



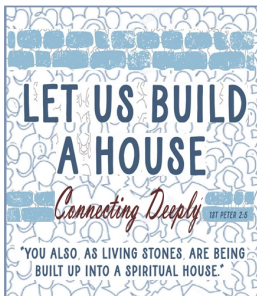
Worship

- 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
Terri.Reuter@locdelano.com



Free Fresh Produce and Dairy

Monday, September 14th
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

Serving Our Neighbors in Need — Together

Thank you for supporting our **Food Distribution Ministry**! Every month, about **100 neighbors** receive fresh produce, dairy, and other essentials through this vital outreach. Light of Christ is proud to partner with **five other churches** in our region to care for those in need.

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." — Matthew 25:40

Our next food distribution is on **Monday, September 14**. Please see sign-up links below.

- ◇ **Food Boxing (9:30 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>
- ◇ **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. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-63814208-food>
- ◇ **Food Distribution (gather at 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!

Caring Corner

(from Sue Fink of the Healing & Wholeness Committee)

Resources for Suicide Prevention



Another year has passed and once again it is National Suicide Prevention Month. Levels of suicide deaths have gradually increased over the past 20 years with a peak during the Covid isolation. This month we raise awareness and opportunities for education to help and support loved ones in the midst of depression and suicidal thoughts. *Hope is the antidote to suicide*. Connectedness brings hope for those who are depressed and lonely, which is a priority goal of LOC's Healing and Wholeness Ministry.

September often increases stress with new starts, full schedules, feeling overwhelmed. Please read articles published about stress, anxiety, and depression on the [Mental Health tab of the LOC website](#) (under *Support/Mental Health/Education*). We encourage open and hard conversations with friends and family when mental health struggles get in the way of living the lives we hoped for. Talking about suicide will not put the idea into someone's mind, but instead gives them the opening to talk and lets them know you are concerned. When you become aware of someone's suffering, there are many ways to support them and help them get the help needed to prevent suicide.

If you are concerned about yourself or someone else, know that you are not alone.

If the person is in imminent danger call 911 and request mental health crisis intervention.

Call or text 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: The number has trained staff to answer calls from individuals at risk for suicide as well as those experiencing other mental health and substance use-related emergencies. Specialized services are available for veterans, LGBTQ+ individuals, and other groups.

Call your county mental health crisis number:

Adults -

- Carver-Chaska 952-442-7601
- Hennepin-Minneapolis 612-596-1223
- Wright-Buffalo 800-635-8008

Children under 18 -

- Carver-Chaska 952-442-7601
- Hennepin-Minneapolis 612-596-1223
- Wright-Buffalo 800-635-8008

The Trevor Project Lifeline (suicide prevention for LGBTQ youth): 1-866-488-7386

Minnesota Warmline- Mental Health Minnesota 651-288-0400 – Provides a peer-to-peer approach to mental health recovery, support and wellness. Connect with people who are here to listen 7 days a week; call 9AM to 9pm or text "Support" to **85511**. Online chat is available on their website: mentalhealthmn.org.

Support Resources: see lightofchristlutheran.com/support/mental_health under *Resources*



Food Shelf Need

Do you have extra bags lying around your house? If you do, we can use them at the Food Shelf. We are looking for paper bags, plastic bags or reusable bags. If you have any to donate, please leave them in the cupboards by the kitchen.

The HOOT Newsletter for September 2026



WHOO-HOO! Fall is in the air and time for the OWLS (*Older Wiser Lutherans*) to gather again for lots of fun, food, and fellowship!! Please give our group a try if you haven't joined us in past years. We typically meet monthly on the third Thursday afternoon in the Living Room at Light of Christ (unless otherwise

planned). Watch for information in the bulletin and Beacon. Talk to Sue Fink, Lona Jose, LaDonna and Jewel Ekern, or Laurie Grimm for information and to share your contact info.

