



Sonlight

Light of the World Monthly Newsletter

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We Are Living in the End Times. So What?

We're in the thick of the "holiday season." The commercials and holiday specials on TV attempt to dictate what life should be like this time of year. We often see families smiling and laughing. But how often do our lives really look and feel anything like those overly produced moments we see in movies and on TV? Is our holiday experience filled with laughter and delight, or is it mostly filled with stress and anxiety? The chaos of this life and the whirlwind of increasingly busy schedules can leave us with a sense of longing rather than fulfillment.

The pain and hardship of this life, whether in this time of year or anytime, should come as no surprise. We are living in the End Times, the last days before the end of the world comes. But so what? What difference does that make? God makes it clear that we shouldn't be surprised when life isn't the Hollywood ideal. In fact, because of sin in this world, God says that this life is

going to be troublesome. He even warns us that wickedness will increase in the last days.

However, we live in the End Times like a child watches the calendar for Christmas. We wait with that same sort of eager excitement because we, too, are waiting for a gift. We're not waiting for toys and games wrapped in shiny paper. There is something much better coming. As the apostle Paul wrote in the Bible: "I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us" (Romans 8:18).

God promised a Savior right at the scene of the world's first sin. He followed through on



that promise by sending Jesus to pay the price for everyone's sins by dying on the cross. God's forgiveness is ours now; trusting in Jesus we are God's children! And as his children we stand waiting for the rest of that gift: rescue from this world of hardship to be brought to an eternal life where only good exists.

Jesus' work for us, his death and his resurrection, assure us of his love. While there may be dark times in this life, none of those change God's love. He is

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Key Events This Month:

- 12/5—Advent By Candlelight**
- 12/12—Christmas for Families**
- 12/13—Monthly Potluck**
- 12/13—Christmas Caroling**
- 12/20—Sunday School Christmas Program**
- 12/24—Christmas Eve Service**
- 12/25—Christmas Day Service**
- 12/31—New Year's Eve Service**

Christmas for Families

This Christmas season, our congregation will be hosting a new outreach event, "Christmas for Families." The event's theme is "Share Your Savior," and it's an event for the ENTIRE FAMILY! The goal with this event is to get

families to work together to take what they've been given, the gift of Jesus, and share that precious gift with friends, family, and our community.

At Christmas for Families, we'll create a couple simple crafts that we'll include in special CHRIST-mas gift bags that families can either take home

to gift to someone important in their lives or that we'll give to some of the organizations in our community that support the less fortunate. Our hope is to give families throughout Fairbanks the best gift ever, their Savior. More info is coming, but we hope you can join us for this awesome event!

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with us now to help us get through the rough times. Because of Jesus and the gift of salvation that he won for us, finally God will take us to be with him forever in heaven. These End Times will give way to an eternity of true joy!

Keep watch!

Pastor Jason Strong

Christmas Worship Schedule

- ⇒ Children's Christmas Program—**Sunday, December 20th @ 10:30am**
- ⇒ Christmas Eve Song Service—**Thursday, December 24th @ 6:30pm**
- ⇒ Christmas Day Celebration—**Friday, December 25th @ 10:30am**
- ⇒ New Year's Eve Worship—**Thursday, December 31 @ 6:30pm**

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.*

G.L.O.W. Report

At the beginning of this month, we will be holding our annual Advent by Candlelight. This year's theme is "Anticipating His Presence: A Gift for Eternity." We thank those ladies who are hosting and/or helping out with the program.. We thank the ladies who will be joining us for this peaceful afternoon of preparing for the birth of Jesus.

Our yearly Christmas party will be held on Friday, December 18th @ 6pm. We invite all the ladies to join us for this party! If you'd like

to attend, we'd ask that you bring a white elephant gift and an appetizer to share. Please talk to Bethnay McGough if you have more questions about the party.

As always, please take a look at the calendar for our next GLOW meeting and the Women's Bible Study (the next of which will be in January).

On the Lighter Side...

A minister parked his car in a no-parking zone in a large city because he was short of time and couldn't find a space with a meter. Then he puts a note under the windshield wiper that read: 'I have circled the block 10 times. If I don't park here, I'll miss my appointment. Forgive us our trespasses.'

