



Sonlight

Light of the World Monthly Newsletter

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Lamentations 3:22-23 "Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

One of the things I like to do after Christmas is to finally sit down for a few minutes and read through Christmas letters we received from friends and family. It's hard to keep up with everyone as much as I'd like to, so these letters are an easy way for me to catch up on their lives and everything that's been happening to them.

As we enter another new year, there's always the want to be looking ahead and setting goals

for what we want to accomplish in the new year. But, it's also a good time to reflect on the past year as well. So this January, let's look at how God's great love and compassion and faithfulness has been evident in our congregation.

First and foremost, every one of us sees God's graces, new every morning, every day we're alive. We wake up sinners, and yet we wake up saints covered in the blood of Christ. Above every blessing, that's the greatest thing to happen to us this past year.

And God sees fit to heap more incredible blessings on us each year. This past year was no different. Our church attendance has steadily grown to about 70 souls hearing the gospel every Sunday, creating wonderful blessings, challenges, and opportunities for Light of the World to continue growing.

We had three events geared

towards sharing Jesus with the children of our community, and between the three events, we had around 100 children in attendance.

We received a generous monetary gift to boost our outreach attempts. Our biggest use of that gift, a sign in front of church, allows our church to stand as a beacon of light to those who are walking in darkness.

Our ladies' group, Northern GLOW, sent nearly a dozen women down to the WELS Alaska Women's Retreat in Girdwood this year. We are gearing to host this encouraging and spiritually uplifting retreat this year.

We approved a 5-year vision for our congregation, and we are now looking forward to attaining the ministry goals we've set for ourselves.

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Key Events This Month:

- 1/3—Family Fun Night
- 1/12—Monthly Potluck
- 1/12—Christmas Undecorating
- 1/19—Annual Voters Meeting
- 1/24—Family Fun Night, take II
- 1/28—Women's Bible Study

Annual Meeting

The date for our Annual Voters Meeting will be Sunday, January 19 @12:00pm.

All members are encouraged to attend this meeting, as this is one of the few venues where

you are able to hear about how our ministry, as a whole, is proceeding. Two of the big items on our agenda will be the 2014 budget and elections to the Council, as we will have 3 positions vacated.

The annual report will be avail-

able early January, and if you have items you would like to be placed on the agenda, please contact one of the Council members in the weeks leading up to the meeting.

We hope to see you there!

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I could go on and on because that's only skimming the service of God's blessings to our congregation in 2013. God has been good to us, and I'm confident he will be no different in 2014. I can't wait to see the blessings God has in store for us, and I hope you can't either. I pray you'll be a big part of this year as well, with your prayers, your gifts, and your talents, because that's one of the greatest ways to be faithful to a God who's compassions and mercies and faithfulness to us never changes.

God's richest blessings to you this new year!

God's Lights Of the World

Welcome to 2014, a year filled with many exciting events! Hope you can be a part of them.

Our new Bible Study, "God is in the Laundry Room" has a tentative start date of Tuesday, January 28. If you would like to purchase a book to be part of this study, please speak to Becky Strong. More information and details to come.

We are looking for someone to

be our GLOW treasurer. Your duties would be signing checks and balancing the checkbook. It would only be a one-year commitment. If this interests you, please let us know.

Our next GLOW meeting will be on Tuesday, Dec. 14, at 6:00 p.m. in the church basement. We are going to begin our work for hosting the 2014 WELS Women's Retreat. Hope to see you there!

God bless, Becky Strong

Community Outreach Update

Collection boxes including a list of needed items are set up in the main entryway for our donations to benefit Fairbanks Youth Advocates (FYA). This local organization is dedicated to helping at-risk youth (up to age 18) who, for varying reasons, are homeless and have nowhere to go. Our donations will be given to the FYA-sponsored temporary emergen-

cy shelter at the downtown Presbyterian Church.

When FYA opens their permanent shelter -- The Door-- the temporary shelter will close, but FYA's needs will remain the same as they continue to advocate for homeless youth.

Any donation you are able to make will be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

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.*

Family Fun Nights

This month, we will be hosting two game nights here at Light of the World. These are nights that allow for members to get together outside of the church setting and to enjoy fellowship with each other.

Usually, we have been getting together on the 3rd Friday of each month, but this month, our Family Fun Nights will be on Friday, January 3 and Friday, January 24.

Bring your favorite game, a snack to share, or just yourself, and come and enjoy an evening of fun!

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.

On a Church bulletin during the minister's illness:

God is GOOD- Pastor Hargreaves is better.

Ministry Teams

YOUR CHURCH NEEDS YOU!

As we start another year, our ministry teams are getting ready to start doing work for Christ's kingdom, but they all need help. We need individuals who want to serve their Lord by getting involved here.

That can be you! Whether your interests lie in education,

maintenance, planning, education, worship, outreach, there is a place for every member and every gift here at Light of the World. Won't you consider joining a team?

Make serving as a light here at Light of the World your resolution for this new year!

JANUARY 2014

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

			1	2	3	4
5 8:00, 10:30—Worship w/ Communion 9:15—Sunday School for all ages	6 4:30—Catechism	7	8	9	10	11
12 8:00, 10:30—Worship 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 12:00—Potluck 1:00—Council Meeting 1:00—Un-decorating	13 4:30—Catechism	14 6:00—Northern GLOW	15 6:00—Worship Team Meeting	16	17	18
19 8:00, 10:30—Worship w/ Communion 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 12:00—Annual Meeting	20 4:30—Catechism	21	22 6:15—Choir	23	24 6:00—Family Fun Night	25
26 8:00, 10:30—Worship 9:15—Sunday School for all ages	27 4:30—Catechism	28 6:00—Women's Bible Study	29 6:15—Choir	30	31	

Pastor @ Conference in Hood River, OR

Facebook!

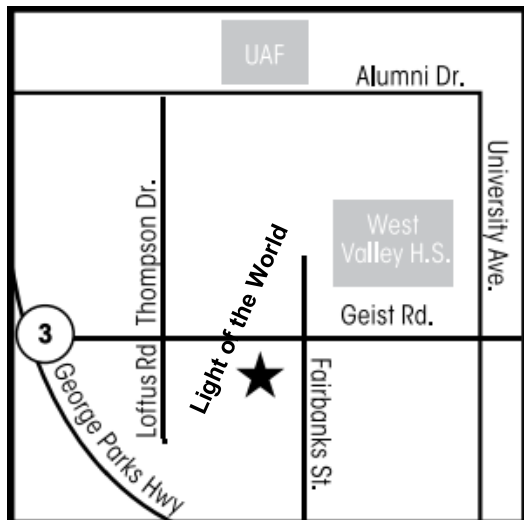
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Light of the World Lutheran Church
www.LightoftheWorldLutheran.com

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



**Give thanks to the Lord...his
love endures forever!"**

-Psalm 118:1