We're going to kick off our year with a **Potluck BBQ at the Fink's on Thursday, September 17th at noon**. The grill will be going with brats, chicken, and burger sandwiches. Please sign up so we know how many to expect and what you'd like to bring: sides, salads, beverages, desserts. We will plan some fun outdoor games to play or watch. This will be rain or shine as we will gather in the barn. Bring a friend or two or three! And a chair.

LaDonna is excited to bring back a fantastic **Halloween party on October 29th**, so start thinking of prize-winning costumes and spooky recipes.

Also on the books is our annual **Christmas potluck and white elephant gift exchange on December 17th**. Fall cleaning is a great time to search for just the right item to wrap up (hee-hee).

Bible study will resume in October to finish up the last 4 lessons of "Old Testament Characters". The stories of Daniel, Esther, David, and Moses will show us how God has used these people toward His purpose through their failures and successes and how we can relate these to our own lives today. We meet after service on Sundays. Stay tuned for specific dates as we coordinate with the other church events for fall. Talk to Sue Fink if you have ideas for a winter study! New folks are always welcome!

Finally, the **LOC-O-Motion Coffee and Cleaning Crew continues to meet the second Friday monthly at 9:30 AM**. Many thanks to Cheri Ashfeld, Cheryl and Don Collins, Lona Jose, Randy Hemmer, Oda Carlson, Bill and Sue Fink, our August cleaners. The pews were vacuumed, the carpet in front of sanctuary was shampooed, the nursery was cleaned and organized, white boards washed, east hallway and storage rooms tidied and vacuumed. Please join us as we keep God's house welcoming for all.



WHAT'S YOUR NEXT STEP?

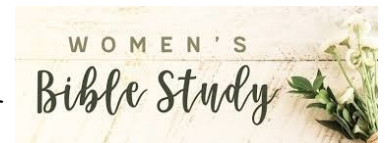
Beginning **Sunday, September 20**, Light of Christ will launch **Taking the Next Step**, our fall stewardship initiative.

Over several weeks, we'll be invited to reflect on where we are in our journeys of faith—and where God may be calling us next. Through worship, personal stories, practical invitations, and special mailings, we'll explore meaningful next steps in our spiritual lives, our service to others, and our generosity.

Something hopeful and exciting is coming! Be sure to join us in worship beginning September 20, and watch your mailbox for more information.

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.

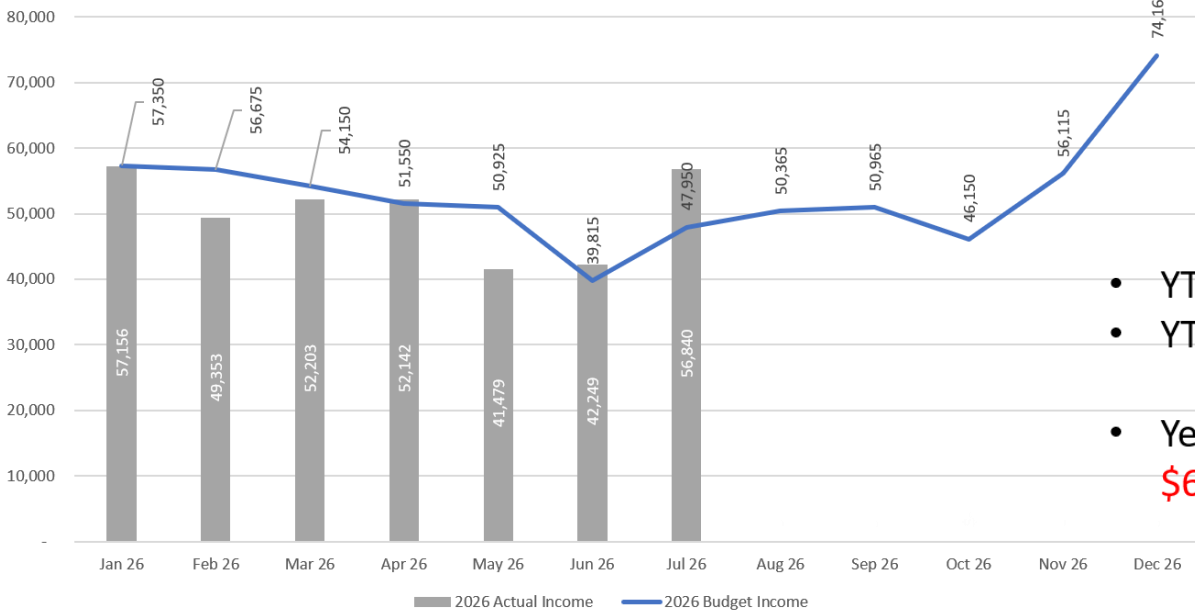
The Bible study we will be doing is *Prayer: An Adventure with God from Life Guide Bible Studies*.

