



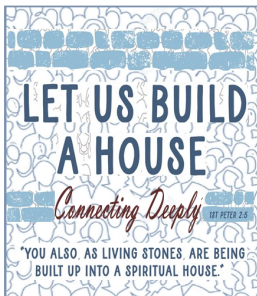
## Worship

- 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  
3976 County Line Road SE  
Delano, MN 55328  
(763) 972-2400



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



NourishingHOPE

## Free Fresh Produce and Dairy

**Monday, May 11th**  
**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](http://www.ourfatherschurch.org/nourishing-hope.html)

## You Make This Ministry Possible

Thanks to your ongoing support, our **monthly Food Distribution Ministry** reaches about **90 individuals and families**—providing produce, dairy, and essentials, all wrapped in care and prayer.

*"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others..."* — 1 Peter 4:10

It's one more way that **Together We Thrive**—serving others with our **time, talents, and treasures**:

- **9:45 AM at Our Father's Lutheran** – Pack hundreds of boxes. Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-food>

- **3:30 PM at Light of Christ** – Unload and distribute food right here. Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-food1>

Stick around to **pray over our neighbors' requests**, offered with faith and hope. This ministry—and many others—are sustained by your **generosity and engagement**. Thank you for helping our community thrive in Christ!



## Caring Corner

(from Rachel Boyack of the Healing & Wholeness Committee)

As we enter the month of May, we join a national effort to observe Mental Health Month—a time dedicated to raising awareness, reducing stigma, and supporting the well-being of our community. This year, we are focusing on the idea that "more good days are possible," a sentiment that deeply aligns with our faith and the hope we find in fellowship.



The Mental Health America "Month of More Good Days" calendar offers a daily guide to reflecting on what wellness looks like in our own lives. It invites us to consider that a "good day" doesn't always mean a day filled with high energy or constant productivity. For many, a good day is simply one that feels calm, manageable, or grounded. In our spiritual life, we often find that peace isn't the absence of struggle, but the presence of grace within it.

Only you can define what a "good day" means for you right now, and that definition may shift from one season of life to the next. Whatever you are walking through, this calendar serves as a reminder that you are not alone, help is always available, and there is space in our church family for every kind of day. We hope these daily reflections help you find moments of stillness and strength throughout the month of May. Here is a link to the calendar in a list format with links: <https://mhanational.org/a-month-of-more-good-days-together/>



### Neighbors in Need Ministry - *Walking the Way of the Good Samaritan*

You may have heard a brief introduction this past Sunday—now we invite you to take a first step.

**Neighbors in Need** is a new ministry at Light of Christ focused on offering care, support, and a sense of safety for vulnerable neighbors—especially immigrant families—as we walk alongside them in compassion and faith. To begin, we're collecting:

- ◇ dry pinto beans
- ◇ dry black beans
- ◇ white or long-grain rice

**Collection runs through May 17<sup>th</sup>**, with packing after worship. If possible, we encourage purchasing from **local Hispanic/Latino grocery stores** as a way to support our broader community. We'll also host a **brief informational gathering on May 17<sup>th</sup>** with speaker Pat Rosales from Wright County Immigrant Aid for those who'd like to learn more or get involved. You may also give financially to **Wright County Immigrant Aid**.

Thank you for helping us take these first steps—together—as we walk the way of the Good Samaritan.

For more information, feel free to reach out to: Katie Kohler, Jennifer Grant, Jo Marie Williamson, Pastor Tim or Tim Johnson.

