



# Sonlight

## Light of the World Monthly Newsletter

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## *Your Freedom Is Free!*

***“So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”  
John 8:53***

“Freedom is never free.” I’m guessing you’ve probably heard that phrase before, probably even around this time of year. Besides the typical family gatherings, the delicious cookouts, and the breath-taking fireworks displays (in the Outside; I’m not advocating shooting fireworks in these dry conditions!), the 4<sup>th</sup> of July is a holiday where you can take some time and remember and be thankful for the freedoms we enjoy today.

And yet, freedom is never free. The freedoms you and I benefit from in our lives came at a cost. Throughout the years of our country’s existence, countless men and women have fought and have paid a dear price, having given their lives to ensure you and I can be free.

At one time, however, you weren’t free. In your spiritual life, there was a time when you were a slave...a slave to sin. Before you took your first breath outside of your mother’s womb, you were a slave, meaning you were bound to Satan and his will. We still see remnants of that slavery



today. Every hateful thought you think, every hurtful word you speak, every unloving action you make, every time you disobey one of God’s commands, that’s a remnant of a the time when we were powerless to keep ourselves from

sinning because we weren’t free. We were slaves to sin.

That’s what you and I *WERE*. But not anymore. The chains have been broken. We have been freed. But again, freedom is never free. There was a price for our freedom, and Jesus paid it. To free us all, Jesus paid the greatest price,

his perfect life and his innocent blood, which he shed freely and willingly and lovingly for you and me when he died on the cross. By his life, death, and resurrection,

Jesus has freed us from sin and has saved us from our slavery to Satan. Sin can hurt us no more.

*Continues on page 2....*

### Key Events This Month:

- 7/11—Canvassing**
- 7/14—Outdoor Worship Service and Picnic**
- 7/21—FoC Presentation and Voters Meeting**
- 7/23—GLOW Meeting**
- 7/27—Goldpanners Game**

### *Church Picnic*

This month, we’ll be holding our annual summer church picnic. Again this year, we’ll be holding an outdoor worship service at Pioneer Park. The service will be at the picnic shelter next to the square-

dancing hall at 11:00am (to allow some extra time for those who end up at church at 10:30!).

In place of our monthly potluck, we’ll hold a picnic after the worship service. You are invited to bring a dish to pass

and a meat to grill, if you would like. Grills, water, and juice will be provided.

Finally, after our meal, we’ll be having some games for kids of ALL ages! We hope you’ll be able to come and join us for an Sunday full of fellowship and fun!

*...continued from page 1*

Your freedom IS free. There's nothing you have to do in return for it. It's a gift, given in love to you by your gracious God. And so this 4<sup>th</sup> of July, thank God for the freedoms you have in this life because of the dear price so many paid to win them for you and to keep them for you. But even more importantly, every day, thank God for the freedom you have from sin, yours for free because the Son has set you free!

Pastor Strong

## *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.*

## *Goldpanners Game*

Once again, our member ministry team is planning a church outing to watch a Goldpanners game. This month, we're looking at going on Saturday, July 27. The game starts at 5pm, so we will be tail-gating in the parking lot beginning at 4pm. We should be able to secure some free tickets for the game as well. Please contact Pastor if you'd be interested in going.

## *Quarterly Voters Meeting*

Our next Voters Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, July 21 following our worship service. We hope you'll be able to stay for this meeting because it gives you a chance to find out some of the projects that are going on as well as future projects for our congregation. Here's a preview of some of the issues up for discussion:

⇒ Approving the revised constitution

- ⇒ Update on the sign
- ⇒ Discussion on cutting down some of the trees in front of church
- ⇒ Planning another Work Day
- ⇒ Having a 2nd worship service

Please make the effort to come and take part in this meeting!

## *Upcoming BBB Classes*

Our BBB (Back to the Basics of the Bible) Class has started up and is cruising right along.

Here's the topics we'll hopefully be tackling this month:

- ⇒ GOD'S WORD
- ⇒ READING THE BIBLE
- ⇒ THE TRIUNE GOD
- ⇒ JESUS CHRIST—TURE GOD AND TRUE MAN

If you or someone you know would like to find out more about our BBB Class, you may contact Pastor Strong via email or by calling his office.

We are currently meeting on Monday evenings at 7:30pm.

## *God's Lights Of the World*

We will be having a mid-summer meeting on Tuesday, July 23 at 6:00 p.m. over at the parsonage. At this meeting we are going to discuss the upcoming retreat in Girdwood, but also the possibility of hosting the 2014 Retreat here in Fairbanks. If you are at all interested in being a part of these, PLEASE come to this meeting! We would love to see how many are interested in

being a part of these events.

If you are interested in receiving more information about the 2013 WELS Women's Retreat in Girdwood, AK at Alyeska on October 4-5, see Becky Strong, or look for the brochures on the back table in church. This is a great event to meet other WELS women of Alaska.

Sincerely, Becky Strong

## *Friends of China Presentation*

On Sunday, July 21, you have the opportunity to find out more about the Friends of China program. Beth Strong, the sister of Pastor, has spent the past five years in China, teaching English to Chinese, but there's a greater message she's sharing there!

Beth will be giving a presentation before our worship service

(so as not to conflict with our quarterly voters meeting). Her presentation will start at 9:30.

You'll have the opportunity to support the work of Beth and Friends of China with a special door offering that will be gathered after worship on that Sunday.

# JULY 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 10:30—Worship w/ Communion	8 7:30—BBB Class	9 4:30—Choir	10	11 6:00—Canvassing	12	13
14 11:00—Outdoor Worship @ Pioneer Park 12:00—Church Pic- nic	15 7:30—BBB Class	16 4:30—Choir	17	18	19	20
21 9:15—Friends of China Presentation 10:30—Worship w/ Communion 12:00—Voters Meet- ing	22 7:30—BBB Class	23 4:30—Choir 6:00—GLOW Meet- ing	24	25 4:30—Worship Team Meeting 6:00—Outreach Team Meeting	26	27 5:00—Goldpanners Game (Tailgating @ 4:00pm)
28 10:30—Worship 12:00—Education Team Meeting	29 7:30—BBB Class	30	31			

**Facebook!**

**Check us out on**

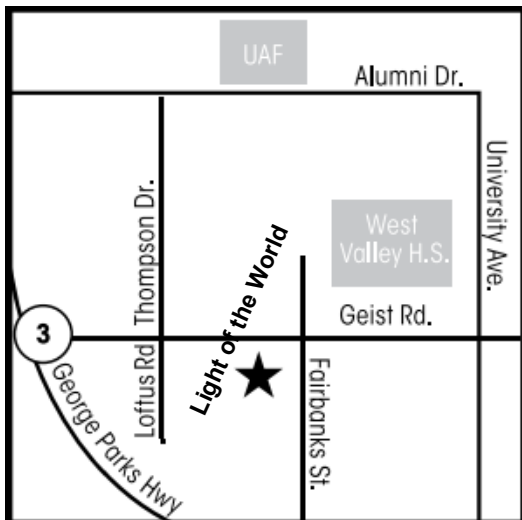
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**Light of the World Lutheran Church**  
*www.LightoftheWorldLutheran.com*

**Grow in God's Word with us this  
summer!**

**Sunday Worship 10:30 am**



Located at: **4155 Geist Road**



**Thank God for  
freedom!**