# The Beacon

Pastor Tim Wheatley November 2, 2026

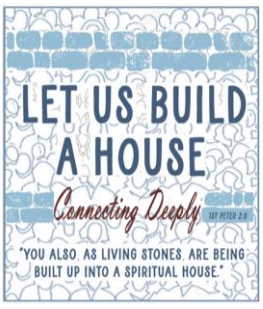
## Worship Schedule

**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



On October 25th, 25 tenth graders affirmed their baptism and confirmed their faith in Christ. We celebrate with these youth and hold them in prayer as they take this next step in their faith journey:
Front row: Lucy Roers, Greta Becker, Eva Dinger, Meg Arneson, Carina Borman, Kendra Adickes, Lexi Thomas, Finley Demeules.

Middle row: Pastor Tim Wheatley, Stephanie Larison, Emi Bidle, Sophie Kopperud, Andelyn Streich, Ellie Rice, Bryn Beyer, Carson Halbersma, Madelynn Knisley, Director of Youth & Family, Kirsten Kelly.

Back row: Cooper Reuter, Noah Rice, Zachariah Quamen, Weston Gabrick, Cody Anderson, Chet Graunke, Kiptyn Lansing, Cora Boyack, Madison Hinker.




God's blessings to you, as you continue to grow in your faith!

# MEMBER OPPORTUNITIES

## Belize Adult/Family Mission Trip 2027

We will be going back for our 4th mission trip to Bella Vista, Belize from **Saturday, February 27 through March 6, 2027**. The trip cost will run between $1,300-$1,500 and includes airfare, accommodations, food, food donations, and transportation.



Here are some of the possibilities we will do: Vacation Bible School/sports camp, worshiping and serving dinner at Pastor Kebin Rosa's church, going on home visits, working with the Bella Vista School on an education initiative, carnival, and church projects.

Please email or text Jennifer Grant **as soon as possible** if you are interested or have questions: Jpconnection.jg@gmail.com or 612.226.8181.

We would love to have you prayerfully consider this life-changing opportunity to serve our brothers and sisters in Christ.

## Buntrock Scholarship – Augustana University

Continue your involvement in the ELCA and find your home in a community of faith by joining the Buntrock Scholars Program at Augustana.

**Who are Buntrock Scholars?**

The Buntrock Scholars Program supports students who are active and engaged in ELCA congregations in the Midwest. The program is open to those who are involved in the church before and after graduation from Augustana University.

**What is the Buntrock Scholars Program?**

The Buntrock Scholars Program provides financial support for selected students attending Augustana. This competitive scholarship covers half of the net price of attendance at Augustana, up to $13,000 per year. The award is renewable for three additional years, and it can be received alongside other academic and talent-based scholarships. The program benefits at least 30 first-year students each year. Students who receive and accept the Buntrock Scholarship participate in the full breadth of faith and spiritual life programming (worship, Bible studies, service events, etc.)

**Requirements**

Eligible students must be engaged in a Midwest ELCA congregation and remain in good academic standing at Augustana. After a student has applied and been offered admission to Augustana, they must complete a scholarship form, which when submitted will prompt the student's senior pastor to submit a recommendation. The donor's vision for this generous scholarship program is to partner with the student's congregation and synod to make college more financially accessible. Buntrock Scholarships will begin to be awarded to students **in late November**.

Learn more and apply at augie.edu/BuntrockScholarship

## Our November Fifth Sunday Offering is for Bella Vista, Belize – Pastor Kebin Rosa's church.




Here is a letter from Pastor Kebin:

Hello LOC Family,

Greetings and much love from Belize!

First, I want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the love, prayers, and support you have shown us and the ministries here in Bella Vista. Your partnership means so much to us. It is a blessing to know that we are not doing this alone, and we are so grateful to have you walking alongside us as we serve our community. I'm excited to share a few updates about what God is doing here!

**Our Learning to Read Program**

We recently launched our after-school Learning to Read Program, and it has been such a joy to see it grow. The response has been wonderful, with more parents already asking when we will open registration for another group. But what makes us happiest is seeing the children's excitement, their willingness to learn, and how quickly they are progressing. We are so thankful for every child whose life we get to impact through this program.

**Our Hope Center**

Every week, we welcome between 100 and 150 children to our Hope Center, where we spend time with them, share a meal, and most importantly, share the love of Jesus. It is more than a place for activities; it is a place where children are loved, encouraged, and reminded that they matter. We are also preparing to install electricity in our Hope Center, which includes three classrooms and a kitchen. We are excited about this next step and all the possibilities it will open up for the children and families we serve.

**Moving Forward with Our Church Building**

We are also working on installing the ceiling in our church sanctuary as part of our air-conditioning project. Our days here can get extremely hot, and we look forward to creating a cooler, more comfortable space where people can gather to worship, learn, and grow together.

Your Fifth Sunday Offering will go towards ceiling work and A/C for the sanctuary and appliances for our Hope Center kitchen that will feed families and offer meals to people in need in our community.

