



# Sonlight

## Light of the World Monthly Newsletter

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### Key Events This Month:

**10/4-5—WELS AK  
Women's Retreat @  
Girdwood**

**10/13—German Potluck**

**10/18—Family Fun  
Night**

**10/20—Quarterly Voters'  
Meeting**

**10/28-29—Alaska Pas-  
tors and Teachers Con-  
ference @ Faith, An-  
chorage**

## *It's Your Gift to Use!*

*Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.*

*1 Peter 4:10*

If you're anything like me, you hate getting Christmas presents early. I'm one of those people who refuse to go along and pick out my own present ahead of time, just to have it wrapped up and placed under the tree, where it sits until Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

Now, maybe you think I'm overreacting. What's so bad about knowing what you're getting? It's not so much knowing what the gift is that bothers me; it's the waiting to be able to make use of the present. Those power tools would be much more useful if they were helping finish projects around the house, not still sitting in their original wrapping. That new mixer could be whipping up some delicious desserts, but no, it has do not

use until December 25<sup>th</sup> label tagged to it. It's tough to wait for a gift you want to use so badly.

Our loving God gives every single one of us different kinds of gifts, spiritual gifts. It might be the gift of encouragement. It might be the gift of prayer. It might be the gift of labor. It might be the gift of organizing. It might be the gift of teaching. And here's the best part. There's no "do not open until Christmas" labels on those gifts. The Holy Spirit gives each of us many and varied gifts, not just to keep to ourselves, but to use to "serve others." Or, in other words, God gives us gifts to use them in his church, so his grace can be administered in all different ways.

How are you doing with those gifts? Did you put them back into their wrappings and put them up on your shelf where they can just collect dust? Do



you take the gifts God has given you to serve and do nothing with them? I think any one of us would have a difficult time saying that we've been faithful with any and every gift God has graciously presented us because we haven't. Too often, we make excuses to not use our gifts, but you know what, every one of those excuses is selfish and self-serving. And for that, God ought to take away every gift he's ever given to us, and we would have nothing.

But he doesn't. Because of his greatest gift, Jesus, God still continues to generously lavish his love and his loving gifts on

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## *Assimilation Board*

Have you ever wondered how you might get more involved here at Light of the World? Do you have some gifts that are sitting fallow right now?

We're constantly looking for

help in all different areas of our ministry here, and our Member Ministry Team has been discussing ways to encourage people to be good stewards of their spiritual gifts.

This month, we'll be putting up an "Assimilation Board," a

board that will have information about tasks needing help to get done in church. The goal will be to present opportunities for you to use your gifts to serve God and his people here. Keep your eyes out for the board and more information throughout October!

*...continued from page 1.*

us. And now, he wasn't us to faithfully administer them and use them to serve others. One of the ways is here at church. What gifts can you use to serve God and his people here at Light of the World. I know it's not Christmas, but maybe it's time to go back under the tree, brush the dust off your God-given gifts, and look for ways to use them. And when you look, you'll see the opportunities abound, opportunities to use your gifts to serve your loving God!

God's blessings on your gift-giving! **Pastor Jason 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.*

## *Advent by Candlelight*

Advent will be here before you know it! Ladies, keep your eyes open for more information coming soon about our 2nd Annual Advent By Candlelight.

Date: December 7, 2013

## *God's Lights Of the World*

Dear Ladies,

So many great things happening with GLOW, and it's only September! We had our first meeting and Bible Study this month, and both went great. We were blest to have our Bible Study on "Contentment" at Fane Austin's home. We thank her for her hospitality, and for opening her home to us. If other ladies would be interested in hosting our monthly

Study, please let me know.

On Thursday, 11 of us leave for the Women's Retreat at Alyeska! We look forward to sharing our adventures with you all once we return.

Our next gatherings:

Meeting - Tuesday, October 8 - 6:00 p.m. at church

Bible Study - Tuesday, October 22 - 6:00 p.m. Location TBD

God bless, Becky Strong

## *Ministry Teams*

Are you looking to get involved at church? Do you have gifts you want to put to good use? Then you might be interested in joining one of our ministry teams.

We currently have 5 ministry teams, Outreach, Maintenance, Worship, Member Ministry, and Education. There is no commitment needed to join

one of these teams. We're just looking for individuals who have ideas for our ministry here, are eager to do some work, and like having fun. If you'd like more information concerning one of these teams, please contact Pastor.

## *VISION 2018*

Did you know our Education Team is looking at starting a preschool within the next five years? Or that our Maintenance Team is looking to have \$10,000 in a building fund for renovations or adding on to our church building?

Over the past few months, our ministry teams and our Leadership Team have been working together to create a vision for Light of the World, to set

some goals for the next five years. This will direct our ministry efforts in the coming years as we seek to take Jesus out into our community. At our Quarterly Voters' Meeting this month, this five year vision will be voted on, but in the time before that, you'll have the chance to see the vision as well. Please keep our congregation and this potential vision in your prayers!

## *Quarterly Voters' Meeting*

Please mark Sunday, October 20th on your calendars as the date for our next Quarterly Voters' Meeting. These are the meetings where the congregation is updated on the ministries going on here at Light of the World, as well as directing the affairs of the congregation going forward.

We hope you'll make time to join us for this meeting. Some

of the topics on the agenda will include:

- ⇒ Updates from our ministry teams
- ⇒ Membership changes
- ⇒ Vision 2018

Again, we hope you'll join us for this important meeting!

# OCTOBER 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 6:15—Choir	3	4	5 WELS AK Women's Retreat @ Girdwood
6 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 10:30—Worship w/ Communion	7 4:30—Catechism	8 6:00—GLOW Meeting	9 6:15—Choir	10	11	12
13 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 10:30—Worship 12:00—German Pot- luck	14 4:30—Catechism	15 6:00—Outreach Team Meeting	16 6:15—Choir	17 6:00—Budget Commit- tee Meeting	18 6:00—Family Fun Night	19
20 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 10:30—Worship w/ Communion 12:00—Quarterly Vot- ers' Meeting	21 4:30—Catechism	22 6:00—Women's Bible Study	23 6:15—Choir	24	25	26
27 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 10:30—Worship	28 <b>No Catechism Class</b>	29	30 6:15—Choir	31		
	<b>Pastor @ ACPaT</b>					

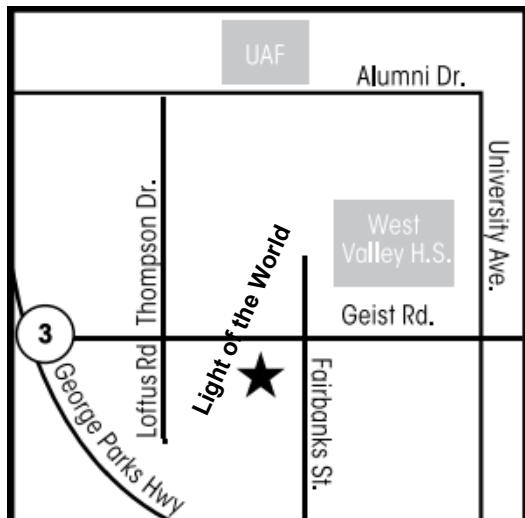
**Facebook!**  
**Check us out on**

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Light of the World Lutheran Church*

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



Located at: **4155 Geist Road**



**- 1 Peter 4:10**