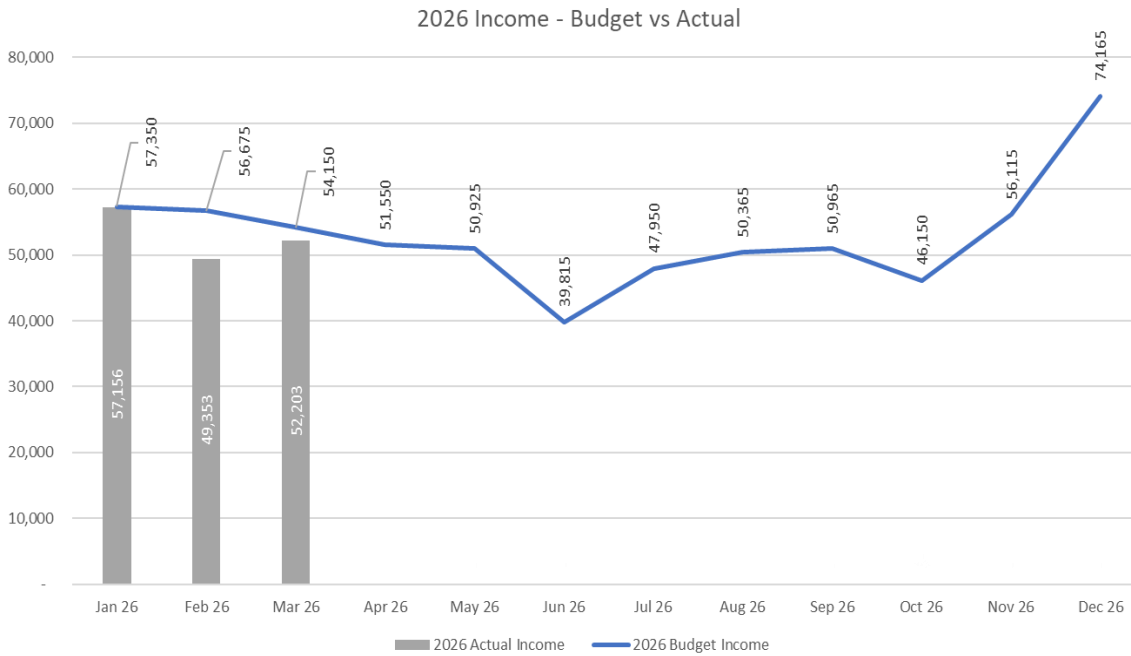
[Click here to view a thank you letter](#) from WCIA.



### Fifth Sunday Donations in May

Our Fifth Sunday contributions this May will be for our LOC Birthday Ministry. Several Light of Christ member volunteers work in collaboration with the Delano Love INC chapter to provide birthday gifts and supplies for children ages 10 and under throughout the year. Families in need are selected by Love INC. LOC volunteers each month receive a list of eligible children and purchase birthday gifts as well as birthday supplies for these children/families. Light of Christ totally funds the cost of this program and there is no cost to the recipient families. We so appreciate your financial contributions for this monthly effort for these young children. Your efforts will help make wonderful birthdays for these special young kids in need and bring them a bright star on their special day. To contribute, mark your check or envelope with "Fifth Sunday" or use the "May Fifth Sunday Offering" tile on our [Give](#) page. **Thank you so much for your generous contribution!**

## LOC Monthly Income - Actual versus Budget



### YTD Summary March 2026

- YTD Budget \$168,175
- YTD Actual \$158,712
- Year to Date Actual is **\$9,463** 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: *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*

#### "Bunching" multiple years of gifts into one tax year

With today's higher standard deduction, some households do not itemize every year, which can make their giving feel less tax efficient. One planning idea is "bunching." Instead of giving the same amount annually, you combine several years of intended gifts into a single year so that you are more likely to itemize and fully benefit from deductions that year. In the years in-between, you can still give, but you do it from a donor advised fund that you funded during the bunching year. This approach can keep your church and favorite charities supported on a steady schedule while you focus the tax deduction into the year it matters most. It is not right for everyone, but it is worth considering if your deductions hover near the itemizing threshold.

*Article Submitted by Brad L. Spencer, CPWA®*

## Capital Appeal Update: Building for Today—and Tomorrow

Because of your generosity, we continue to see meaningful progress through our capital appeal, “*Let Us Build a House...Where Love Can Grow.*” Thank you. Truly.

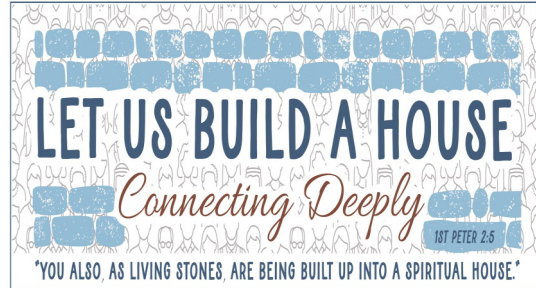
Your gifts are not just numbers on a page—they are already making a difference in the life of our church and the ministry we share.

### Where We Stand

- **Total Amount Pledged:** \$232,130
- **Total Received to Date:** \$189,709
- **Pledged but Not Yet Given:** \$52,841
- **Total Expected:** \$242,550

After our 10% tithe commitment, we have:

**Capital Funds Available:** \$218,295



### What Has Been Accomplished

Thanks to your support, several important projects have already been completed:

- Steeple repairs
- Security upgrades
- New cameras
- Sound board improvements

**Total invested in completed projects:** \$45,548

These upgrades strengthen both the safety and the quality of our worship and ministry life together.