Thank you for believing in us, praying for us, and investing in the work God is doing in Bella Vista. Your generosity is reaching beyond the walls of our church and making a difference in the lives of children, families, and our entire community.

With much love and gratitude from Belize,
*Kebin & Ani Rosa*







## We Will Welcome New Members on Sunday, November 22nd!




If you're interested in joining our church family, we invite you to attend a New Member Information Class on **November 8th at 11:00 AM**. To help us prepare, please let the church office know ***by November 3rd*** if you plan to attend. We're also here to answer any questions you may have.

## Check Your 2026 Pledge Status

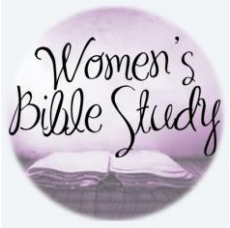
Just a reminder that members can check the status of their pledges for 2026 by logging in to the online member portal at this link. You can also access the portal login page from the Light of Christ website home page by clicking the "Member Portal" icon on the top toolbar. If you need assistance, please contact Terri in the church office. *Please note: your 2027 pledge card is not authorization for the church office to make changes to your automatic giving.*

## Thanksgiving Service

All are welcome to attend an ecumenical community Thanksgiving service on **November 22nd at 3:00 PM** at Delano United Methodist Church.



## Women's Bible Study




The women's Bible study meets the **1st and 3rd Mondays of the month, 6:30 – 8:00 PM, in the Living Room at LOC**. We will meet through April but *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.*

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

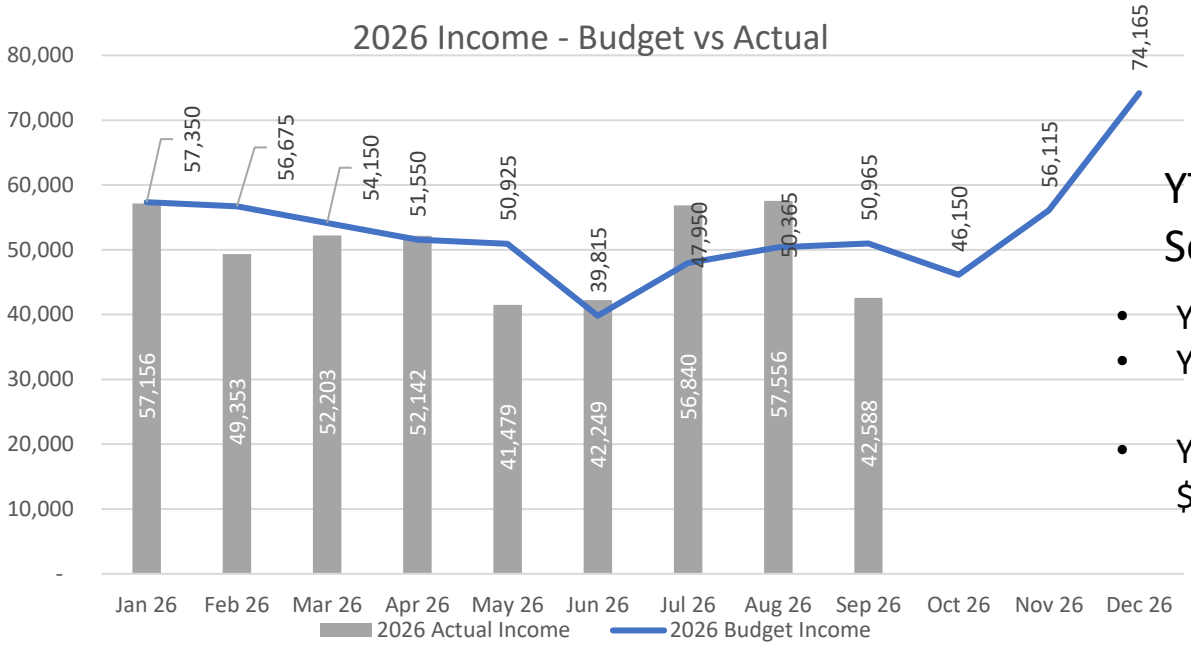
## Bible 101

You can still join Pastor Tim and the Bible 101 study, which will be on **Tuesdays, November 3, 10, and 17.** Come for one or come for all. Each night it will be from 7:00-8:00. The topic will be "Bible 101." This is a great time to jump into a Bible study because we will start with what the Bible is and how we study it. If you have never been to a Bible study before, you can start on this one. Of course, there will be something for all levels, but this will start from the question of "What is the Bible and why is it important" and go through the different types of literature in the Bible and how we read it as Christians and Lutherans. Please sign up at the Sign-Up Genius link or QR code below if you can, otherwise just plan on showing up.

