



Sonlight

Light of the World Monthly Newsletter

Inside this issue:

<i>December Message</i>	1
<i>Community Outreach Opportunity</i>	1
<i>Philippians Bible Class</i>	2
<i>GLOW Update</i>	2
<i>Lighter Side</i>	2
<i>Christmas for Kids</i>	2
<i>December Calendar</i>	3

Christmas—God’s Gift to You!

When the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.

Galatians 4:4-5

It’s the moment for which children wait so excitedly: the time for tearing open Christmas presents. It’s thrilling to see their excitement and joy to find out what lies beneath the bow and paper. But often, just as quickly as the excitement erupted, it begins to disappear. When the flying bows and paper settle, feelings of disappointment and ingratitude so often start to surface. The moment everyone so eagerly looked forward to so soon ends up becoming yet another disappointment.

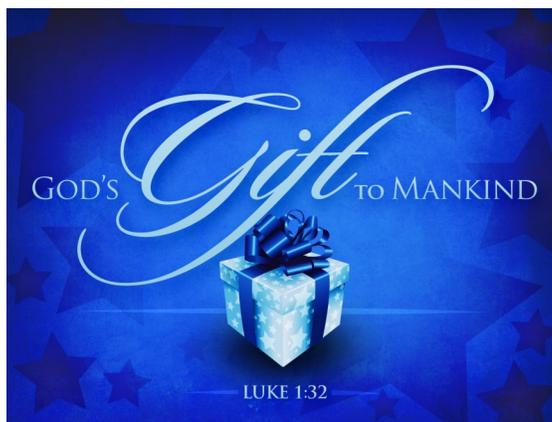
For so many the Christmas season and

celebration ends up like the boxes strewn across the floor—empty. Christmas is about giving and receiving gifts, but its focus is not on the gifts and presents placed under a tree. The focus of Christmas is a baby who is God in human flesh placed in a manger.

Christmas is the celebration of the gift of God’s one and only Son, a gift he gave to the world. It’s the gift that I need, that you need, that this whole world needs. You see, this

world—including you and me—is wrapped and covered in sin. It’s this covering of sin that leaves us empty and disappointed and looking for more gifts and other presents that we hope will fill the void. But they can’t.

It is only through the gift of God’s Son, and his life and death that removes from you the ugly covering and wrapping of your sins. Jesus did not come to be placed under a Christmas tree, but to hang upon a tree, not as an ornament, but as the one who would die upon it to pay for all of your sins. His perfect, innocent life and death are gifts he offers to you to make you his perfect and holy child and heir of heaven.



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Key Events This Month:

- 12/6—Advent By Candlelight**
- 12/9—GLOW Christmas Party**
- 12/14—Monthly Potluck**
- 12/14—Christmas Caroling**
- 12/20—Christmas for Kids**
- 12/24—Christmas Eve Services**
- 12/25—Christmas Day Celebration**

Community Out-

This month, we at LOTW will begin a drive to benefit the Fairbanks Rescue Mission, a local shelter for homeless families and individual adults. We will have collection boxes set up in the main entry at church

for the month of December to accept donations of KITCHEN NEEDS (nonperishable) items such as oatmeal, pancake mix, syrup, powdered milk; SHELTER NEEDS such as diapers (all sizes), laundry detergent, razors, shaving cream; and OFFICE NEEDS

such as letter-size copy paper, ink pens, scotch tape for dispensers. A list of items is posted with the boxes. Since the staff prepares three meals a day for 100 people, large sizes are greatly appreciated. Thank you for helping with this worthy cause!

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Christmas is so much more than presents placed beneath a tree. It's the sure and certain fulfillment of God's most treasured gift to you, your Savior from sin, Jesus Christ. It's a gift we want to share with you. It's a gift we want to enjoy with you this season and all year long.

Merry Christmas!