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

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



Grateful & Grounded

We give thanks for your faithful generosity. Your giving is not simply financial—it is a reflection of your faith and a vital part of how Christ's mission is lived out through Light of Christ.

Story Corner

We see the power of stories in Scripture, but not all stories are ancient or limited to biblical characters. We have story-worthy encounters as we live out our faith daily. *Story Corner* is a new feature in the Beacon and is an effort to help us become more comfortable communicating/sharing our faith and will feature periodic stories contributed by members. Compiling a story will not only allow you to share with others, it will also help you grow as you organize your thoughts and put pen to paper. Please contact Paul Nelson (pnnelspa@gmail.com) or Pastor Tim if you have a story to share. We are shooting for a handful of 200- to 300-word stories annually.



Giving and Receiving

By Paul Nelson

I retired six years ago after over 30 years as a water resources scientist. I had plans to stay involved and keep connected, but COVID happened and the volunteer opportunities I'd lined up dried up, leaving me adrift.

COVID isolation relaxed over time, but I lacked the motivation to reengage. Eventually, however, I volunteered for Kids Hope and ended up mentoring a second grader. I was nervous on my first day, not sure what to do with my kiddo. They admitted they were also nervous. Their teacher, trying to let them know a bit about me, told them I was a scientist, sparking lots of questions. Before I knew it, the first session was over, with both of us more relaxed.

Over the next few weeks, we got to know each other, laughing while trying to break the other's paper airplane flight distance and developing our own chaotic rules for UNO. But what we dove into was illustrating and writing a 'book' on dinosaurs. I'd sketch the scenes, the tyrannosauruses, and velociraptors, and they'd color them and add text naming and describing each dinosaur.

We'd completed about 10 pages when I said, "Wow, this looks pretty good." My kiddo responded, "Yeah, that's cause we're scientists," giving me just what I needed.

FMSC Service Event on September 16

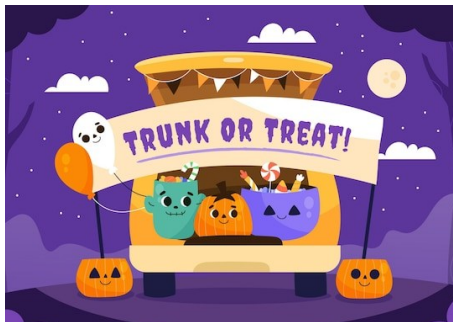
Confirmation youth and adults will be going to pack meals at Feed My Starving Children in Chanhassen on Wednesday, **September 16th from 7:15-8:45 PM**. We will meet at LOC at 6:15 PM for carpooling and return to LOC around 9:30 PM. **We welcome other adults and HS youth to join us** and we also encourage you to make a donation to FMSC if you can help fund the meals we'll pack! Confirmation youth are expected to attend and we need adults to drive (as well as a 1:4 adult to youth ratio at FMSC). **Anyone attending is asked to [sign up HERE](#)** so Kirsten can plan (carpools, etc). If you have questions, please email Kirsten at Kirsten.Kelly@locdelano.com. If you'd like to make a donation, please go to [FMSC.org](https://www.fmsc.org). Thank you for supporting our youth and the mission of FMSC... "Until ALL are fed!"



Confirmation at Feed My Starving Children

Save the date!

Trunk or Treat—Friday, October 30, 4:30-6:30 PM in the church parking lot. Watch for more details to come!



