



Pastor Tim Wheatley

January 5, 2026

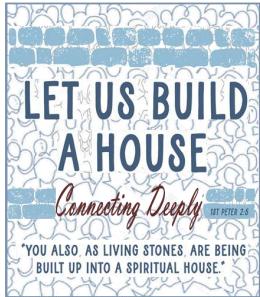
Worship

- **In-person worship—**
9:30 AM Sundays
- **Online worship is**
live-streamed to our
[YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/@LightofChristLutheran) and
[Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/lightofchristlutheran) **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!

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Terri.Reuter@ocdelano.com



Light Up the Night/Maker's Market

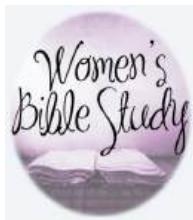
Voyagers and Pathfinders spend weeks decorating our church windows, painting the Christmas story in pictures. On the evening of December 10th, we revealed the paintings by lighting up the inside of the church while our children sang Christmas carols outside. We made freshly baked waffles, had warming fires, and even got a visit from St. Nicholas after reading his origin story. Some children explored entrepreneurship and crafted or baked for this event. They set up their own little European Christmas market-style sale in our parking lot. We had book binders, food vendors, ornament makers, 3D printed crafts, warming pillows, home made soaps, bead work, and more. It was a delight to see our children being so creative and talented. Both young and old enjoyed a wonderful wintery evening at Light of Christ. See page 5 for more photos.

CONGREGATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, January 25 at 10:30 AM

Immediately following worship





Women's Bible Study

The women's Bible study resumes on **January 5th** and meets **the first and third Mondays of the month, 6:30–8:00 PM at LOC**. We will meet through June. The second half of the year we will study the book *Even Better than Eden* by Nancy Guthrie. More information can be found on flyers in the narthex. If you are interested in participating, please contact Lindsay Lindall at lindsay.lindall@gmail.com.



WOW (Worship on Wednesday)

All are welcome to join us for WOW (Worship on Wednesdays) Confirmation worship services on the **first Wednesday** of each month. These youth-led services that go from 6:15-7:00 PM on the following Wednesdays:

- ◊ **January 7**
- ◊ **February 4**
- ◊ **April 8 (2nd Wed. due to Holy Week)**

We hope you'll join us at WOW!

Get to Know the Wheatleys!

Starting **Sundays from January 11th to February**

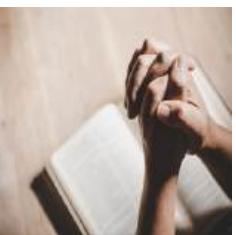
22nd we are looking for members who want to host a brunch/lunch/or dinner to get to know the Wheatleys. The host will sign up for a date on a clipboard in the Narthex for

a Sunday meal date and then they can decide what members they would like to join them for brunch/lunch/or dinner to get to know Pastor Tim and Mary. If you want to be a guest, you can also sign up to be one and we will try to accommodate everyone interested. If you have any questions, please text or call Jennifer Grant at 612.226.8181. Email is jpconnection.jg@gmail.com.



Thursday Night Bible Study

Our study of the Gospel of John will resume on **Thursday, January 8th at 7:00-8:30 PM**. If you have any questions, feel free to call Tim Johnson at 952-472-1755 or Gina 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!



Cheater Readers Book Club



Many years ago, we started a book club of LOC members and met in one another's homes monthly, enjoying fellowship and discussions of lots of interesting books. We called ourselves "The Cheater Readers" since most of us needed some magnifying help with our middle aging eyes! Some of our members have passed or moved away, and some have transferred to other churches, but we continue to be great friends.

Moving into 2026, as it is getting to be harder for all of us to host or navigate to our homes, we have arranged to meet in the Living Room at LOC on the **second Thursday of each month at 2:00 PM**. We would love to have new book lovers join us!

***Here's the line-up for Book Club starting **January 8th, 2:00 PM** at Light of Christ:

- ◊ **January 8: Dear Mrs. Bird** by AJ Pearce
- ◊ **February 12: When the Dandelions Sing** by James J Hill
- ◊ **March 12: When Crickets Cry** by Charles Martin

Bring your own beverage and snack. Invite a friend! Bring your book suggestions for future months, books we can borrow through Delano's Great Regional or Hennepin County libraries. We will not meet in June, July, or August, unless one of us wants to have a summer potluck, no book involved. Contact Sue Fink if any questions.

OUTREACH

You Make This Ministry Possible

Thanks to your ongoing support, our **monthly Food Distribution Ministry** reaches about **90-100 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](#).
- **3:30 PM at Light of Christ** – Unload and distribute food right here. [Sign up here](#).
- 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**. **Sign up above and thank you for helping our community thrive in Christ!**



Mental Health Connect: A Compassionate First Step Toward Healing



Navigating mental health challenges can be overwhelming, but you don't have to face them alone. Mental Health Connect (MHC) offers free, confidential, and individualized support to help you or your loved ones access the right resources for your unique situation. Whether you're seeking counseling, addressing substance use concerns, or simply need someone to talk to, MHC's trained Navigators are here to assist. Reach out by calling or texting 612-642-1220, or emailing navigator@mhconnect.org, Monday through Friday, 9 AM to 5 PM. You can also fill out a simple contact form online (scan the QR code). A caring Navigator will respond promptly to guide you toward the support you need.