Christmas Services ***Light of the World*** ***Mission Statement***

Christmas Eve

⇒ Sunday School Children's Service—
6:00pm

⇒ Carols of Christmas Song Service—
8:00pm

Christmas Day

⇒ Christmas Day Celebration—10:30am

*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.*

GLOW Update

The GLOW ladies will begin celebrating the birth of our Lord on Saturday, December 6th at 3:00 P.M. with the third annual Advent by Candlelight with a theme of "Take me to the Manger". Please sign up on the provided sheet in the back of church. Additional invitations are also available to invite your family and friends to this most joyous event.

GLOW ladies will also be gathering on Tuesday, December 9th at 6:00 P.M. for their Christmas Party. All ladies are invited to bring a 'white elephant' gift to pass and an appetizer to share. Please join us for this fun night!

On the Lighter Side...

An art teacher in a Maine elementary school also taught Sunday school. She had the little ones draw pictures of Bible stories. Emma proudly presented her picture of the journey of Bethlehem. The drawing showed an airplane flying over the desert. In the passenger area were seated Joseph and Mary and little Jesus. "This drawing is fine" said the teacher, "but who's that up front flying the plane?". "Why that's Pontius the Pilot" answered Emma.

Christmas for Kids

On Saturday, December 20, we will be holding our annual Christmas for Kids outreach event. The theme this year is "Follow the Star to Bethlehem." Along with the Wise Men, we follow the star to Bethlehem to see the true star, the newborn King.

This is a wonderful opportunity to share the joy of Christmas with the children throughout our community. In order to do so, we need your help. There

are four ways you can help make this event a success: 1) Give prayers for our efforts, 2) Volunteer to help with the event, 3) Sign up to bring some donations, and 4) Hand out invites to families throughout our community.

We thank you for helping share Jesus our Savior with precious souls!



DECEMBER 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 4:30—Catechism	2 6:00—Choir	3	4 6:00—6th Grade Confirmation	5	6 3:00—Advent by Candlelight
7 8:00, 10:30—Worship w/ Communion 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 12:00—Special Voters Meeting 12:45—Council Meeting	8 4:30—Catechism	9 6:00—GLOW Christmas Party	10	11	12	13 10:00—Sunday School Christmas Program Practice
14 8:00, 10:30—Worship 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 12:00—Potluck 1:00—Christmas Caroling	15 4:30—Catechism	16 6:00—Choir	17	18	19	20 1:00-3:00—Christmas for Kids
21 8:00, 10:30—Worship w/ Communion 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 11:45—Sunday School Christmas Program Practice	22 4:30—Catechism	23 6:00—Choir	24 6:00—Sunday School Christmas Program 8:00—Christmas Eve Song Service	25 10:30—Christmas Day Celebration	26	27
28 8:00, 10:30—Worship 9:15—Sunday School for all ages	29	30	31 6:30—New Year's Eve Service		Church Cleaners for December 12/1-12/6—Belmont 12/7-12/13—Carpenter 12/14-12/20—Christianson 12/21-12/27—Coleman, Bob & Gail	

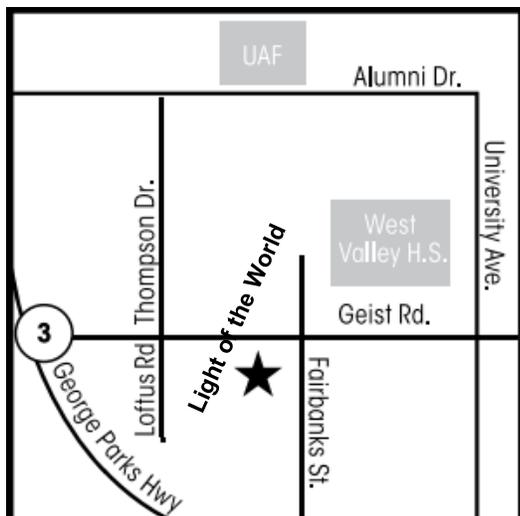
**Check us out on
Facebook!**

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Light of the World Lutheran Church
www.LightoftheWorldLutheran.com

Grow in God's Word with us!
Sunday Worship 8:00 & 10:30
Bible Classes for all ages
9:15 am



Located at: 4155 Geist Road

***“Follow the
Star to Bethlehem!”
Christmas for Kids 2014
Saturday, December 20th***

