

August 2015 Volume 5, Issue 8

## Sonlight Light of the World Monthly Newsletter

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#### Key Events This Month:

8/9—Outdoor Worship and Church Picnic

8/11—Worship Team Meeting

8/16—Council Meeting

8/18—Canvassing

8/26—Sunday School Teacher Meeting

#### What Is a Christian Worldview?

Our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ.

#### Philippians 3:20

Sam and Harry are two brothers who are able to see eve to eye on just about everything. But every August, it seems that they have a hard time agreeing on anything. Whenever football season starts up, Sam and Harry are always at odds. Though these two men had been born brothers, they grew up rooting for different teams. And whenever their rival teams play each other, Sam and Harry leave the stadium with very different views of the same game.

In many ways, Christians and non-Christians are able to see eye to eye when it comes to the ways of the world. Most people, no matter what their beliefs may be, like to be treated fairly, to have a feeling of personal security, and to have a sense of purpose in life. There are times, however, when a

Christian's view of this world can be very different than their neighbor's. Often, it's the joys and woes of daily life that demonstrate the differences. Whether celebrating a milestone, or coping with a disappointment, or even facing death, Christians and non-Christians can think, talk, and

act very differently.

What makes a Christian 'tick'? Why do believers look at their world with such a different perspective? The answers to these questions reveal what Christian faith is all about. While the world around them believes in things like fairness, decency, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, a Christian believes in the God who is this world's Maker, Savior, and Counselor. Simply by speaking the words of a Creed, every Christian makes a powerful statement of who they really are—not only in relationship to their world, but also in relationship to the God whose world it is.

When a non-Christian sees a lifetime's worth of achievements as the sum total of hard work or as simple dumb luck, the Christian sees the hand of



God. When a non-Christian sees a world filled with madness and uncertainty, the Christian sees a world for which

Continues on page 2...

#### Challenge: Faith!

When's the last time you were challenged...to finish the plate of a dozen chicken wings...to run 2 miles without stopping...to go a day without eating any sugar...to \_\_\_\_\_? There's nothing quite like a good challenge, right?

Beginning this September, we're going to challenge YOU to grow leaps and bounds in your faith in Jesus. Our theme for our new "school" year is going to be "Challenge: FAITH!" The goal is to get every member active in one of our Bible Classes, whether it's Sunday mornings, Men's or

Women's Bible Studies, we want to get you in the Word. Some topics we'll study include: Lodges, Mark's gospel, Fellowship according to God's Word, the book of Judges, and much more!

Are you up for the challenge?

#### .. continues from page 1

Christ died. When a non-Christian struggles to see their purpose in life and where they ought to fit in the world, the Christian sees God's own Spirit at work.

Christians confess their faith in God. "This is the God who made me what I am, gives me what I have, and who holds this whole world in his hands!" Even if Christians and non-Christians can't see the world eye to eye, the truth of God is always in view.

Keep your eyes fixed on Christ! Pastor Jason Strong

### Church Picture Directory

This past month, Pastor sent out an online directory that included contact information for our members. In October, we're looking at getting a new picture directory published. We're looking at working with Life Touch to do the pictures.

There will be more information about this directory throughout August.

#### Light of the World Mission Statement

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.

#### WELS Alaska Women's Retreat '15

Taste and see that the Lord is Good! Join the WELS Women of Alaska for a refreshing retreat at beautiful Land's End Resort in Homer, Alaska, Friday, October 9th and Saturday, October 10th. Guest speaker, Valerie Johnson, will help us to celebrate the Martha in each of us as we take Mary's example and listen at our Savior's feet and discover the joy you didn't know you had to turn your

complaints into thankfulness. Cost is \$50 per registrant if paid by September 6th. Price goes up to \$65 if paid after September 6th. For more information or to register online v i s i t www.AKWELSWomensRetrea t.com.

Pamphlets with similar information can be found on the table in the back of church.

#### On the Lighter Side...

A hog farmer decided one morning to attend a church in town. He went into town in his work clothes smelling remarkably like his hog pen.

The church folks were outraged at the smell. The pastor said to the farmer: "The next time you come here, ask the Lord what you should wear." The farmer agreed.

The following Sunday the farmer returned--in his work clothes. The pastor asked, "What did the Lord say?". The farmer replied, "The Lord said he had never been to this church and didn't know what to wear."

#### Outreach...with a Purpose!

Over the past few summers, a small group of members have joined Pastor in going around neighborhoods in our vicinity to do some canvassing. The main intent of this was to reintroduce the people of our community to Light of the World (needed especially after our official name change). While we haven't had a lot of people come to worship as a result of our canvassing, God has blessed our efforts by giv-

ing our congregation some more notoriety in the community.

This summer, however, we're taking a different approach. Instead of giving our neighbors a chance to find out more about us, we're looking to find out more about them. As we go out canvassing, we are taking short neighborhood questionnaires, inviting our neighbors to fill them out. They ask simple questions mainly fo-

cused on finding out more about their religious background, as well as what programs they think our community could benefit from.

We went on our first round of these visits in June and received a fairly positive response. We'll look at going out and surveying our neighborhoods again this month.

Our hope is that through these questionnaires, we might be

able to develop a program at Light of the World that would meet a specific perceived need of our community.

We have a lot of surveys to take, and we hope you'll consider helping us in doing this. The script is extremely simple (it's just the survey), and you'll be paired up with a more experienced canvasser. Thank you for your consideration!

# AUGUST 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 10:30—Worship w/Communion	3	4	гO	6 6:00—Education Team Meeting	7	8 12:00—Tent Set-up @ Church
9 10:30—Outdoor Wor- ship 12:00—Church Picnic	10	11 6:00—Worship Team Meeting	12	13	14	15
16 10:30—Worship w/Communion 12:00—Council Meet- ing	17	18 6:00—Canvassing	19	20	21 6:00—Council Meeting	22
23 10:30—Worship 12:00—Outreach Team Meeting	24	25	26 6:00—Sunday School Teacher's Meeting	27	28 29 Church Cleaners for August 8/2-8/8—Dolgner/Mueller	29 for August :r/Mueller
30 10:30—Worship 12:00—Member Minis- try Team Meeting	31 6:00—Catechism Par- ents Meeting				8/9-8/15—Kuhl/Sinclair 8/16-8/22—McGough 8/23-8/29—Risse 8/30-9/5—Strong	Sinclair ough

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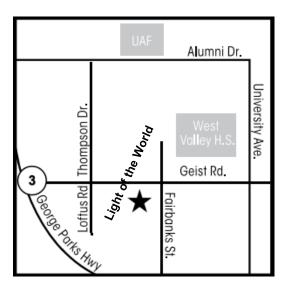
#### Check us out on

Pastor Jason Strong Phone: 907-479-4324 E-mail: strongjas@gmail.com

4155 Geist Road Fairbanks, AK 99709

Light of the World Lutheran Church www.LightoftheWorldLutheran.com

#### Grow in God's Word with us! Sunday Worship 10:30



Located at: 4155 Geist Road

#### COMING THIS FALL:



ARE YOU UP FOR THE CHALLENGE?