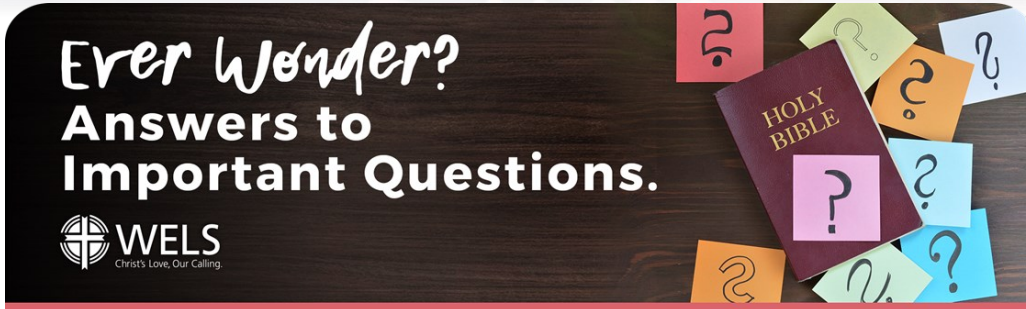




September 2022  
Volume 4, Issue 9

## Light of the World Monthly Newsletter



### Why does bad stuff happen to me?

My mom has cancer. My dad lost his job. My sister is in high school and pregnant. My brother's grades are slipping. Work is so stressful. My life is unstable. Why does bad stuff happen to me?

Plenty of people have plenty of suggestions.

"Maybe God does not love you."

"Maybe he is punishing you for something."

"Maybe everything is too much for him to handle."

Do you want to know the real answer? It is staggering. **"God is LOVE" (1 John 4:16).**

What? How can that be? How can there be so many bad things in my life if God is love? Wouldn't a loving God just erase all the bad stuff and only give me good? Well...no.

The kids need shots. They cry with pain. You love them. Are shots "bad"?

You need surgery. It's going to hurt and take some time to heal. Your doctor cares about you. Is surgery "bad"?

Your football coach tells you to run ten 100-yard-sprints. It's not exactly a vacation. Your coach wants what is best for you. Are the sprints "bad"?

So much in our lives looks like "bad stuff," but it is really "good." It certainly looked like a lot of "bad stuff" was happening on the day Jesus died. Jesus was falsely accused of breaking the law. He was whipped, mocked, and executed on the cross. That is some really "bad stuff" for Jesus, but Christians still call that day GOOD Friday.

Because of that "bad stuff" on Good Friday, Jesus removes all

of our sins and all of our guilt and says, "I'll take those for you. I'll make them mine." Jesus has tremendous love for us. He takes the punishment away from us. He has the power to handle everything in our lives.

While everyone has their own opinions about why "bad stuff" happens to them, God gently points me to Jesus and gives me the right answer: "God is LOVE."

Do you want to learn more about this love? We invite you to join us to learn more about God's perfect love for you, and how he uses all the "bad stuff" in your life for your good.

#### Key Events This Month:

- 9/11—Sunday School Starts
- 9/11—Monthly Potluck
- 9/13—Choir Begins
- 9/14,15,18—Branches Fall Session Begins
- 9/17—Women's Bible Study
- 9/18—Budget Planning Meeting
- 9/19,21—Little Lights
- 9/23—Friday Lights Night
- 9/24—Men's Bible Study
- 9/25—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.*

# SEPTEMBER 2022

| Sunday   | Monday                                 | Tuesday          | Wednesday                                  | Thursday            | Friday  | Saturday                           |
|--|--|------------------|--|---------------------|---|------------------------------------|
|  |  |                  |  | 1                   | 2   | 3                                  |
| 4<br>10:30—Worship<br>w/Communion  | 5                                      | 6                | 7  | 8                   | 9   | 10                                 |
| 11<br>9:15—Sunday School<br>Begins<br>10:30—Worship<br>12:00—Monthly Pot-<br>luck            | 12<br>5:00—6th Grade Con-<br>firmation | 13<br>6:00—Choir | 14<br>6:30—Branches                        | 15<br>6:30—Branches | 16  | 17<br>10:00—Women's Bible<br>Study |
| 18<br>9:15—Sunday School<br>& Branches<br>10:30—Worship<br>w/Communion<br>12:30—Budget Plan- | 19<br>10:30—Little Lights              | 20<br>6:00—Choir | 21<br>10:30—Little Lights<br>6:30—Branches | 22<br>6:30—Branches | 23<br>6:00—Friday Lights<br>Night   | 24<br>8:00—Men's Bible<br>Study    |
| 25<br>9:15—Sunday School<br>& Branches<br>10:30—Worship<br>12:30—Council Meet-<br>ing        | 26                                     | 27<br>6:00—Choir | 28<br>6:30—Branches                        | 29<br>6:30—Branches | Church Cleaners for September:<br>8/28-9/3—Duncan<br>9/4—9/10—Halverson<br>9/11-9/17—Holdsworth/Christianson<br>9/18-9/24—Strong<br>9/25-10/1—Wyatt |                                    |