### Next Major Step: The Parking Lot

Our next priority is the **parking lot replacement**, a project that affects every person who comes onto our campus.

- **Funds Available for Parking Lot:** \$172,747
- **Parking Lot Bid:** \$173,100
- **Current Shortfall:** \$353 But we anticipate some increase due to current rise in prices.

We are essentially *there*—a remarkable testament to your generosity.

### Looking Ahead

At the same time, we are mindful that our work is not finished.

In the months ahead, our **Building Committee will reconvene** to explore additional improvements that have surfaced through conversation and shared vision, including:

- Expanding the hallway outside the sanctuary
- Updating and improving bathrooms
- Maximizing Fellowship Hall space
- Enhancing and updating the kitchen
- Creating a welcoming coffee bar gathering space

These are not simply “building projects.” They are opportunities to create spaces that foster **connection, hospitality, and ministry impact.**

### An Invitation to Continue

If you have already given—thank you. Your generosity is shaping our shared future.

If you have a remaining pledge, we encourage you to continue fulfilling it as you are able.

And if you have not yet participated, or feel called to do more, we invite you to consider a gift to help us:

- Fully complete the parking lot project
- Begin preparing for the next phase of improvements

Together, we are not just maintaining a building—we are strengthening a place where faith is nurtured, relationships are built, and lives are touched. **Thank you for being part of this work.**

## The HOOT Newsletter for May



Well, HOOT! Spring has sprung and we are finding our wings, venturing out and about for lots of activities. So, we are winding down our OWLS events for the summer with one last adventure!

On Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> we'll meet at LOC at 11:15 to carpool to the Red Rooster in Long Lake for lunch, followed by a round of mini golf at Big Stone Mini Golf in Minnetrista. It's a very unique and artsy course which all enjoyed a couple of years ago. Remember to bring "cash only" for the golf course. Sign up with Sue via email so we have numbers for reservations.

Please put Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 PM on your calendars. The Columbarium Board is hosting the LOC End of Life Planning Seminar with professionals Andrea Karels, Preplanning Funeral Director, and Jessica Larson and Lindsey Oldre, Edward Jones financial advisors as they share information and the importance of preplanning and discussing your wishes and plans with your loved ones. Last year, the OWLS hosted this event with over 40 in attendance! Many of us have since updated our wills and completed advanced directives, and looked anew at managing our estates for family and tax benefits. Come for a repeat session, or if you missed it, now is your chance! Bring your friends. Being prepared is such a gift to your loved ones.

### North Star Boys' Choir Concert Thursday, May 14, 6:30 PM at Light of Christ Lutheran Church

A free will donation will be collected to support the boys' European tour in June.

The North Star Boys' Choir has its home in Maple Grove, Minnesota. It was founded in 2011 and has its roots in the European Boys' Choir tradition. The Artistic Director is Francis Stockwell.

The choirs are trained in the celebrated Viennese technique which creates a brilliant and rich sound. The North Star Boys' Choir is made up of four different choirs: **Music Magic** (boys 5-7), **Cadet Choir** (boys in training (8-12), **Viking Choir** (experienced choirboys, 10-14, tours nationally and internationally), **Kantorei** (boys with changed voices).

The Viking Choir is the concert choir. Their repertoire embraces works of the great masters, Spirituals, folk songs and Barbershop.



### Sisters of LOC May Event

Please join the Sisters of LOC for this fun night out on **Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>** from **6:00-8:00 PM** at the Nature Nook in Delano. We will build a terrarium and enjoy fellowship together. A glass of wine is included in the price. Sign up at this link: <https://pay.naturenookcafe.com/e2f8b1d6-7f77-44bc-a195-db5> Bring a friend! If you have any questions, text or email Jennifer Grant at 612.226.8181 or [jpconnection.jg@gmail.com](mailto:jpconnection.jg@gmail.com)

## LOC End of Life Planning Seminar – June 1, 2026 – 6:30 PM

Light of Christ is pleased to offer an opportunity to listen and learn from Andrea Karels, Pre-planning Funeral Director; Jessica Larson, CRPC Edward Jones – Delano; and Lindsey Oldre, Financial

End of Life  
Planning



Advisor Edward Jones – Delano. These three professionals will share their expertise regarding multiple tools to make End of Life planning with your family a more informed discussion. The session will include multiple facets on estate planning tips, financial considerations and fraud awareness and prevention. Also included will be information on memorial preferences and consideration of a final resting spot.

