

# The Beacon

Pastor Tim Wheatley

July 21, 2025

#### Worship

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



#### **Church Council 2025**

Laurie Brown (sec'y.) Billie Chock (pres.) Tim Current (treas.) Pat Czock **Brandt Dinger** Heidi Goldbeck Luke Jeseritz Lisa Krause (v. pres.) Ryan Tool Pastor Tim Wheatley



#### **Contact us!**

**Light of Christ Lutheran** 3976 County Line Road SE Delano, MN 55328 (763) 972-2400









# Summer Youth **Activity Tonight!**

We invite youth to join us for a fun night of games, friends, food and fun on the following dates:

- Monday, July 21st
- Monday, August 25<sup>th</sup>



On each of the above nights, we'll have two different gathering times:

- **6:00-7:30 PM** = Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders
- 7:30-9:00 PM = Incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders and up (including collegeaged youth)

Friends are welcome and these nights are FREE (thanks to the support of our congregation). Hope to see you there!





The church office will be closed on July 24th, 25th, and 28th.



# **June Fifth Sunday Contributions**

Thank you to all who contributed to our Fifth Sunday offering in June to Kids Hope. We collected \$590 which is wonderful! We will use those funds to continue our work with kids at Delano Elementary this next school year. We look forward to lining up mentors for kids in late summer. If you are interested in being a part of our team, please contact Lona Jose (<a href="mailto:lona.jose@ymail.com">lona.jose@ymail.com</a>) at LOC. We would love to have you join us.



# **Belize Adult/Family Mission Trip 2026**

We will be going back for our third mission trip to Bella Vista, Belize on Saturday, February 28 through March 7, 2026. We will be again hosting a Vacation Bible School, hosting a health clinic, worshiping and serving dinner at Pastor Kebin Rosa's church, going on home visits, working with the Bella Vista School on an education initiative, and also helping with some church projects. Please text or email Jennifer Grant if you are interested or have questions 612.226.8181 or <a href="mailto:Jpconnection.jg@gmail.com">Jpconnection.jg@gmail.com</a>). We will be having our first meeting in August. We would love to have you prayerfully consider this life-changing opportunity to serve our brothers and sisters in Christ.

# Help Out with the Tour de Tonka!



Light of Christ is again hosting a rest stop in the city park during the **August 2**<sup>nd</sup> event and is looking for 9-10 volunteers to help from **7:30-11:00 AM** that day. If you are interested in helping, please complete the form at this link:

General Tour de Tonka Volunteer Sign Up. If you have any questions, contact Brad Spencer at 612-616-7548.

### Support the Back to School Bash!

WestPointe Church and Love INC Heartland are teaming up this August to provide free school supplies, food, and fun for K–12 families in need.



Sponsor a backpack for \$50 or donate any amount to support this Gap Ministry at bit.ly/schoolbash23

#### **Volunteer in Our Thrift Stores**

We rely on dedicated volunteers to help our stores run smoothly. Our Howard Lake location is seeking more volunteers to add to our amazing team. Learn more by calling 763-999-7087 or sign up at <a href="mailto:bit.ly/loveincvolunteer">bit.ly/loveincvolunteer</a>

# Join Us At Golf For Love - September 15



Tee off with us at Albion Ridges on September 15 for a day of friendly competition, community, and purpose. Event details, team tickets, and sponsorship

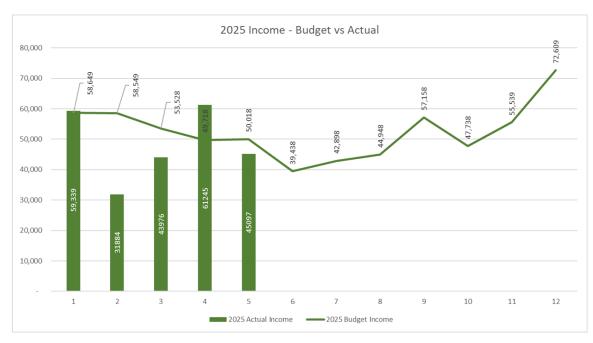
packages available at <a href="mailto:bit.ly/golfforlove25">bit.ly/golfforlove25</a>

# Gift A Meal At Our Fresh Start Program

Serving a meal at our *Fresh Start Program* is a simple, impactful way to show the love of Christ and gives the opportunity to build community! We have multiple openings available for September-December. Give a financial gift to support or sign up to serve a meal at <a href="mailto:bit.ly/fsmeals23">bit.ly/fsmeals23</a>

# **CHURCH NEWS**

# LOC Monthly Income - Actual versus Budget



# Year To Date Summary – May 2025

- YTD Budget \$270,462
- YTD Actual \$241,541
- Year to Date Actual is \$28,921 below budget
- May giving below budget



# A Heart of Gratitude

Stewardship begins with gratitude recognizing that all we have comes from God. As we give our time,

talents, and treasure, we express our thankfulness and trust in God's continued provision. As we give with grateful hearts, **we thrive together** in our shared mission and ministry. How can you express gratitude through your giving this season?

