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Power of the Gospel

I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes.

– Romans 1:16

Crucifixion was a most shameful way to die. The condemned individual was stripped of both clothing and dignity, nailed to a wooden cross, and left there to die slowly over the course of hours or days. It was an execution reserved for only the very worst of criminals.

With all this in mind, you might expect the early Christians to have been ashamed or even embarrassed about what had happened to Jesus. Instead, from the very beginning,

the message of Jesus’ suffering and death on the cross has been at the heart and core of Christianity.

As he addresses a group of Christians in Rome, the apostle Paul even calls Jesus’ suffering and death “the gospel,” which means “good news!” He writes, “I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes.”

How could Paul and other Christians be so positive about the shameful death of Jesus? The answer is that by Jesus’ death, God was accomplishing something wonderful for all people.

The prophet Isaiah put it like this: “He was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.” The reason Jesus died that shameful death on the cross was to take away all our sins—our lust, pride, selfishness and greed... every cruel word we have said to hurt other people...every wicked action for which we are ashamed and wish we could take back. All these sins, for which we deserve to be punished, were placed on Jesus and he took the punishment in our place.

Jesus’ suffering and death on the cross means that we are saved from God’s punishment for our sins. It means that relying on Jesus as our Savior we can look forward to eternal life in heaven that our Savior has prepared for us.

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Key Events This Month:

- 3/1—Lent begins**
- 3/11—Men’s Bible Study**
- 3/12—Friendship Sunday**
- 3/12—Chowder Cook-off**
- 3/24—Family Fun Night**
- 3/28—Women’s Bible Study**



Lent 2017

As we begin March, we also begin a new season of the church year, Lent. During this season, we get to follow Jesus along his somber journey to the cross to complete his work of salvation. During Sundays and Wednesday in Lent, we’ll be working through two differ-

ent sermon series. In *Sacred Head, Now Wounded* (Sundays), we’ll explore the different wounds Jesus endured on his walk to the cross, both physical and emotional. Our Wednesday evening series, *Ironies of the Passion*, we’ll see how some ironic aspects of the Passion account can teach us about the lasting significance of Jesus’

ministry and his life, death, and resurrection.

As usual, before worship on Wednesday evenings, we’ll be having a special meal. Look for sign-up sheets in the back of church weeks to see how you can contribute to those meals.

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Thank God for the message of the gospel, “the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes.” Powerful enough to wash away our sins. Powerful enough to bring us home to heaven one day. Powerful enough, and important enough, for us to rely on Jesus alone for salvation.

God’s Blessings,
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.*

On the Lighter Side...

Preacher on a Horse

A preacher trained his horse to go when he said, "Praise the Lord," and to stop when he said, "Amen." The preacher mounted the horse, said, "Praise the Lord" and went for a ride. When he wanted to stop for lunch, he said, "Amen." He took off again, saying, "Praise the Lord." The horse started going toward the edge of a cliff. The preacher got excited and said, "Whoa!" Then he remembered and said, "Amen," and the horse stopped at the edge of the cliff. The preacher was so relieved and grateful that he looked up to heaven and said, "Praise the Lord!"

“CHOW”der Cook-off 2017

What goes great with a snowy day and sub-zero temps? Nothing quite beats a nice, warm bowl of delicious chowder! If that’s the kind of person you are, then our Chowder Cook-off is just what you need this month!

Following our worship on our Friendship Sunday, March 12th, we’ll be holding our 2nd Annual LotW Cook-off, with this year’s focus being chowder! Anyone is invited to enter a chowder (our definition of that is rather loose!)

for the chance to win one of three prizes.

If you don’t want to make a chowder, no problem! You can still come and enjoy some of the delicious food! Everyone who comes will have the chance to be a judge and help us decide who’s got the best chowder here at Light of the World.

So, again, we hope you can join us after worship on March 12th to enjoy some fun, fellowship, and best of all, chowder!

