



Light of the World Monthly Newsletter



What Is Eternal Life?

It is that time again when we encounter the change from the old year to the new. For some, the ushering in of a new year is a ritual of staying up until midnight to make a bunch of noise or perhaps sing an old song. Yet, one way or another, the beginning of a new year is a time of reflection and planning. We take stock of what happened in the last year. We think of our pains, regrets, joys, surprises, births, and deaths. We also look to the future and ponder what we want to do differently in days to come.

In all of our planning, though, there is this unalterable fact that life here will end. Our time is finite. It has a limit. In fact, everything about this world has a limit.

The Bible tells us of one thing, however, that has no end. Referring to those who follow him, Jesus said, "*I give them eternal life*" (John 10:28). In view of our knowledge and experience of limited life in this world, we wonder what eternal life is.

Jesus explains, "I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life" (John 5:24). Life is being connected to God and his blessings. The opposite is death, which is separation from God and his goodness. All people are born separated from God because, by nature, they are sinners. As a result, they are headed toward an eternal separation from God to be condemned in a very real place called hell.

But God did something very great. He sent the world a Savior who is Jesus Christ, the sinless Son of God. In an unmatchable act of love, Jesus placed himself under our condemnation for sin. He willingly suffered the death sentence that all of us deserve.

Through Jesus, God has forgiven the world's sin, which separated people from him, and he gives the gift of eternal life. All who listen to the Savior and believe in God who sent him have eternal life. By faith in the true God of salvation, they have crossed over from death to life. They do not face the fear of separation from God, but they rejoice in a close and blessed relationship with him now and forever.

What a great way to start a new year! We have the confidence that no matter what has happened in days gone by, and whatever the future holds, our life with God is secured forever by faith in Jesus.

Key Events This Month:

1/9—Monthly Potluck 1/9—Christmas Undecorating 1/11—Elders Meeting 1/15,29—Women's Bible Study 1/16—GLOW Meeting 1/17—Mornings with Mommy 1/18—Pioneers 1/22—Men's Bible Study 1/30—Council Meeting

Light of the World Mission

As a family of believers united in faith, we serve Jesus, the true Light of the World, as we **GATHER** around God's Word and the Sacraments and **GROW** together in our faith and our relationship with Jesus, so we can **GO** and share the good news of Jesus in our community and the world and **GLOW** with the love of Christ in our lives. JANUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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2 10:30—Worship w/Communion	3 5:00—Catechism	4 6:00—Choir	υ	Q	7	œ
9 9:15—Sunday School 10:30—Worship 12:00—Potluck 1:00—Christmas Un- decorating 1:30 _ Council Rock Reset	10 5:00—Catechism	11 6:00—Choir 8:00—Elders Meeting	12 6:30—Branches	13 6:30—Branches	14	15 10:00—Women's Bible Study
16 9:15—Sunday School & Branches 10:30—Worship w/Communion 12:00—GLOW Meet- ing	17 10:30—Mornings with Mommy 5:00—Catechism	18 6:00—Pioneers	19 6:30—Branches	20 6:30—Branches	21	22 9:00—Men's Bible Study
23 9:15—Sunday School & Branches 10:30—Worship	24 5:00—Catechism	25 6:00—Choir	26 6:30—Branches	27 6:30—Branches Church Cleaners for January:	28 r January:	29 10:00—Women's Bible Study
30 9:15—Sunday School & Branches 10:30—Worship 12:00—Council Meet- ing	31			1/2-1/8—Anderson, Taipale 1/9-1/15—Coleman, Bob & Gail 1/16-1/22—Coleman, Ian & Sheila 1/23-1/29—Dolgner, Risse 1/30-2/5—Duncan	, Taipale 1, Bob & Gail 11, Ian & Sheila 1, Risse	