# 2026 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 <u>AUGUST 11<sup>th</sup></u>. Either email <u>Terriin the church office</u> 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.\*\*\*



# Director of Children & Family Ministry

The Personnel Committee has posted this 20 hr/week position on the LOC website. Do you know atrang candidates who should apply? Please

strong candidates who should apply? Please inquire if interested.



What Is a Memorial Garden?

A memorial garden is a space designed to honor and remember the life of a loved one. A private place for reflection, remembrance and meditation. A beautiful spot creating a serene and reflective environment. Light of Christ is blessed to have our own beautiful setting right outside our entrance. We invite you to take a moment to visit our Columbarium and Memorial Garden to share in the tranquility and beauty it has to offer!

# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS

# North Shore Mission Trip Prayer Partners

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Each summer we ask our congregation family

to pray for our service 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 August 3<sup>rd</sup> this year). This summer we are looking for approximately 32 people who will commit to praying for our HS youth and adults as we head to the North Shore to serve, grow and learn from July 26<sup>th</sup> – August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Click here to complete the short form to indicate your interest. Thanks for your partnership in ministry!

# What's in the Box?

This is a question that Pastor Tim will not be able to answer until he



opens the box in worship. During the children's message, Pastor Tim receives the box, opens it and then will connect what is in the box to the children's message. Does your child think they can stump Pastor Tim? Here's the chance to find out! Sign up your child (1 year old-2<sup>nd</sup> grade) for a Sunday when you will be in worship. You can pick up the box the Sunday prior or during the week (the box will be on a shelf in the church library). If you want, your child can bring the item on Sunday and sneak it into the box without Pastor Tim seeing it before worship. Sign up at the link below:

https://www.signupgenius.com/ go/10C0F48A4AB22A4FCCF8-56773893thebox



# Youth & Children's Ministry Registrations

- ⇒ Voyagers (1<sup>st</sup>- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade; 2025-26 year):
  Early registration now open at link below.

  Save \$20 if paid in full by August 15<sup>th</sup>. All registrations are due by August 29<sup>th</sup>. <a href="https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/Voyagers.2025-2026">https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/Voyagers.2025-2026</a>
- ⇒ **Pathfinders** (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade; 2025-2026 year): Early registration now open at link below. **Save \$20 if paid in full by August 15<sup>th</sup>.** All registrations are due by **August 29<sup>th</sup>**. <a href="https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/Pathfinders.2025-2026">https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/Pathfinders.2025-2026</a>
- ⇒ Confirmation (7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grade; 2025-2026 year): Early registration is now open at link below. Save \$20 if paid in full by August 1<sup>st</sup>. All registrations are due by August 15<sup>th</sup>. https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/Confirmation2025-26

### Support Our Youth!

We invite you to visit our Equal Exchange (fair trade) table in the Narthex for some great products! Items for sale include: chocolate, coffee, tea, cashews, almonds, dried mangos, and LOC coffee mugs. All sales support our summer youth trips as well as small farmers around the world! These items make great gifts for teachers or friends. Items can also be delivered for free around the Delano area and you can include a note and even gift wrapping. Thanks for your support!



#### STAYING CONNECTED

As part of our Nourishing Hope food distribution ministry, we invite you to lift up these heartfelt prayer requests shared by our neighbors. Thank you for holding these individuals and families in your prayers:

 Prayers that God would move powerfully in the hearts of youth attending Bible camp—that they would be open to His word, and that leaders would be granted wisdom and clarity in sharing the message of Christ.



- Prayers for a grieving family—mourning the loss of a beloved wife, mother, and sister.
   May God's peace and comfort surround them.
- Prayers for all those in Texas affected by recent flooding—those who have lost loved ones, homes, or a sense of security. May healing and restoration come.
- Prayers of thanksgiving for the Nourishing Hope food ministry and for the volunteers who serve so generously.
- Prayers for a man celebrating five years of sobriety—that this milestone may lead to the reinstatement of his driver's license and continued stability.
- Prayers for strength and healing for someone undergoing treatment for stomach cancer.
- Prayers for full healing and no brain damage for a young man seriously injured in a motorcycle accident.
- Prayers for those facing health challenges, including heart and pacemaker issues.



- Prayers for all people in need of healing—physical, emotional, or spiritual.
- Prayers of gratitude for the healthy birth of a nephew.
- Prayers for a young woman seeking employment—that the right opportunity would open before her.

Let us continue to be a praying and compassionate community, lifting one another up in love and hope.

# Called to Care: Everyday Acts of Healing

Our church has shared many great resources on health and mental well-being. But healing isn't just the work of professionals—it's a calling we all share. From loneliness to grief, many people need simple acts of care. As followers of Jesus, we're invited to be present, compassionate, and connected.



#### Ways to extend care and perhaps bring a little bit of hope and healing to someone else:

Affirm Someone's Gift or Character

Notice and name the good you see in others. It heals more than you realize. "Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement."

- Ephesians 4:29

♦ Pray for (and with) Someone

If appropriate, ask if you can pray with them in the moment—or keep them in prayer throughout your week.

"Pray for one another, that you may be healed." - James 5:16

Offer a Safe Space Without Judgment

Sometimes the most Christlike thing we can do is just to be a place of safety. "Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you." – Romans 15:7