



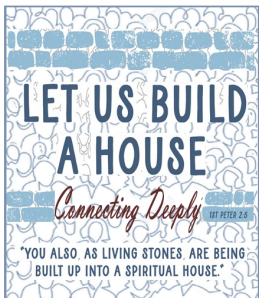
## Worship

- 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



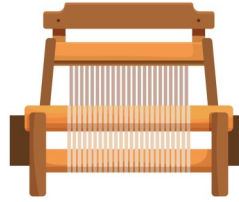
## Contact us!

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)

## Weaving Our Life Strands



*There's a reason for the colors in your story  
There's a picture though you cannot see it yet  
Every thread has a purpose and soon you'll see  
Your part in this tapestry.*

*When you feel like nothing is connecting  
And you're searching for an answer you can't find  
Just remember that each strand is intersecting to reveal what  
the Creator has designed Any masterpiece is gonna take some time.*

Sign up for this family-oriented gathering to form and solidify connections between generations in this one-on-one teaching of many different forms of weaving (stick weaving, lucet weaving, inkle loom weaving, cordage making, basket/nature weaving) on **May 6<sup>th</sup> from 4PM to 6PM.**

If you are signing up a child, you need to also sign up an adult (parent, grandparent, aunt/uncle, congregation member, friend,...) with them, or sign up for the waiting list, seeing if an unpaired adult becomes available. If you are an adult signing up, you may do so without being paired with a child, but keep in mind that any child might take you on as partner.

**Please sign up here:** <https://lightofchristdelano.breezechms.com/form/f3e59f>

Together you will choose one of the weaving techniques you will learn that day.

**Where:** LOC

**When:** May 6, 2026 4PM to 6PM

**What:** Learning to weave in different techniques

## Yarn Donations Needed!

For this upcoming May 6<sup>th</sup> project, we're seeking yarn donations of all kinds. Any yarn is welcome—any material, any thickness, any amount left on the skein. Every bit helps. If you have extra, we'd love to put it to good use!

## Family Matters — Friendship and Forgiveness

All are welcome to attend our next Confirmation Family Matters event! The topic this spring is one that we can all think/learn about: Friendship and Forgiveness. We hope you'll join us (and invite a friend!) for this important night:

**When:** Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 6:15-8:00 PM

**Where:** Sanctuary at Light of Christ

**Who:** Required for Confirmation Youth & Parents but ALL are welcome!

**Speakers:**

- Eric Raisler is a Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist (LMFT) in the state of Minnesota. He specializes in diagnosis and clinical treatment of Anger/Aggression, Domestic Violence Perpetration, and Antisocial-Personality-Disorder. He lives in central Minnesota with his wife and daughter.
- Natalia Terfa is a Lutheran pastor, podcaster, and author who lives in Minneapolis with her husband, kiddo and kitty babies. She is the new Creative Director at [Church Anew](#), which is an organization that nourishes Christian leaders and ignites communities of faith.



