



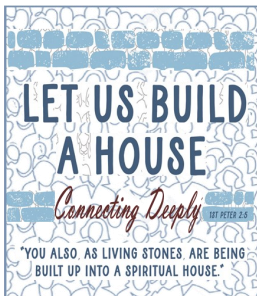
Worship

- 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!

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



LightOfChristLutheran.com
Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com



NourishingHOPE

Free Fresh Produce and Dairy

Monday, July 13th
4:00-5:00 pm

Boxes of fresh produce and dairy products will be available for drive through pickup on a first come, first serve basis at the following locations:

Corcoran

St. Thomas Catholic Church
20000 County Road 10
Corcoran, MN 55340

Rockford

Our Father's Lutheran
3903 Gilbert Ave SE
Rockford, MN 55373

Hanover

Influence Church @ City Hall
11250 5th Street NE
Hanover, MN 55341

Delano

Light of Christ Lutheran Church
3976 County Line Road SE
Delano, MN 55328

Buffalo

Buffalo Covenant Church
1601 Highway 25 North
Buffalo, MN 55313

Maple Grove

Rice Lake Bible Chapel
8801 Rice Lake Road
Maple Grove, MN 55369

For assistance locating a specific site or for questions, please contact us at

NourishingHOPE is a ministry of Our Father's Lutheran Church, in cooperation with area churches. Our vision is to relieve area food insecurity and promote wellness in mind, body, and spirit for people East-Central Wright County. For information on you or your organization partnering with NourishingHOPE, please visit our website at www.ourfatherschurch.org/nourishing-hope.html

Nourishing Hope – Monday, July 13

Our next **Nourishing Hope Food Distribution** is **Monday, July 13**, and this month **Light of Christ** is responsible for helping set up before the food arrives from Second Harvest. We'd love to have plenty of helping hands!

There are **four ways to serve**:

1. **Early Morning Setup (7:30–8:00 AM)** – Join us at **Our Father's Lutheran Church in Rockford** to help unload and organize the food pallets, set up the roller system, and prepare everything before the semi-truck from Second Harvest arrives.
2. **Food Boxing (9:45 AM)** – Help volunteers from our partner churches sort and pack hundreds of boxes of fresh food for area families. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-food>
3. **Milk Transport (3:30 PM)** – We need **one volunteer** to pick up Light of Christ's milk from the refrigerated trailer at Our Father's Lutheran and transport it to the Light of Christ parking lot for distribution. Kurt, who normally handles this, will be out of town this month. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-63814208-food>
4. **Food Distribution (3:30 PM)** – Help welcome neighbors and distribute food in the Light of Christ parking lot. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-food1>

If you can help with any of these opportunities, please contact **Tim Johnson** or sign up using the volunteer links above. Thank you for helping Nourishing Hope provide fresh food and hope to our neighbors each month!

Grace and Peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,

I love being Lutheran. One of those things that is so helpful to understand for me is what we laid out in article 7 of the Augsburg confession. “The church is the assembly of saints in which the gospel is taught purely and the sacraments are administered rightly.” Which means that on its own, Light of Christ, Delano is a church without regard to any other body. However, we are blessed that we are not just on our own but have found a greater body to be a part of, namely the Minneapolis Area Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in American (ELCA). We are blessed to be part of this body and pool our resources with other Lutherans to be able to make seminaries, send missionaries, and have a greater influence than we could alone. If I called the governor, I don’t think anyone would answer, but our bishop (representing many churches) can make that type of phone call. Through this combination, we are able to reach more of the world in Christ’s name.



Every year we gather as a synod to make decisions, and every three years we gather as an assembly of the entire Churchwide to make decisions. (It is very similar to the structure between cities, states, and national governments). Now, I am not just giving you a lesson on ecclesiology—you see every once in a while the ELCA (the national churchwide) will send out a study or proposals for all the ELCA to pray on, think about, and respond to. In this case the 2022 Churchwide assembly voted to reconsider* a small part of the 2009 social statement: “Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust.” Wait, breathe—remember we are church here in Delano and this means that we will continue to pray, worship and affirm just as we have always done. This is not about the position we have taken, but what is done at the churchwide level. Also, a motion to reconsider does not mean anything will change, just that we should look at it again because one part of that in particular social statement stated we would continue to talk about our differences of opinion and pray about them until the Spirit would lead us into further truth. The specific part of the document that is in question is the four positions to which people in the church had bound consciences.

Is this a time, some seventeen years after adopting it, that we believe the church's position has been clarified? Or should we leave this reference to the bound conscience alone for now until the church can reach greater wisdom on the subject?