Monthly Project List

A new thing that the Maintenance Team is trying this year is to put out a monthly list of smaller projects that can be done around church. Then, if anyone is interested in taking an hour or two to help accomplish one of the projects, they can get in touch with the team leader, James McGough. The project for March is:

- ⇒ Replace broken ceiling tiles in fellowship area

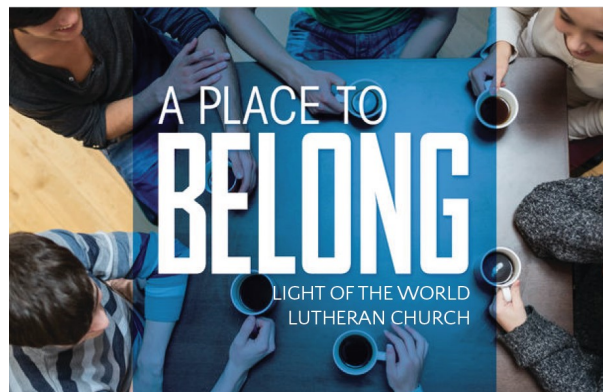
Friendship Sunday: Come & See Initiative

“You are the light of the world...” What an awesome opportunity we have to be Jesus’ lights, to the world to be witnesses to Jesus in our daily lives. What a huge privilege!

We want to help you make the most of this opportunity. Throughout this year, we’ll be having 4 Friendship Sundays, a great and low pressure way of inviting someone you know, someone you care about to

come and hear the good news. Our sermons for those Sundays will focus on answering commonly asked questions with God’s Word. This month it’s “Why does God let bad stuff happen to me?”

We hope you’ll be a part of our “Come & See Initiative” on March 12, and invite 1 person to come and see Jesus here! Thanks!



MARCH 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 10:30—Worship w/Communion 12:00—Outreach Team Meeting	6 5:30—Catechism	7 6:00—Choir	8 5:30—Lenten Dinner 6:30—Midweek Lent Worship	9 5:30—Lenten Dinner 6:30—Midweek Lent Worship	10 8:00—Men's Bible Study @ Country Café in NP	11 8:00—Men's Bible Study @ Country Café in NP
12 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 10:30—Friendship Sunday 12:00—Chowder Cook-off	13	14 6:00—Choir	15 5:30—Lenten Dinner 6:30—Midweek Lent Worship	16	17	18
19 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 10:30—Worship 12:00—Council 12:00—GLOW Meeting	20 5:30—Catechism	21 6:00—Choir	22 5:30—Lenten Dinner 6:30—Midweek Lent Worship	23	24 6:00—Family Fun Night	25
26 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 10:30—Worship 12:00—Member Ministry	27 5:30—Catechism	28 6:00—Women's Bible Study	29 5:30—Lenten Dinner 6:30—Midweek Lent Worship	30 5:30—6th Grade Confirmation	31	Church Cleaners for March: 2/26-3/4—Ziesmer 3/5-3/11—Austin 3/12-3/18—Carpenter 3/19-3/25—Coleman, Bob & Gail 3/25-4/1—Coleman, Ian & Sheila

Facebook!

Check us out on

Pastor Jason Strong
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E-mail: strongjas@gmail.com

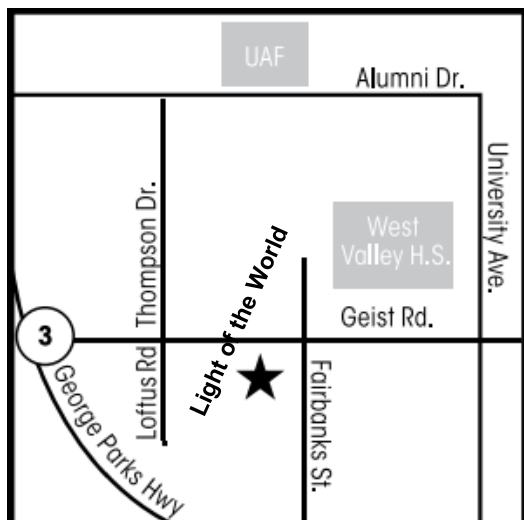
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www.LightoftheWorldLutheran.com

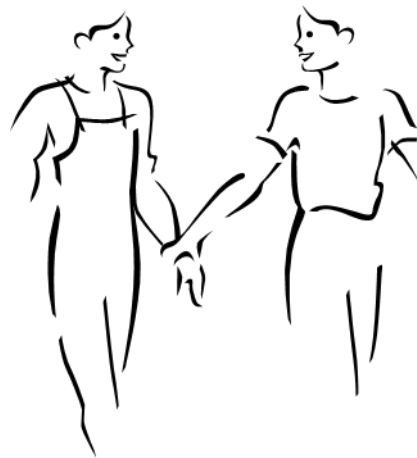
Grow in God's Word with us!

Sunday School for all ages - 9:15 am

Sunday Worship - 10:30 am



Located at: **4155 Geist Road**



***Invite a Friend to Meet
Our Best Friend, Jesus!***

MARCH 12TH, 2017