



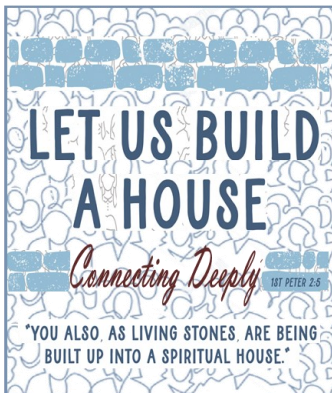
## Worship

- 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

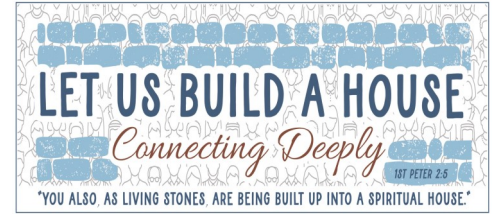


## A wonderful kick-off to our month-long *Let Us Build a House* capital appeal!

Comedian David Ferrell brought out some laughter and fun as we connected on April 6<sup>th</sup> with one another. Refreshments were served beforehand in the Narthex, and we enjoyed

some wonderful desserts afterwards in the Fellowship Hall.

Please be sure to read through your appeal brochure as it contains a lot of important information not only on the projects we are hoping to accomplish, but it also captures much of the key aspects of our congregational vision in moving forward together.



## Contact us!

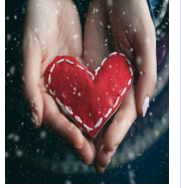
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[Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com](mailto:Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com)

## Caring Corner

*(from Lona Jose of the Healing & Wholeness Committee)*



### **Gratitude: A Journey of Faith and Transformation**

It is a good time to talk about gratitude. We have all recently celebrated Easter, the rising of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are entering the beautiful season of spring. And we will soon be celebrating Mother's and Father's Day and many of us have other things in our lives for which we are so grateful. At the same time, there are things that may be happening in our lives for which we are not grateful. That also makes it even more important to focus on acknowledging our gratitude daily. Filling our hearts with gratitude inspires us to good and healthy action. Sometimes it can take time and practice to be grateful daily but the benefits teach us to enjoy the "present" moments, it delivers peace and helps us realize we are doing "okay" even when things are not always going our way.

Regularly acknowledging and appreciating the good things in our lives can lead to a multitude of benefits.

1. **Increased Happiness:** Giving you a more positive outlook on life, thus increasing overall happiness.
2. **Reduced Depression:** Shifting your focus from negative thought patterns, reducing symptoms of depression.
3. **Improved Sleep:** Practicing gratitude every night before sleep can help create a peaceful mind and improve sleep quality.
4. **Stress Reduction:** Recognizing what we are grateful for can lower our stress levels by shifting our mindset toward positivity.
5. **Helping Others:** When we feel gratitude, we want to reach out to others who need our support and help. Some say gratitude is what you feel and thanksgiving is what you do for yourself and others.

Gratitude is recognizing people, things, moments, skills, and gifts that bring joy, peace, comfort, beauty, and wonder into our lives. Keeping gratitude journals, practicing mindfulness and meditation, praying, and serving others can be a lifestyle we adopt to get the benefits mentioned above.

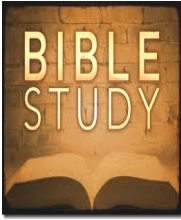
Gratitude is at the heart of our Christian life. It is the humble acknowledgement of the blessings we receive daily—both big and small. The Bible repeatedly advises us to express gratitude in every circumstance, recognizing the good in our lives and acknowledging that this goodness is a gift and shows us God's enduring love and mercy. It is about seeing God's hand in everything whether a beautiful sunrise, a job promotion or even a tough life challenge. We learn in Psalm 107:1 to "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever."

Jesus epitomized a life of gratitude despite the trials He faced. He is calling us to live with a heart of gratitude, not just in times of joy and plenty but also in moments of trials and challenges. We can inspire others with our gratitude, to give back, serve others and instigate positive change.

As we learn in 1 Thessalonians 5:18, "Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

And as we share every Sunday: **This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

## Tough Questions for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Christians



Pastor Bruce leads a Bible study on the tough questions that we face as 21<sup>st</sup> century Christians today, which meets on the **first and third Tuesdays of the month** in the Living Room from 7:45 - 8:45 PM. The next study is on **April 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:45 PM**. There is no need to

register ahead of time. The presentation will be recorded and posted on the Light of Christ website for those who can't participate in person. Please don't hesitate to reach out to Pastor Bruce with any questions you may have.