In seeking God’s will for the church, they have put out a new study document—*Conscience and Conversation: A study during the reconsideration of the social statement, “Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust.”* It is a look at what the church has done and where it is going on a national level. It also gives us an opportunity to look at, pray about, and affect where we will be going in national policy.

The study is not about sexuality primarily, but rather focuses on how we work as church when we disagree on fundamental issues and deals with the idea of bound conscience. I am hoping many of us can join for this discussion on Tuesday evenings this summer. Specifically, it will be at **7:00 PM on July 28th, August 11th, 18th, and 25th**. [Please sign up at this link](#) or contact the church office. We would ask you to make all the sessions but if you had to miss one, that would be acceptable. If you would have to miss more than one talk to me and I will see what can be done. If there are more people who will not be able to attend all sessions, I will make time for another round of them in September. This document does not change anything about Human Sexuality gift and trust—if there are changes to that document they will be proposed in 2027 and not voted until 2028 at the churchwide convention.

Thanks for all you do here in Delano, and if you feel called to be a part of the church's greater discernment, please join me on Tuesdays to talk about how we disagree, lovingly as a church.

Blessings,

Pastor Tim



San Diego High School Mission Trip Prayer Partners

Each summer we ask our congregation family to pray for

our mission trip participants as we prepare and then also while we are on our trip. We give each prayer partner an itinerary so that they know what we're up to each day and then encourage them to attend our return worship service after the trip (which is on **July 26th** this year). This summer we are looking for 43 people who will commit to praying for our HS youth and adults as we head to San Diego to serve, grow and learn from **July 19th-24th**. [Click here to complete the short form](#) to indicate your interest. Thanks for your partnership in ministry!



Do You Like to Play Board Games?

Join Pastor Tim again this summer for game nights on **Wednesdays**,

July 29 and August 19 from 6:00-8:00 PM in the fellowship hall! He will bring a selection of his games, or you are welcome to bring your own. All ages are welcome!

The church office will be closed on Monday, July 20th.



Worship with Confirmation Faith Statements

Over the summer, the upcoming 10th grade confirmands will be giving their faith statements. Those worship services are:

- Wednesday, August 12 at 6:30 PM
- Sunday, August 16 at 9:30 AM
- Sunday, September 20 at 9:30 AM

Please attend or watch online to support these youth sharing their faith!

2027 Offering Envelopes



A growing number of members contribute weekly or monthly using electronic giving methods. However, we understand that many prefer placing an offering envelope in the plate. 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 14th**. Either email [Terri in the church office](#) or call 763-972-2400. This "OPT IN" method will greatly benefit the office supplies budget. Thank you!

If you've already been receiving pre-printed envelopes each year, you will remain on the list until you request otherwise.

Neighbors in Need: Help Us Meet a Growing Need



Each month, Light of Christ partners with local immigrant aid ministries to provide simple but life-giving bags of rice and beans for families experiencing food insecurity. Last month, every package we prepared was gratefully distributed—but the need was even greater. More than **40 additional households** were still waiting for assistance after our supply was exhausted.

Together, we can help change that.

We invite you to bring **bags of rice, dried beans, and bottles of vegetable or cooking oil**, one of the items our ministry partners say is most urgently needed. With your generosity, we hope to significantly increase the number of families we can serve.

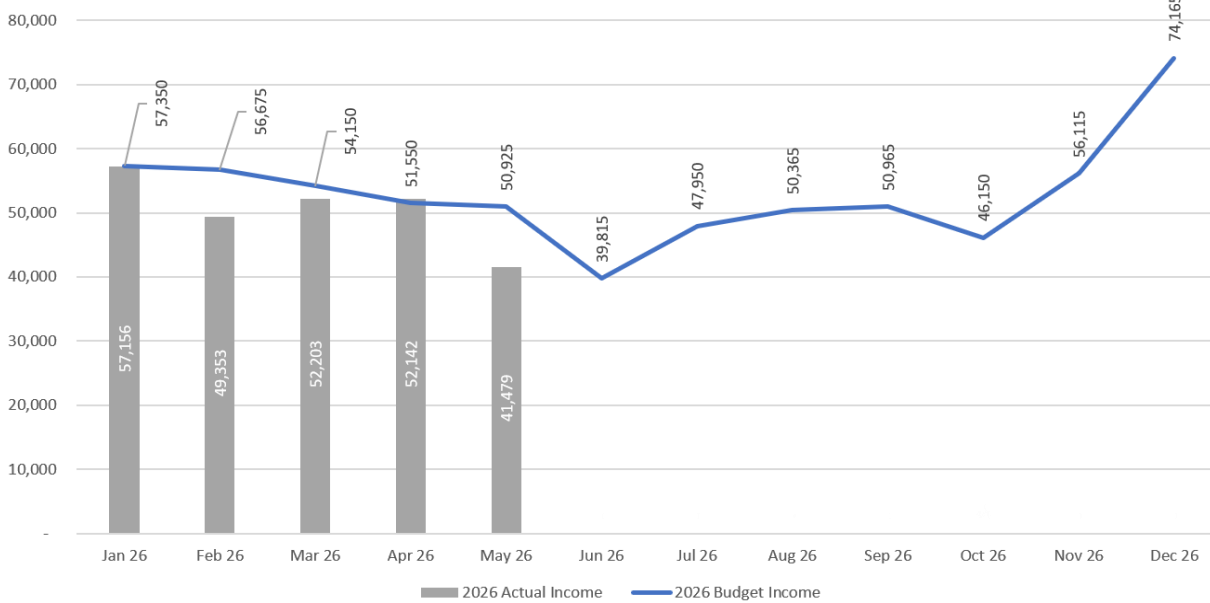
As Scripture reminds us:

"Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality." Romans 12:13

Thank you for helping our neighbors experience Christ's love in practical, compassionate ways.

LOC Monthly Income - Actual versus Budget

2026 Income - Budget vs Actual



YTD Summary May 2026

- YTD Budget \$270,650
- YTD Actual \$252,334
- Year to Date Actual is **\$18,316** below budget

An Invitation to Continue

We invite you to continue growing in generosity. Every gift—whether regular, increased, or above and beyond—is received with deep gratitude and makes a lasting impact.



The Generous Life: Six Practices that Shape Our Faith



The Generous Life: *Be Intentional*

At Light of Christ, we believe generosity is not just something we do—it's part of who we are becoming in Christ. Throughout this series, we're exploring **six practices that shape a life of generosity**.

We begin with this: **Be Intentional**.

Generosity rarely happens by accident. It grows when we pause, reflect, and choose it.

In Scripture, generosity is always connected to the heart—our priorities, our trust, and our awareness of God's work. Being intentional means we don't leave giving to chance or convenience. Instead, we take time to prayerfully consider: *How is God inviting me to live generously?*

What this looks like in everyday life:

Someone sets aside time—perhaps at the start of a new year or a new chapter in life—to think about their giving. They reflect on God's blessings, the church's mission, and their own role in it. No longer giving through "happenstance." They make a plan, not out of pressure, but out of purpose. Intentional generosity is the first step toward a deeper, more meaningful life of faith.

"Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." – Matthew 6:21

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

The GIVING CORNER



Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) from an IRA

If you are age 70½ or older and you give to charity each year, a Qualified Charitable Distribution, or QCD, can be a really clean way to do it. A QCD is a direct gift from your IRA to an eligible public charity. Because the money goes straight from the IRA to the charity, it can be excluded from your taxable income, which is often more valuable than taking a deduction, especially if you use the standard deduction. QCDs can also count toward required minimum distributions for those who have them, which helps some families give without increasing their reported income. The key is that it must be done as a direct transfer and it must go to a qualifying public charity, not a donor advised fund or private foundation. A quick check with a tax professional can confirm whether this fits your situation.

Article Submitted by Brad L. Spencer, CPWA®

COMMUNITY EVENTS

DELANO DRAMATIC COMPANY PROUDLY PRESENTS...

DISNEY'S
NEWSIES

Music by: ALAN MENKEN, Lyrics by: JACK FELDMAN, Book by: HARVEY FIERSTEIN
Based on the Disney Film written by Bob Tzudiker and Noni White



Delano Performing Arts Center
Fridays & Saturdays: July 17, 18, 24 & 25 at 7 PM
Sundays: July 19 & 26 at 2 PM



ASL interpreted performance July 26 2 pm
https://buy.tickettothecity.com/venue.php?org_id=717

Newsies is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI, 425 West 58th Street, New York, NY 10019

Free Outdoor Concert

Roe Family Singers
August 13th 6-7:30PM

Bring Your Family & A Chair
Snacks and Drinks for Purchase

2019 Entertainers of the Year, Best Band, and Best Band Overall, BMAI
2018 Entertainers of the Year AND Album of the Year, BMAI
2017 Jig-dance Competition Winner Old-Time Music & Ozark Heritage Festival, Kim Roe
2016 Entertainers of the Year, BMAI
2012 MBOTMA Duet Competition Winners

**The
ROE
FAMILY
SINGERS**



Delano United Methodist Church
3310 County Line Road