



# Sonlight

## Light of the World Monthly Newsletter

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### Baptism for All

**Baptism...saves you—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.**

**- 1 Peter 3:21**

“Want a tough stain out?” That’s how the old commercial began. It ended by claiming a product that could get the job done. There are lots of sprays, foams, and cleaners that companies promise are the answer to our coffee, wine, and pet stain problems. But can any of those products deliver? If there actually was a stain remover guaranteed to deliver results as promised and was free...would you be interested?

God has one for you. He has provided a special “product” that has his faithful promise and almighty power behind it,

and it is completely free. It’s not for coffee, wine, or pet stains, but for something far worse. It’s for guilt!

Guilt is what is left behind when we sin, and like an ugly stain it sticks in our hearts and minds. We want to get rid of it, but how? We can’t shout it out, even though guilt can make us angry and do lots of shouting. We can’t scrub it out, even if we try our hardest to clean up the messes we have made. So, what can get the tough stain of guilt out?

Baptism.

Baptism in a word that means to wash with water. God’s

word together with water makes baptism a cleanser that God promises will bring results: “...not the removal of dirt...but the pledge of a good conscience toward God.” A guilty conscience comes from sin, and sin makes us unacceptable before our holy, sinless God. Baptism takes away our guilt because in baptism God connects us to Jesus and his work of salvation. In baptism God gives us the great gift of forgiveness through Jesus. His death was the payment for sin, and his resurrection is the guarantee that the stain of our sin has been removed. By our

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### Key Events This Month:

- 1/7—Men’s Bible Study
- 1/8—Monthly Potluck
- 1/8—Christmas Undecorating
- 1/8—Council Meeting
- 1/15—GLOW Meeting
- 1/22—Annual Meeting
- 1/27—Family Fun Night
- 1/29—Member Ministry Team Meeting
- 1/31—Women’s Bible Study



### Annual Meeting

On Sunday, January 23, following our worship, we will be having our annual voters meeting. This is the meeting where we’re able to see our congregation’s ministry plans for the new year and set our year off on the right foot. We will also

be voting in 2 new members for the Council

As always, your attendance at this meeting is strongly encouraged because not only does it give you an opportunity to have a voice in what kind of ministry work our congregation says, but it also serves to

strengthen the ownership we all have as members of Light of the World.

The annual report will be available in hardcopy on the table in the coming weeks. It will include the ministry team plans and possibly the agenda for our meeting. Please talk to Pastor if you’d like a digital copy.

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baptism God frees us from guilt. We are saved from the consequences of sin—death and damnation!

Think about your house with every single stain removed from your carpet and couch, and from your shirt and blouse. Even the toughest stains are eliminated. Baptism is a blessing of God that is much greater! Baptism is God's amazing life-saving "product" to take out the stain of sin's guilt from your heart. Jesus guarantees it.

Rejoice in your baptism!

- Pastor Jason Strong

## *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.*

## *On the Lighter Side...*

*It was the Sunday after Christmas at St Peter and Saint Paul's Church in Borden, Kent, England. Father John was looking at the nativity scene prior to packing away the figures when he noticed the baby Jesus was missing from the scene.*

*Immediately, Father John turned towards the vicarage in order to call the police. But as he was about to do so, he saw little Harry with a red wagon, and in the wagon was the figure of the little infant, Jesus.*

*Father John walked up to Harry and said, 'Well, Harry, where did you get the little infant?'*

*Harry replied honestly, 'I took him from the church, Father John.'*

*'And why did you take him?'*

*With a sheepish smile, Harry said, 'Well, about a week before Christmas I prayed to little Lord Jesus. I told him if he would bring me a red wagon for Christmas, I would give him a ride around the block in it.'*

## *GLOW Update*

We hope that these last Advent and Christmas seasons have been refreshing and reinvigorating for you as you were able to focus your attention on the Christ-child, your Savior.

This month, we'll be getting back into the swing on things on the GLOW front. We'll have our monthly meeting on January 15 after worship, and we'll be having our Women's Bible study on the 5th Tuesday this month (Jan. 31) at 6:00pm. We're still working

through the book, "The Heart of Jesus," but even if you haven't been able to join us for a study yet, you're still invited to come and study God's Word with us!

As we enter a new year, we do so thanking you for your service and faithfulness to our Lord, and we hope to provide opportunities for you to continue doing the same in 2017!

## *Community Outreach*

Our Member Ministry team is sponsoring a food drive to benefit the Fairbanks Community Food Bank. We plan to gather donations for the month of January, so look for the collection boxes in the main entry beginning January 1. The FB needs the usual canned goods, non-perishable items like oatmeal, other dry cereal, peanut butter, granola bars, rice, etc. Bulk quantities are

welcome too. Thank you so much for any food items you are able to donate!



## *New Year, New Resolve*

What better way to start out the new year than with some new resolutions! We hope you'll make Bible Study one of your new or continued resolutions for 2017. We be happy to have you join us! We still provide multiple opportunities for you to grow in your faith through study of God's Word: Sunday morning Bible Class, Men's Bible Class, and Women's Bible Study. Make this the year you make God's Word a bigger part of your life!

# JANUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:30—Worship 12:00—Outreach Team	2	3 6:00—Choir	4	5 5:30—6th Grade Confirmation	6	7 8:00—Men's Bible Study @ Country Cafe
8 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 10:30—Worship 12:00—Monthly Potluck 12:30—Christmas Un-decorating 12:30—Council	9	10 6:00—Choir	11	12	13	14
15 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 10:30—Worship 12:00—GLOW Meeting	16	17 6:00—Choir	18	19	20	21
22 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 10:30—Worship 12:00—Annual Voters Meeting	23 5:30—Catechism	24 6:00—Choir	25	26	27 6:00—Family Fun Night	28
29 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 10:30—Worship 12:00—Member Ministry Team Meeting	30	31 6:00—Women's Bible Study	<b>Church Cleaners for January</b> 1/1-1/7—McGough 1/8-1/14—Phillips/Davidge 1/15-1/21—Risse 1/22-1/28—Sampe/Wallace 1/29-2/4—Sinclair			

**Check us out on  
Facebook!**

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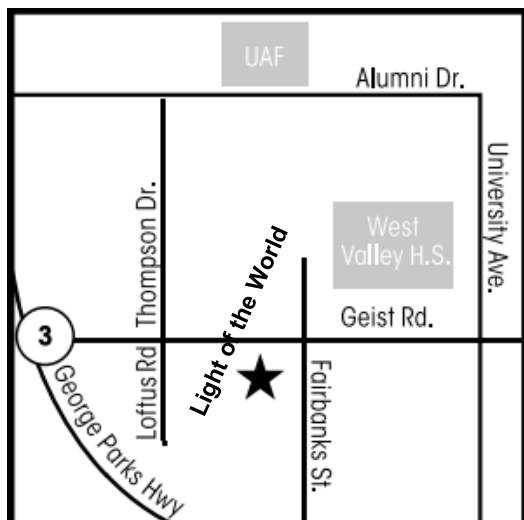
*4155 Geist Road  
Fairbanks, AK 99709*

**Light of the World Lutheran Church**  
*www.LightoftheWorldLutheran.com*

**Grow in God's Word with us!**

**Sunday School for all ages - 9:15 am**

**Sunday Worship - 10:30 am**



Located at: **4155 Geist Road**



*“If we live, we live for the Lord.”*

*- Romans 14:8*