Fall Confirmation Retreat

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).

Complete: the short form at this link from Camp Wapo: <https://events.circuitree.com/campwapo/Group/?itinID=nlGwpzAly94%253D>

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!



September Birthdays

Mary	Wheatley	September 01
Tyler	Mielke	September 01
Grant	Horeis	September 01
Finnegan	Brown	September 01
Kristin	Lemmerman	September 02
Donald	Palan	September 02
Mary	Allen	September 02
Mad	Knisley	September 02
Jemma	Linder	September 02
Gary	Prinsen	September 03
Nathan	Schultz	September 03
Matt	Nohner	September 03
Darius	Clare	September 03
Abby	Trettin	September 03
Val	Donahue	September 04
Rick	Hines	September 04
Chris	Gross	September 04
Mackenzie	Motzko	September 04
William	Nohner	September 04
Paige	Froehle	September 05
Michaela	Todd	September 06
Rowan	Johnson	September 06
Lynsey	Reiffenberger	September 07
Abigail	Olson	September 07
Valerie	Nee	September 07
Stephanie	Larison	September 07
Landon	Hiltner	September 07
Len	Beilke	September 08
Aaron	Amdor	September 08
Eric	Palan	September 08
Palmer	Mullen	September 08
Brandon	Haugen	September 09
Alex	Ihde	September 09
Josiah	Wheatley	September 09
Steve	Freese	September 10
Lisa	Boecker	September 10
Heidi	Wuerger	September 10
Marcus	Hanson	September 10
Stephanie	Almquist	September 10
Caden	Jeseritz	September 10
Vicki	Noetzelman	September 11
Lori	Skogman	September 11
Noah	Lundstedt	September 12
Diane	Beilke	September 13
Jon	Wissink	September 13

The Community Life Committee wants to celebrate your birthdays!
Next Sunday, September 20th after 9:30 AM worship, we will have birthday treats to celebrate September, October, and November birthdays! We celebrate birthdays quarterly so everyone's birthday will be acknowledged. Don't forget to wish someone a Happy Birthday this quarter!

For those celebrating, may blessings be upon you and let faith guide your heart all year. We hope your birthday is one of joy, peace, & love.



Joey	Bitterman	September 13
Harlan	Grimm	September 15
Kevin	Olson	September 15
Rachel	Kopperud	September 16
Marshall	Thorstad	September 16
Stacy	VanCura	September 17
Zachary	Fink	September 17
Emmy	Kolleck	September 17
Brooks	Janike	September 17
Maxwell	Schmit	September 18
Nolan	Thorstad	September 18
Kendall	Geistfeld	September 18
Matt	Coyle	September 19
Jessica	Linder	September 19
Grace	Caple	September 19
Flo	Shrode	September 20
Colette	Wamre	September 20
Abby	Bauman	September 20
Emi	Bidle	September 20
Lauren	Kryan	September 20
Wendy	Meyer	September 21
Evan	Amdor	September 21
Kinslee	Gross	September 22
Noa	Hatfield	September 22
Everley	Prickett	September 22
Tiffany	Allison	September 23
Amber	Eichten	September 23
Maia	Nee	September 23
Charlotte	Olson	September 23
Jason	Thompson	September 24
Philip	Radermacher	September 26
Devin	Russell	September 26
Brennen	Meyer	September 26
Lona	Jose	September 27
Adam	Kopperud	September 27
Carter	Peterson	September 27
Greg	Krause	September 28
Rosie	Hum	September 28
Jana	Geistfeld	September 28
Becky	Coyle	September 29
Daxton	Custer	September 29
Lula	Adamek	September 29
Crystal	Stahlke	September 30
Jameson	Geistfeld	September 30
Mya	Motzko	September 30