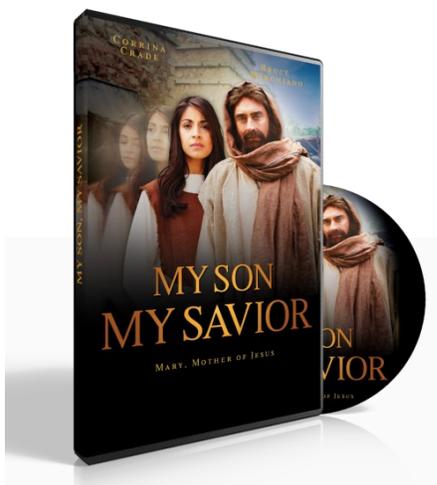
When he returned, he found a citation from a police officer along with this note ' I've circled this block for 10 years. If I don't give you a ticket I'll lose my job. Lead us not into temptation.'

Share Your Savior This Christmas!

We're mere weeks away from hearing once again the joyous news of a Savior, who has come to bring us peace with God. No one treasured that new more than Jesus' mother, Mary!

Our synod has recently published a new movie, "My Son...My Savior," which follows Mary on her journey to realizing how great of a gift Jesus truly was.

We want you to share this same gift with loved ones this year. We have ordered 100 dvds of "My Son...My Savior." If you'd like to take a few and gift them to friends or family members who need to hear the good news of Jesus, please feel free to take copies with you!



DECEMBER 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 6:00—Choir	2 5:30—Advent Supper 6:30—Midweek Advent	3	4	5 3:00—Advent by Candlelight
6 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 10:30—Worship w/Communion 12:00—Member Ministry Team Meeting	7 4:30—6th Grade Confirmation 6:00—Catechism	8 6:00—Choir	9 5:30—Advent Supper 6:30—Midweek Advent Worship	10	11	12 1:00—Christmas for Families
13 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 10:30—Worship 12:00—Potluck 1:00—Christmas Caroling	14 6:00—Catechism	15 6:00—Choir	16 5:30—Advent Supper 6:30—Midweek Advent Worship	17	18 6:00—GLOW Christmas Party	19 8:00—Men's Bible Study @ Country Café in North Pole
20 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 10:30—Children's Christmas Eve Service 12:00—Council Meeting	21 6:00—Catechism	22 6:00—Choir	23	24 6:30—Christmas Eve Worship	25 10:30—Christmas Day Celebration	26
27 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 10:30—Worship w/Communion 12:00—Elders Meeting	28	29	30	31 6:30—New Year's Eve Worship	Church Cleaners for December 11/29-12/5—Sampe/Wallace 12/6-12/12—Sinclair/Dolgner 12/13-12/19—Strong 12/20-12/26—Taipale/Anderson 12/27-1/2—Ziesmer	

Facebook!

Check us out on

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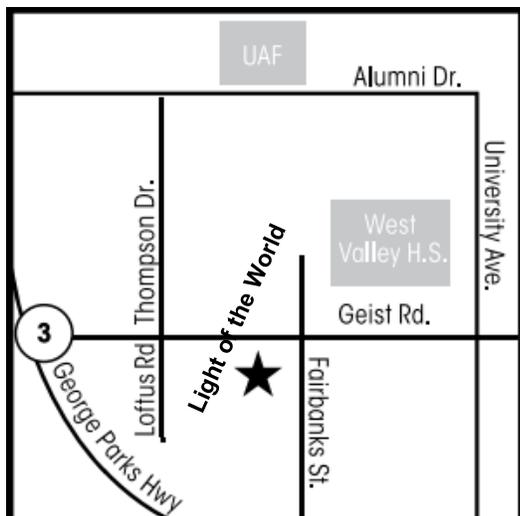
Light of the World Lutheran Church
www.LightoftheWorldLutheran.com

Grow in God's Word with us!

Sunday Worship 10:30

Bible Classes for all ages

9:15 am



Located at: 4155 Geist Road



CHRISTMAS

FOR FAMILIES