Pre-planning for End of Life is often a discussion you choose to avoid. But importantly it is a discussion that can allow parents to express their wishes with their children. It can allow family members the opportunity to assist parents in making decisions they might find uncomfortable and awkward. It minimizes the stress and anxiety in making these decisions at the difficult time of a loved one's passing.

This is a discussion and topic impactful for every person – we encourage all members to attend on **Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 PM** and bring a friend or neighbor with you. It will be a beneficial discussion for everyone!

## Help Needed

Learn what's involved in caring for our church and get to know staff by volunteering for **1 hour, two days a week every 5-6 weeks**. Duties involve emptying waste-baskets, filling towel dispensers, and vacuuming the office entryway as needed. We welcome men or women with availability on Monday and Wednesday mornings. Contact Terri in the office if interested.



## Women's Bible Study

The women's Bible study meets **the first and third Mondays of the month, 6:30–8:00 PM at LOC**. We will meet through June. We are studying the book *Even Better than Eden* by Nancy Guthrie. More information can be found on flyers in the narthex. For more information, please email Lindsay Lindall at [lindsay.lindall@gmail.com](mailto:lindsay.lindall@gmail.com).



## Discussion Group for Moms of Pre-Teens/Teens

Join us on **Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup> from 8:15-9:45 AM** (right after school drop-off) to meet with some other moms for a time of connection. We'd love to have you join us for this casual group that gets together to talk about faith, life, and parenting.



## Thursday Night Bible Study

All are welcome to join us for our study of the Gospel of John on **Thursdays at 7:00-8:30 PM**. If you have any questions, feel free to call Gina Nee at 651-353-2277. Great for beginners or anyone simply hungry to discover more about God and to grow in one's faith. Also, a wonderful way to get to know a few other folks!



## Lost & Found Items—Last Chance!

Missing something? Our Lost & Found bins are overflowing with a variety of items. Please stop by the table in the narthex and see if any of these items belong to you or your child. All unclaimed items will be donated to Love INC in the next week or two.



# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS

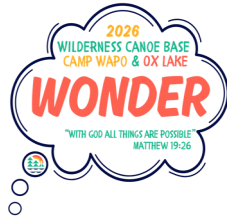


Voyagers and Pathfinders cleaned up the Litfin Nature Area, the ball fields at Central Park, the berm by the parking lot and spread out mulch on the playground. We have some hard working children, that help make Delano a better place. It was a very successful Service Project.



## Summer Camp at Wapo

Register now for summer camp at Wapo! Below are the dates LOC is planning to be there but you can register for *any* Wapo camp or Week. **LOC Weeks:**



**Wapo Youth (Gr 4-9)**  
June 21-26, 2026

**Wapo Youth (Gr 4-9)** July 26-31, 2026

**Wapo One Day (K-2)** June 24, 2026

**Wapo Seeds (Gr 1-4)** June 19-21, 2026



Here is our church-specific registration link to ensure you register for the correct week and program: <http://lwlbc.com/loc-delano>. Please reach out with any questions!

## Voyager and Pathfinder

You're Invited!

### Family Potluck Party

Including New Voyagers for 2026/27

Wednesday, May 13 2026

3:30 PM - 5 PM

Weather permitted  
**OUTDOORS**

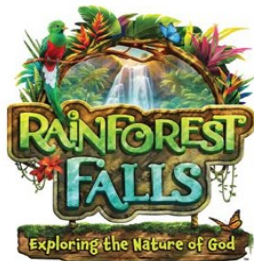
Light Of Christ Lutheran Church

Bring a finger food dish to share! Come and celebrate all kids moving up and welcome our new Voyagers and Pathfinders. Information of changes for the upcoming year will be shared. Play games and make lasting memories together with your child.



## An adventure you'll fall for!

I hope to spot you here!



New friends 🌿 Amazing experiments 🌿 Creative games  
Super-fun snacks 🌿 Surprising adventures 🌿 Incredible music

### Light of Christ Lutheran Church

Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>

**Sunday: 4:30PM – 7:15PM**

**Monday–Wednesday: 5:00PM – 7:15PM**

Register online:

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



## Confirmation Calendar

⇒ **Wednesday, 5/13**—Intro to Confirmation (current 6th graders and parents) 5:00 PM; Final night of Confirmation (at LOC, 6:15-8:00 PM)