## 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/>



## 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. **Thank you so much for your generous contribution!**

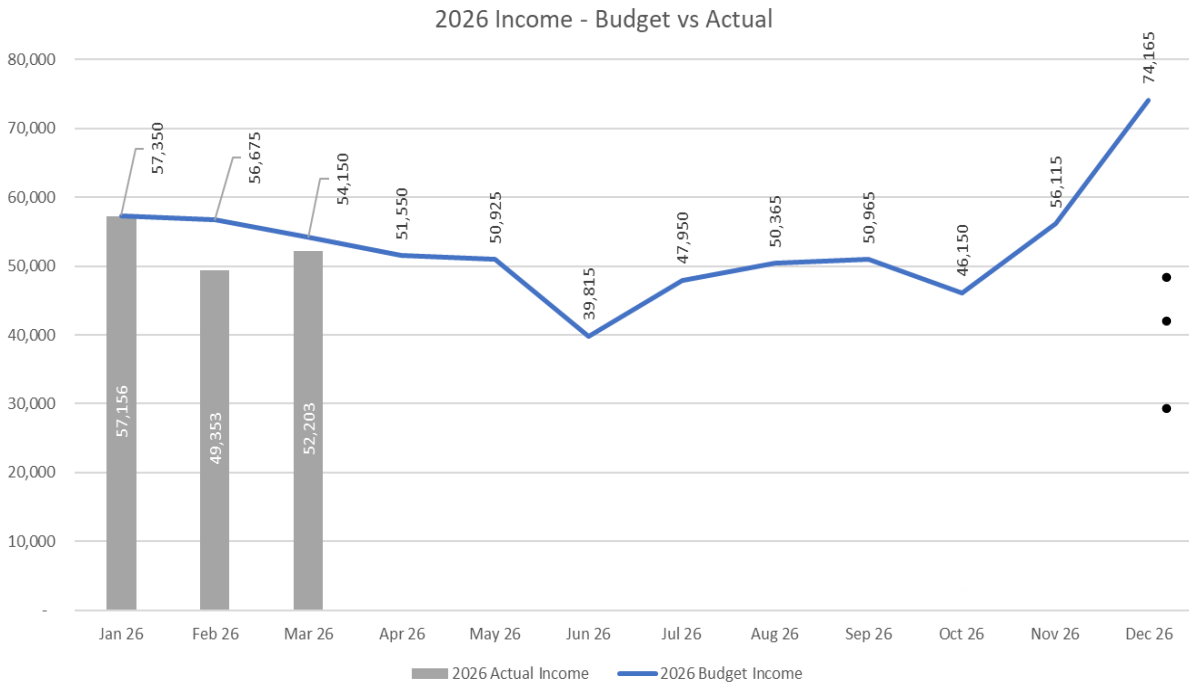
## Neighbors in Need Ministry

*Walking the Way of the Good Samaritan*



We are excited to start a new ministry at Light of Christ offering care, support, and a sense of safety for vulnerable neighbors—especially immigrant families—as we walk together in compassion and faith. To kick off this new ministry, we are asking the Light of Christ congregation to donate rice and beans. We specifically need dry pinto and black beans and long-grain rice. While you can buy these in bulk at stores like Costco and Sam's Club, we encourage buying at local Hispanic/Latino grocery stores to further support our neighbors. There are many of these stores near the metro area. You should be able to find them via google. We are collecting rice and beans until **May 17<sup>th</sup>** and will package them after worship. We will also have an informational meeting for people who are interested in learning more about the ministry. You can also send cash or check donations. Just specify on the envelope or memo by writing "rice and beans donation." Thank you for your generosity!

## 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

## The GIVING CORNER



### Donor Advised Funds (DAFs) for flexible giving over time

A donor advised fund can be a great “give now, decide later” tool. You make an irrevocable contribution to a DAF, receive a tax deduction in the year you give, and then recommend grants to charities over time. This is helpful if you want to be generous in a high-income year but spread out your actual gifts to churches and nonprofits across future years. It can also simplify recordkeeping by turning many future donations into one contribution for tax reporting purposes. DAFs are often described as having some of the benefits of a private foundation without as much administrative work. The tradeoff is that once assets go into the DAF, they are no longer yours, and the sponsoring organization oversees the account and investments.

Article Submitted by Brad L. Spencer, CPWA®

## The Generous Life: Six Practices that Shape Our Faith



### The Generous Life: Give Regularly

Generosity grows strongest when it becomes a rhythm. Throughout Scripture, giving is not just a one-time act—it’s a steady, ongoing practice. Regular giving helps shape our hearts and sustains the ministry we share together.

**When we give consistently**, generosity becomes part of our spiritual life, much like prayer, worship, and serving.

#### What this looks like in everyday life:

A household commits to giving weekly or monthly. Some set up recurring gifts; others build it into their weekly routine. Instead of occasional or reactive giving, **generosity becomes steady and dependable**. And the reality is that that feels good...right.

Regular giving isn’t about obligation—it’s about forming a life anchored in faith and trust.

**“On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money...”**

**– 1 Corinthians 16:2**

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



## 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.

OWLS Bible Study is also canceling for the summer effective immediately, due to lower attendance, with plans to resume in September. May God bless all of you with good health, safe travels and special times, praying you see Jesus in nature, adventures, relaxation and each other.

The LOC-O-Motion Coffee and Cleaning Crew will meet Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 AM for treats and a few cleaning tasks. Many thanks to all our dedicated and hard-working crew members! It's amazing what we have accomplished this year. We will discuss cleaning needs for over the summer as we augment the duties of the Property and Management Committee to keep God's house clean and maintained. We welcome anyone available to help on the second Friday morning of each month.

And last, but not least, 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.

### Centralized Sign Up

All of our volunteer sign-ups are in one spot! Go to this link ([www.linktr.ee/lightofchristvolunteers](http://www.linktr.ee/lightofchristvolunteers)) to view the *LOC Volunteer Sign Up Page*. We hope this will make it easier to find the sign-ups and to volunteer!



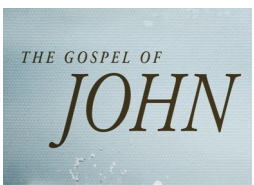
### Discussion Group for Moms of Pre-Teens/Teens

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.



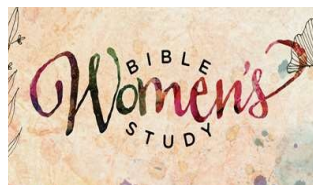
### Thursday Night Bible Study

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!



### 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).

## 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.



## Storytelling Training

Learning to share your story—and to truly listen to the stories of others—can deepen relationships, build trust, and open meaningful conversations about life and faith. In a time when many feel disconnected or unheard, these simple practices can help foster genuine connection and understanding.

Last fall, a small group at Light of Christ explored these ideas through a storytelling training led by Dr. Mary Hess of Luther Seminary. Participants discovered that while telling stories matters, listening well may be even more powerful.

Materials from that training—including practical tools and additional resources—are available from Terri in the church office. They offer a helpful starting point for anyone looking to grow in connection, deepen relationships, and engage faith in everyday life. If your group or committee is interested, please contact a member of the Mission and Evangelism Committee.



# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS

It is Earth Week and Zach B. took it upon himself to use free choice play time to recruit fellow Voyagers and Pastor Tim to clean up the LOC play and lawn area. All Voyagers and Pathfinders continued to serve the Delano community with spring clean-up around Central Park and Litfin Nature Area last week.



An adventure you'll fall for!



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>



## 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**

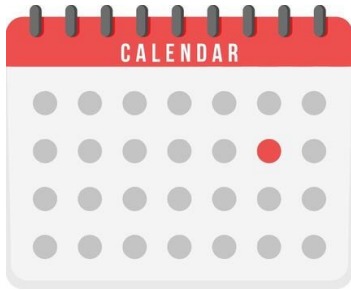
**Wapo Seeds (Gr 1-4) June 19-21, 2026**

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



## Confirmation Calendar

- ⇒ **Wednesday, 5/6**—Family Matters (parents attend with their youth; 6:15 -8:00 PM)
- ⇒ **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)



**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.



**Ultimate  
Frisbee at  
Confirmation  
4/22/26**

