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No Challenge Too Big!

Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.
Joshua 1:9

What kind of challenges are you facing in your life right now? Financial? Health? Relationship? Work or school? Maybe even faith challenges? Everyone faces challenges in life. Even successful people and people that seem like they have it all together face challenges. Christians face challenges too. There's no avoiding challenges. But here is help to overcome the challenges that you face. That help comes from God. **My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth** (Psalm 121:2).

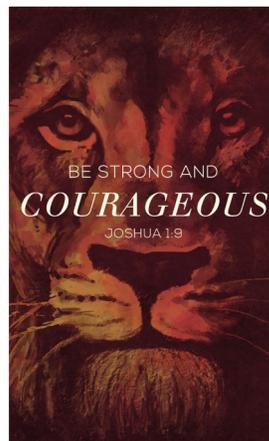
In the Old Testament of the Bible, God tells us how the people of Israel, his chosen nation, often faced challenges. On one occasion, Israel had to cross the flooded Jordan River to enter into the Promised Land, face-off against powerful

and hostile enemies and do battle against the heavily fortified city of Jericho armed with nothing but their marching feet, shouting voices and trumpets. These were huge challenges that lay before them. But they wouldn't face them alone. God was with them. He assured them of this when he said to them, **"Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged for the Lord your God will go with you wherever you go."** The people of Israel could be strong and courageous as they faced the challenges ahead of them because God promised to be with them.

God's promise to be with you is one that extends beyond earthly challenges and into the eternal challenge of your sin. Your disobedience, selfishness, and unloving thoughts, words

and actions destroy any hope of a relationship with God and if left untreated, would mean the eternal punishment of hell. But God, sent his Son Jesus to live with us and to live a perfect life for us. That perfect life he offered on the cross to pay the price for your sins as he took your punishment. He rose to give forgiveness of sins and eternal life with God to all who believe in him.

If God in his great love decided to be present in your greatest need to remove your sin, he'll be able to keep his promise to be with you during all the other challenges of life too. May this promise of God's presence in your life move you to be strong and courageous.



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Key Events This Month:
8/9—Sign Beautification Project
8/10—Monthly Potluck
8/16—Back to School Community Picnic
8/17—Council Meeting

Bible Class Series

Our theme for our Bible Classes this year will be "Re-Ignite the Fire: Learning to Love God's Word Again." The focus of these class will be to rekindle in every member a desire to be in God's Word and

to grow in their faith. We will be providing 4 different Bible Study opportunities this year:

- ⇒ Sunday Morning Bible Class
- ⇒ Women's Bible Study
- ⇒ Men's Bible Study

⇒ Individual BIC courses

Challenge yourself to make time for one of these Bible Classes, and prepare to grow stronger in your faith! Some topics will include: Revisiting Christian Discipline, the joys of the book of Philippians, and a Lutheran looks at lodges!

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Don't be terrified when challenges come up. Don't be discouraged when the troubles are overwhelming. Know that God is with you to help you face the challenges.

God will be with you wherever you go! If you find yourself in a hospital room, God is with you.

When the bills stack up, God is there. During the strained relationship, God is present. When you move, start a stage of life, struggle at work, or find yourself wrestling with life, God is there. You're not alone! God, who conquered sin and death for you, will be with you to handle all of life's challenges.

Be strong and courageous!

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.*

Sign Beautification

Our next major maintenance project will be to beautify the space around our sign outside. Plans are being drawn up to put a flower box around the base of the sign.

All we need now is your help! We hope to finish the flower box before the end of summer. If you'd be available and willing to help, please contact our Maintenance Team leader, Ian Coleman, so he can schedule a time for this project to start.

God's Lights Of the World

The 2014 Alaska WELS Women's Retreat is only 8 weeks away!

Are you registered?

Do you have any questions about the time and location?

Is your hotel room booked?

All these questions can be answered by simply going to www.lightoftheworldlutheran.com and clicking on the 2014 Women's Retreat tab at the top right of the page.

We have an incredible opportunity to be hosting this years retreat, making it much easier for all of you to attend.

Our theme is: God has a Plan for you! Our speaker will be focusing on all the many struggles in this life, but how God has a plan for each of us. He is always by our side.

Come and get rejuvenated by God's Word and with fellow believers.

In Christ, Becky Strong

On the Lighter Side...

This is a new feature for our newsletter where amusing items will be posted from mis-statements in actual church bulletins, children's comments on church and religion, insurance claim forms where car drivers attempted to summarize the cause of an accident, and other items designed to provide a laugh or two.

What a pastor actually said during congregational prayer for their unsaved loved ones: Father, we just want to pray for our unloved saved ones.

Back to School Community Picnic

We're just a couple of weeks away from hosting this awesome event, but we're still looking for help. Can you make meals for the college students, hand out invitations, or donate food items?

Please consider how you can help with this event because we need you!

⇒ Date: August 16th

⇒ Time: 11am-4pm

⇒ For: Everyone

⇒ Cost: FREE

HELP US SPREAD THE NEWS!



At our Back to School Community Picnic, our main entertainment will be Branches Band. We've had them visit and perform for us in previous years, so we're excited to have them back again for this wonderful event. As they



continue to perform classic Christian music with a contemporary twist.. To find out more about Branches Band, their mission, and their music (including their newest CD, *Let the Children Come to Me*, check out their website at www.branchesband.com.

AUGUST 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:30—Worship w/Communion 11:00—Elder’s Meeting	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 9:30—Worship 11:00—Potluck	11	12	13	14	15	16 11:00-4:00—Back to School Community Picnic
17 9:30—Worship w/Communion 11:00—Council Meeting	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 9:30—Worship	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 9:30—Worship						

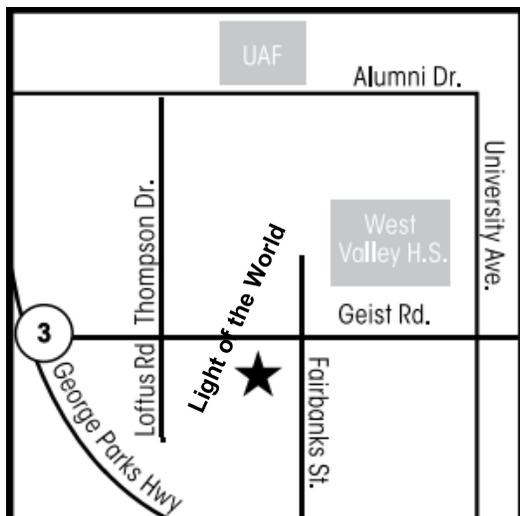
Facebook!
Check us out on

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

Grow in God's Word with us!
Summer Worship Schedule:
Sunday @ 9:30am



Located at: **4155 Geist Road**



**BACK TO SCHOOL
COMMUNITY PICNIC**
August 16, 2014.....11am-4pm
We hope to see you there!