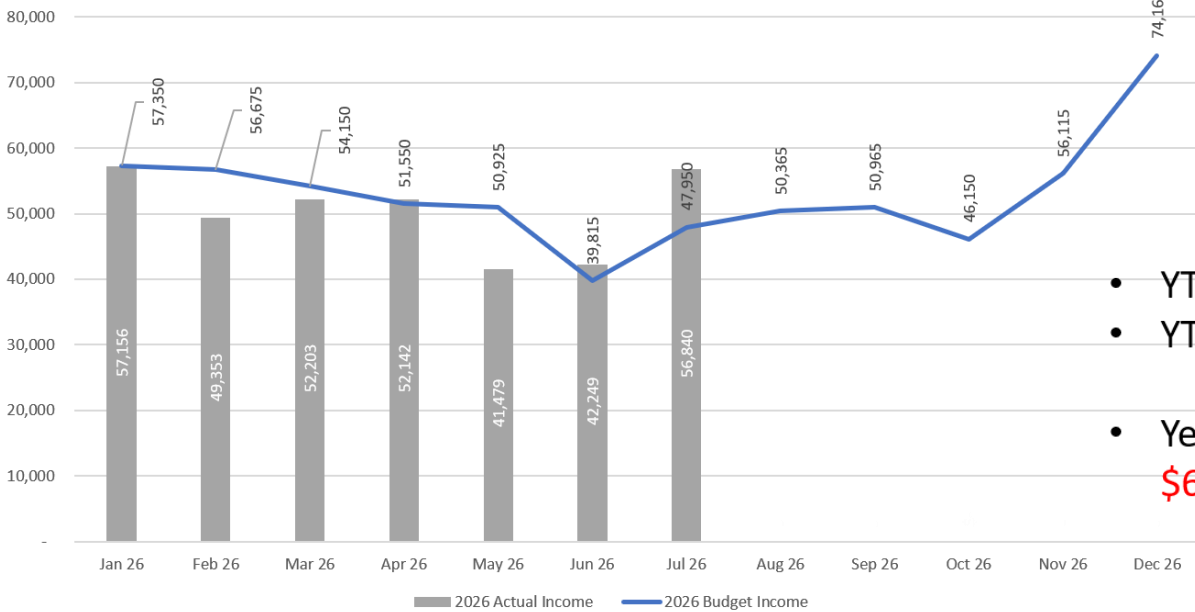
- ♦ Truck Boss <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-food>
- ♦ Food Box Packing at Our Father's <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-food>
- ♦ Cold Milk Delivery <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-63814208-food>
- ♦ Food Distribution at Light of Christ <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-food1>

What a blessing it is to work together to provide food, encouragement, and hope to families in our community!



LOC Monthly Income - Actual versus Budget

2026 Income - Budget vs Actual



YTD Summary July 2026

- YTD Budget \$358,415
- YTD Actual \$351,423
- Year to Date Actual is **\$6,992** below budget



Mission in Motion

Every gift helps advance worship, care, outreach, and connection in our church and community. Together, we are sharing the Light of Christ in meaningful and tangible ways.

The Generous Life: Six Practices that Shape Our Faith



The Generous Life: Give Generously

Generosity invites us to trust God more deeply.

Giving generously isn't about equal amounts—it's about meaningful response. It's asking, "What is generous for me?" and taking a step in faith.

Throughout the Bible, generosity reflects trust—that God will provide, that our gifts matter, and that God is at work through them.

What this looks like in everyday life:

A person looks at their current giving and senses an invitation to grow. Maybe it's increasing their offering, responding to a need, or stepping beyond what feels comfortable. Over time, generosity expands.

Generosity stretches us—but it also fills us with purpose and joy.

"Whoever sows generously will also reap generously."
– 2 Corinthians 9:6

(We will feature a new practice every couple of weeks)

The GIVING CORNER



Donor Advised Funds (DAFs) for flexible giving over time

A donor advised fund can be a great "give now, decide later" tool. You make an irrevocable contribution to a DAF, receive a tax deduction in the year you give, and then recommend grants to charities over time. This is helpful if you want to be generous in a high income year but spread out your actual gifts to churches and nonprofits across future years. It can also simplify recordkeeping by turning many future donations into one contribution for tax reporting purposes. DAFs are often described as having some of the benefits of a private foundation without as much administrative work. The tradeoff is that once assets go into the DAF, they are no longer yours, and the sponsoring organization oversees the account and investments.

Article Submitted by Brad L. Spencer, CPWA®



Registration Information

Youth & Children's Ministry Registrations

Registrations are now open – register at links below or at QR code. **All registrations are due by August 26th.**



- ⇒ **Voyagers** (1st- 3rd grade; 2026-27 year): <https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/Voyagers.2026-2027>
- ⇒ **Pathfinders** (4th-6th grade; 2026-27 year): <https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/Pathfinders.2026-2027>
- 📅 **Voyagers & Pathfinders Program Dates:** Voyagers and Pathfinders will run from **September 16, 2026 through April 27, 2027.**
- ⇒ **Confirmation** (7th-9th grades; 2026-27 year): <https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/Confirmation2026-27>

Rally Sunday Is September 13th!

On Rally Sunday we rally together to kick off another year of our fall programming. Following worship that day, we will have lots of activities, including games, prizes, food, and fellowship! Here's where you can help! We've compiled a list of specific items we could use. See the SignUp Genius links below or the QR code shown above. There is also a place on the sign-up for adults/youth to volunteer to help with the games on Rally Sunday. *Thank you* – your support of our Children's Ministry means the world! The children love the games, prizes, and getting excited for the year ahead! All are welcome!

[Rally Sunday 2026 Donations](#)

[Youth/adult Volunteers: Rally Sunday](#)

Sharing God's Word



On **Sunday, September 13th** we are presenting Bibles to all children ages 3 years/preschool to entering 6th grade. Please complete the form at this link to indicate your participation: <https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/1e18fc>

Back to School Bonfire!

August 26th, 7:00-8:30 PM

10-12th grade youth

A time to chat about changes in High School ministry, volunteer opportunities and spend time with one another in fellowship!

Orientation for Ministries



We will have orientations for all Wednesday children & youth ministries on **Wednesday, September 9th**. Children/youth and parents are encouraged to attend.

- ♦ Voyagers: 4:15-5:45 PM
- ♦ Pathfinders: 6:00-6:30 PM
- ♦ Confirmation youth & parents: 6:15 PM
- ♦ Confirmation Guides: 7:15 PM