Did you know that you can find past sessions of Tough Questions on our [YouTube](#) page? Below are the links to past questions discussed:

- Introduction Video <https://youtu.be/SUP5E82IBSg>
- Where is God When the Innocent Suffer? <https://youtu.be/zNffKR1HfZU>
- Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People? [https://youtu.be/juvWr\\_G-K-I](https://youtu.be/juvWr_G-K-I)
- What is the Meaning of Innocent Suffering? <https://youtu.be/VS5GmIeiFs>
- Can I Believe in Creation and Evolution? <https://youtu.be/O2QO4yJHLqY>
- Can I Believe in Creation and Evolution? Part 2 <https://youtu.be/nh3hcKXb9b4>
- Why do we bless LGBTQ+ marriages and ordain pastoral candidates who are in them? <https://youtu.be/Qa1PNP8FOFY>

## Fifth Sunday Contributions for Second Harvest

Thank you for your generous Fifth Sunday contributions to Second Harvest in March. We have collected \$1970! That shows how our congregation is so generous to those who need our support. We will continue to get Second Harvest's generous donations of food for our monthly food distribution at Light of Christ and also the food they donate to our local Delano food shelf. **Thank you!!**

Thank You

## THE HOOT



Hello, OWLS!! Here's a reminder for upcoming events:

### Bible Study: "Growing Older and Wiser"

Sundays after church, 10:45-11:45 AM, April 28<sup>th</sup> (Lesson 3) and May 5<sup>th</sup> (Lesson 4). We'll meet in room 101. All are welcome any time, come when you can. Preparing ahead of time will make for better discussion and understanding. Will have extra books available if you need, cost is \$8.00. 14 attendants came to our first meeting!!! Great discussions.

### Gathering of OWLS

Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 1-3 PM in the Living Room. We'll make use of the game room and do table games or puzzles. We'll make plans for summer gatherings. Bring something you like. We need a couple volunteers for treats and beverages, please.

### OWLS outing to Minneapolis Institute of Arts (MIA) for "Art in Bloom" exhibit

Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. Plan to meet at church at 9 AM to carpool to Minneapolis. Admission is free but parking cost is \$15 in the lot, \$20 in the ramp, each car. There are free guided tours at 10:15 and 11:15 if you're interested. We'll stay a couple of hours and then stop at the Red Rooster in Long Lake on the way home. Please let Sue Fink know if you're coming.

"A birdie with a yellow bill, hopped upon my windowsill,  
Cocked his shining eye and said:  
"Aren't you ashamed, you sleepy head?"  
Happy Spring!

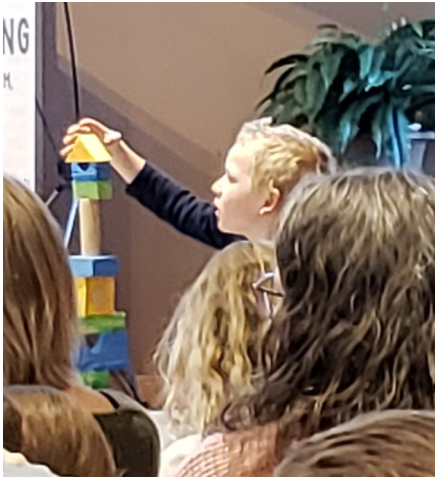
## Help a Fellow Light of Christ Family

Stan and Edie Droneck recently lost their house to a fire so will need to rebuild. If you'd like to donate to help, a fund has been set up at **Bankwest**. Money can be deposited in person (*Rockford, Buffalo, Hanover branches*) or mailed to **Bankwest** to the *attention of the Droneck account: 5921 Main St., Rockford 55373*.

## Donate from Your Smart Phone

Light of Christ offers a mobile version of our online giving page to make it easy for you to give anytime from your smart phone. Simply scan the image you see here using your phone's QR code reader or go to the [church website](#) and locate the online giving page.





Let us build a house. The Spirit at work in the pray ground area during worship. The young excited that they can help too!

## Confirmation Corner

Here is the end-of-the-year confirmation schedule (all start times are 6:30 PM unless otherwise noted):



- **Wednesday, April 17:** Content Night
- **Wednesday, April 24:** Content Night
- **Wednesday, May 1:** Content Night
- **Wednesday, May 8:** Service Event (tie blankets); Parent Meeting (from 7:30-8:00 PM)
- **Friday, May 10, 7:00-10:00 PM:** Friday Night Lights – [SIGN UP by 4 PM on 5/10!](#)
- **Wednesday, May 15:** Year End Party!



**Confirmation  
Class 2024**



We pray God's blessings on the 18 youth who affirmed their baptism on Sunday, April 7: Hailey Anderson, Taylor Berscheid, Owen Borman, Bella Dinger, Natalie Holmer, Avery Klaphake, Emery Klaphake, Nate Nielsen, Sydney Pink, Hayden Rue, Brynn Spanier, Olyvia Stahlke, Aidan Thompson, Natalie Thompson, Marshall Thorstad, Ava Werner, Mya Werner, Ashlynn Wortz.

Light of Christ Lutheran Church  
Children & Family Ministry Team  
presents

# EARTH DAY

**NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN UP**



Join us Sunday, April 21, 2024 to celebrate this year's Earth Day.

Clean up location: Light of Christ property & road side area

Please bring your family (all ages welcome), wear green,  
and help us celebrate Earth Day on April 21st at 11:15am!