October Birthdays



Taylor	Berscheid	October 01	Waverly	Sjulstad	October 16
Elijas	Lundstedt	October 01	John	Behnke	October 16
Maybelle	Jerke	October 01	Gwenyth	Beck	October 16
Arlo	Hiltner	October 02	Dylan	Thompson	October 17
Nora	Lindall	October 02	Eric	Anderson	October 18
Douglas	Laddusaw	October 03	Jack	Prinsen	October 18
Jordan	Spencer	October 03	Karly	Schmidt	October 18
Aksel	Caslavka	October 03	Brad	Wyninger	October 19
Lesley	Berscheid	October 04	Michelle	Bunker	October 20
Eric	Parpart	October 04	Dale	Russenberger	October 20
Douglas	Schuette	October 04	Maggie	Thompson	October 20
Aaron	Sievers	October 04	Maya	Carson	October 21
Jamey	Boecker	October 05	Rick	Zabel	October 21
Dennis	Lohmann	October 05	Reagan	Sjulstad	October 21
Matthew	Motzko	October 05	Addison	Dallmann	October 21
Vince	Pavik	October 07	Ailsa	Boyack	October 22
Lydia	Sievers	October 08	Megan	Dallmann	October 23
Heidi	Hiltner	October 09	Jessica	Holmer	October 23
Carrie	Quamen	October 09	Scott	Rundle	October 23
Briggs	Weldon	October 09	Erin	Olson	October 24
Steven	Brown	October 10	Mary	Johnson	October 25
Tim	Johnson	October 10	Jeremy	Prickett	October 25
Jack	Magner	October 10	Lisa	Spencer	October 25
Tyra	Lansing	October 10	Deb	Schantzen	October 26
Miles	Eichten	October 11	Hailey	Ness	October 27
Ashley	Savage	October 11	Kaitlyn	Jerke	October 27
Casey	Schmidt	October 11	Erin	Johnson	October 28
Casey	Carson	October 11	Mariah	Todd	October 29
Sarah	Bersie	October 12	Kurt	Truax	October 29
Jen	Peterson	October 14	Laci	Custer	October 29
Isaac	Nielsen	October 14	Carol	Heyen	October 30
Bradley	Czock	October 15	Liam	Olson	October 30
Sydney	Imamura	October 15	Janice	Styve	October 30
Anna	Krause	October 15	KellyAnn	Lockrem	October 30
Samantha	Tool	October 15	Brannon	Imamura	October 31
Kirk	Reierson	October 16	Max	Lotzer	October 31



November Birthdays



Mike	Ingebrigtsen	November 01	Sarah	Ness	November 17
Liam	Dornfeld	November 02	Kylee	Amdor	November 18
Emme	Savage	November 03	Greg	Bersie	November 18
Kristine	Lotzer	November 04	Kali	Larson	November 18
Brittany	Hartnett	November 04	Jessica	Motzko	November 19
Grace	Horeis	November 04	Megan	Behnke	November 19
Eva	Nohner	November 05	Ava	Reierson	November 20
Curt	Reuter	November 05	Sarah	Gierke	November 21
Rachel	Boyack	November 06	Tim	Current	November 22
Derek	Spencer	November 06	Lydia	Gierke	November 22
Heidi	Goldbeck	November 07	Bryce	Stahlke	November 22
Braelyn	Ludwig	November 07	Charlene	Warne	November 22
Greg	Ulberg	November 07	Kent	Wischmann	November 22
Dominique	Clare	November 08	Catherine	Borman	November 22
Colt	Peterson	November 08	Wyatt	Borman	November 23
Elisa	Carson	November 09	Jane	Lewis	November 23
Diane	Irish	November 10	Ellie	Stahlke	November 23
Corey	McLagan	November 10	Ryan	Tool	November 23
Austin	Lundquist	November 11	Brennan	Slipka	November 24
Claudia	Schmidt	November 12	Seth	Klason	November 26
Craig	Kryan	November 12	Tyler	Anderson	November 27
Joseph	Coyle	November 14	Sheryl	Laddusaw	November 27
Erin	Green	November 16	Stan	Droneck	November 28
Dave	Wuerger	November 16	Collin	Magner	November 28
Josie	Strobl	November 16	Joshua	Rothstein	November 28
Kelly	Haugen	November 17	Jeremiah	Werner	November 29