Sign up here:
https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0848A9A72AAAF85-66074333-the



## LOC Monthly Income - Actual versus Budget




### YTD Summary September 2026

- YTD Budget $459,745
- YTD Actual $451,567

- Year to Date Actual is $8,178 below budget

### Mission in Motion

Every gift helps advance worship, care, outreach, and connection in our church and community. Together, we are sharing the Light of Christ in meaningful and tangible ways.

## Week 2 | Your Commitment Helps Us Plan

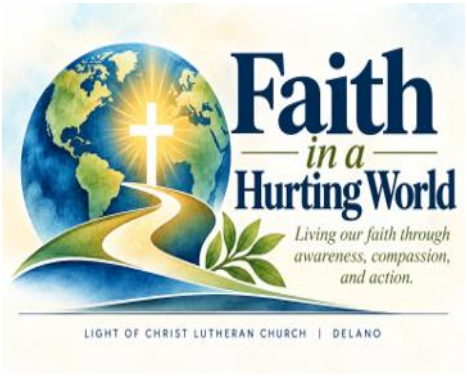
**TAKE A STEP**

*One Step at a Time. Together.*

As of October 30th, we have received 52 pledges totaling $303,434. Last year, we had received 84 pledges totaling $401,645.

Thank you to all who have returned a pledge card. Each commitment helps Light of Christ plan for the year ahead as we grow in faith, welcome more people, and serve our neighbors. If you have not yet pledged, please consider completing a card this week. Cards are available at the Welcome Center and may be returned to the church office or placed in the offering plate. Or you can complete an online pledge form at this link. Together, we help make our congregation's ministry possible.

## Faith in a Hurting World




*Light of Christ Lutheran Church | November 2, 2026*
*Living our faith through awareness, compassion, and action.*

Jesus calls us to notice our neighbors, especially those whose suffering can disappear behind the headlines. This recurring feature offers two concerns and one encouraging story, with trustworthy resources and simple ways to respond. We need not agree on every solution to share Christ's call to love.

### 1 A World in Need | Sudan's Families Face Deepening Hunger

War, displacement, and severe drought are putting families in Sudan at growing risk of famine. An October alert warns of worsening conditions in Darfur and Kordofan, where food, clean water, and health care are increasingly difficult to obtain. Behind these reports are parents trying to feed their children and communities struggling to survive. Jesus' words, "I was hungry and you gave me food" (Matthew 25:35), invite us to keep these neighbors in our prayers and our circle of concern.

*Learn and respond:* World Food Programme—Sudan emergency and ways to help

### 2 Our Neighbors in Need | Minnesota Food Shelves Feel the Strain

Hunger also touches families close to home. MPR News reported October 17 that Second Harvest Heartland distributed a record 172 million pounds of food during its latest fiscal year. Yet food shelves continue facing growing demand as grocery and transportation costs put pressure on families and relief organizations. These needs remind us why steady, ordinary generosity matters. Supporting a food shelf or Light of Christ's rice-and-beans ministry turns concern into something a neighbor can bring home.

*Learn:* MPR News—Minnesota's growing food-assistance needs

### 3 Signs of Hope | Once a Refugee Child, Now a School Leader

Here is something to celebrate! Farah Mohammed Hussain fled Somalia as a child. Today he leads a school serving more than 2,000 children in Kenya's Dadaab refugee camp. Run by the Lutheran World Federation on behalf of the UN refugee agency, the school combines classroom learning with music, drama, and support for children healing from trauma. Despite funding challenges, teachers continue helping young people imagine a future. A child welcomed and educated can become someone who opens doors for others.

*Learn:* Lutheran World Federation—A refugee educator's story

### FAITH IN ACTION | What can I do?

This week, choose one response: give to Sudan hunger relief, ask a local food shelf what it needs most, or help with our rice-and-beans ministry. Begin by praying for the people behind one story.

**A prayer:** Jesus, bring food and safety to Sudan's families, nourish our hungry neighbors, and strengthen teachers opening doors for children. Keep our hearts tender and show us one faithful step we can take. Amen.






## Maker's Market

Children and youth under age 18 are invited to sign up for this year's Maker's Market, being held on **Sunday, November 22nd from 4:00-6:00 PM**. For more information and to sign up, please click this link: [Makers Market 2026]

## Youth Choir Starts November 8th!

Ages 3rd-6th grade! Rehearsals take place after worship and are 30 minutes long. Sign up using the QR code shown here or contact Katie with any questions. You can also just show up to rehearsal! Full schedule is on the sign-up form.






## Christmas Play Sign-Up

This year's Christmas Play will be on **December 16th.** Explorers (PreK/K), Voyagers (1st-3rd grade), & Pathfinders (4th-6th grade) are encouraged to sign up at this link: https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/78d54d Practice times can be found on the sign-up.


40 youth and 4 adults attended our Confirmation Retreat at Camp Wapo - October 23-25, 2026


2026 Fall Confirmation Retreat at Wapo


Wapo Fall 2026


ART SHOP
Oct 2026
Lower Crossfire Parking