



Light of the World Monthly Newsletter

Unchanging Hope for an Ever-Changing World

This year in our monthly articles we are considering favorite verses from the Bible.

This month's favorite Bible verse is: Hebrews 13:8

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever."

As one year ends and another begins, columnists and commentators look back at the previous year. What changed? What stayed the same? Whose passing did we mourn? Whose new arrival did we celebrate?

At the same time, we make predictions about the coming year. What will the new year hold? What will change? What will stay the same?

As fun and exciting as it may be to reminisce about the past and dream about the future, it can also be a little sad and scary. Things will likely never be what they used to be. Loved ones who have passed away don't come back. Jobs that are lost seldom reappear quickly. Even when broken dreams and broken relationships are repaired, they rarely return to their former glory. Many times our experiences in an everchanging world are difficult.

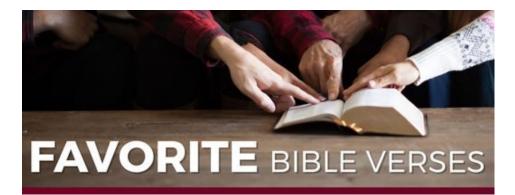
Yet we sometimes look at our lives and see a need for change. Many of us make New Year's resolutions: "I'm going to exercise more and eat less." "I'm going to save more and spend less." "I'm going to love more and hate less." But too often, our good intentions disappear, and only poor excuses remain.

No matter what (or who) changes from one year to the next, there is one who never changes—Jesus Christ, the Son of God. He always exists, from before time, throughout the course of time, and at the end of time for eternity. Jesus loved you before you were born. He loves you today, and he will always love you. That's what Christmas is all about. Jesus loved you so much that he wanted you to experience his unchanging love forever. So he came into the world to live up to God's perfect demands in your place. He took the punishment for your imperfection and gave you the reward for his perfection. That reward is an eternity far away from this world's sorrows and disappointments—the unchanging peace and joy of a place called heaven.

Jesus—the same yesterday, today, and forever—promises to be with us, love us, care for us, and give perfect peace with God to all who trust in him. Only Jesus offers unchanging hope to an ever-changing world.

Blessings in our neverchanging God,

Pastor Strong



Key Events This Month:

1/5—Prayer Group Meeting

1/12—Monthly Potluck

1/12—Christmas Decoration Takedown

1/15,16—Branches Group—Winter Session Begins

1/18—Men's Bible Study

1/19-Council Meeting

1/20—Mornings with Mommy

1/26—Annual Voter's Meeting

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

Saturday	4	11	18 8:00—Men's Bible Study @ Hometown Restaurant	25 i for January: ng le, Phillips	ng ner
Friday	ę	10	17	24 25 24 25 25 24 25 25 24 25 26 26 26 26 26 26 26 26 26 26 26 26 26	31 1/19-1/25—Young 1/26-2/1—Ziesmer
Thursday	2	6	16 6:30—Branches Group	23 6:30—Branches Group	30 6:30—Branches Group
Wednesday	-	8 5:00—6th Grade Con- firmation	15 6:30—Branches Group	22 6:30—Branches Group	29 6:30—Branches Group
Tuesday		7 5:00—Catechism 6:30—Worship Team Meeting	14 5:00—Catechism 6:30—Choir	21 6:30—Choir arce in Anchorage	28 5:00—Catechism 6:30—Choir
Monday		Ś	13	20 10:30—Mornings with 6:30—Choir Mommy Pastor at Conference in Anch	27
Sunday		5 10:30—Worship w/Communion 12:00—Prayer Group	12 9:15—Sunday School/BBB Class 10:30—Worship 12:00—Monthly Pot- luck 12:45—Christmas Dec- oration Takedown	19 9:15—Sunday School/BBB Class 10:30—Worship w/Communion 12:00—Council	26 9:15—Sunday School/BBB Class 10:30—Worship

JANUARY 2020