Love INC Birthday Ministry

Pictured are the birthday bags assembled for January birthdays. Please pray for the kids who receive these birthday bags, assembled with care by volunteers, Beth Coulombe and Vicki Noetzelman. Thank you for your support of this ministry!

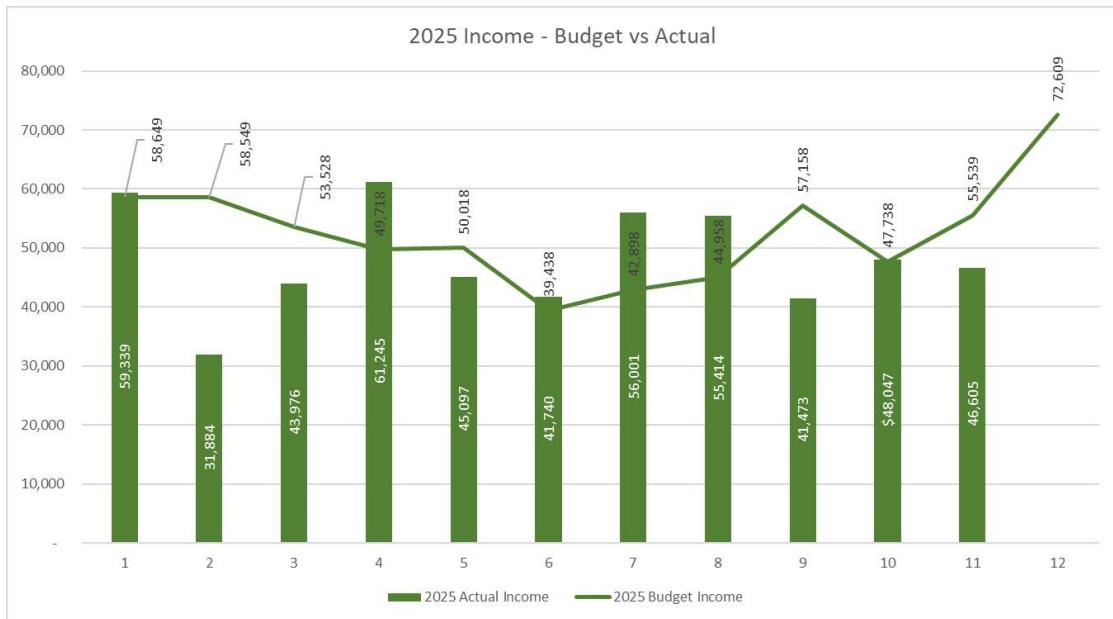


Delano Food Shelf

Thank you for the 21 LOC people who volunteered at the food shelf this December. It was a very busy month! You all make a difference by helping so many people in need!! Thank you also for your monetary and food donations (1200 lbs.) this year. Also thank you to the LOC kids who helped with food collection and delivery. Thank you also to JoMarie Williamson for being one of two who do an excellent job of managing the food shelf. You are doing a great job!! Our next volunteer month will be March.



LOC Monthly Income - Actual versus Budget



Year To Date Summary – November 2025

- YTD Budget \$558,191
YTD Actual \$530,820
- Year to Date Actual is **\$27,371** below budget
- November giving below budget

Rooted in Faith. Growing in Generosity.

Thank you to the **81 households** who have pledged **\$392,125** for 2026! We are grateful for your leadership in generosity. We have surpassed last year's pledges by almost \$10,000!

If you haven't yet turned in your pledge, **please make this the week you take that step**. Your pledge directly supports the mission of Light of Christ and strengthens everything we do together in Christ's name.

"Honor the Lord with your wealth..." — Proverbs 3:9



Thank you for responding with faith, gratitude, and generosity.

OWLS Happenings



LOC-O-MOTION
Cleaning Crew
gathers next on
Friday, January 9th at
9:30 AM to continue spiffing up the
Sunday School wing.



The OWLS Bible study starts on **January 11th** after worship in room 101. [Contact Sue Fink](#) to sign-up and purchase a book. We're doing 12 lessons from "Old Testament Characters" (Lifeguide Bible Series). Books cost \$8.

THANK YOU!

Light of Christ Youth Choir,

Thank you for taking the time out of your busy holiday schedule to perform for us! We loved the music and appreciate the Christmas cards!

Thank you again! Merry Christmas!

The Legacy of Delano

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS



This year's Christmas program was a hit. 72 children from Explorers, Voyagers, and Pathfinders amazed our congregation with their acting skills, outstanding strong voices in solo and choir singing parts, as well as confident speaking roles. The children presented the historical moment and circumstances of Jesus' birth in an interactive and musical kind of way. For weeks they practiced their lines and their acting roles. In the end it all came together beautifully, and they left the sanctuary being applauded loudly and that for good reasons. We are beyond proud of the accomplishments of our youth!



CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS



Voyagers and Pathfinders spread joy by sharing their beautiful voices with the residents of The Legacy and The Estates nursing homes. They sang the Christmas carols from this year's Christmas program on December 17th.



We rented the Emagine Movie Theater for a private showing of the powerful and inspirational animated movie of *DAVID*. On December 19th we gathered with 91 people, held a devotional, and enjoyed a great retelling of the history of a man after God's own heart, with snacks and fellowship. It was another wonderful event in our movie series.

