



# Sonlight

## Light of the World Monthly Newsletter

### Inside this issue:

<i>September Message</i>	1
<i>Re-Ignite the Fire</i>	1
<i>God Has a Plan for You</i>	2
<i>Lighter Side</i>	2
<i>Men's Bible Study</i>	2
<i>Family Fun Night Returns</i>	2
<i>September Calendar</i>	3

***“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” ~ Matthew 22:37***

Today I want to have you think deeply about the loving relationship that I pray God has created with you through his Spirit. The kind of relationship that God has with you requires commitment.

I know, commitment, a word we try to avoid. Some people have a problem with commitments - they can't follow through with them. Some don't like to make commitments - it means they have to actually make a final decision and commitment sounds too permanent. They'd like to change their minds or get out of something. People can really struggle with commitments - to people, cars, jobs, personal goals...even to God.

Being a child of God involves commitment. Love the Lord

your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. Heart, soul and mind. That's your whole being. It's everything that you are.

God says to love him with all of your being. Not just some it, some of time, in some place. That takes a commitment.

Think about how you show that you're committed to things in your life. If you're committed to a sports team you will wear

their gear, make time to watch their games, talk about them and read up on them. You show your commitment to your job by showing up each day on time and putting forth effort. The time, money, and effort that you put into something shows your commitment.

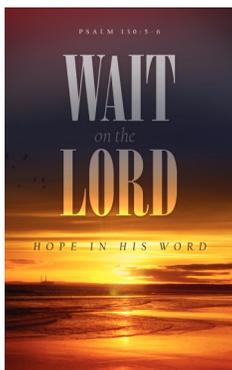
What does a committed relationship to God look like? It means you spend time listening

to him in his Word, gathering at his house to worship him, conversing with him in prayer, using your gifts and abilities to serve him, talking about him with others, using your money to thank him, trusting him with your life both now and into eternity.

How does your commitment to God look? Too often we find ourselves content with simply going church when it fits into the schedule, only talking to God when there's a problem in life and we really need his help, or not using our gifts and treasures for God because someone else will.

We may call ourselves God's children, but the commitment isn't always there. What happens when the commitment isn't there between a husband and a wife in a marriage? It falls apart. What happens when

*Continues on page 2...*



### Key Events This Month:

- 9/7—Sunday School and Bible Class begin**
- 9/7—Member Ministry Team Meeting**
- 9/14—Monthly Potluck**
- 9/19-20—WELS Alaska Women's Retreat hosted by Light of the World**
- 9/20—Men's Bible Study @ The Cookie Jar**
- 9/21—Council Meeting**
- 9/26—Family Fun Night**
- 9/28—Elder's Meeting**

### *Reignite the Fire!*

Is your relationship with God starting to fizzle out? We have just what you need. Take a weekly retreat to rekindle your love for God and for his holy Word. Join us Sunday morn-

ings at 9:15am and experience a refreshing hour of Bible Study as you spend some quality time with your Savior. We guarantee you'll grow stronger in your faith and in your relationship with your loving Lord!

We will be providing 4 differ-

ent Bible Study opportunities this year:

- ⇒ Sunday Morning Bible Class
- ⇒ Women's Bible Study
- ⇒ Men's Bible Study
- ⇒ Individual BIC courses

*...continued from page 1.* there isn't a commitment to work? You get fired. What happens when you lose a commitment to God? You can lose your faith and the gift of eternal life.

Thankfully God is much better at carrying out his commitment to you. He loves you with all of his being. That's why he sent his one and only Son, Jesus, to live and die to be a sacrifice for your sins and to free you from sin and death. God seeks you out with his Spirit through the good news of Jesus to bring you to him. God is with you always, through every stage, trial and joy of life.

It's only when you come to really realize God's commitment to you that you can begin to live a life committed to him. Jesus died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again (2 Corinthians 5:15). Strive to put aside your own ideas about what a commitment to God looks like and learn what God's good, pleasing and perfect will for your life is. May God bless you with a faith that expresses itself with a committed relationship to your loving God and heavenly Father who gives you life through Jesus Christ!

God bless, 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.*

## *God Has a Plan for You*

In a couple of weeks, WELS women from Alaska and beyond will be gathering up here in Fairbanks for the annual Alaska WELS Women's Retreat. This will be the first year that Light of the World is hosting this wonderful event.

This retreat is not only a great way to meet and interact with other women from our sister congregations in Alaska. It's also a wonderful opportunity to get into the Word and grow in your relationship with Jesus

as you see he always has a plan for you, throughout the good and bad.

This retreat is truly a spiritually up-lifting experience, and we hope you'll consider joining us for it. Registration is still open to the women of Light of the World. The cost is \$65. Please speak to Becky Strong, Fay Mueller, or Carole Belmont if you have any questions!

## *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.*

A young couple invited their elderly preacher for Sunday dinner. While they were in the kitchen preparing the meal, the minister asked their son what they were having. "Goat," the little boy replied. "Goat?" replied the startled man of the cloth, "Are you sure about that?" "Yep," said the youngster. "I heard Dad say to Mom, "Today is just as good as any to have the old goat for dinner."

## *Men's Bible Study*

Men, it's time to stop letting the ladies have all the fun! Our women's group has been having monthly Bible Studies for about a year, and starting this month, the men will have the same opportunity.

For now, we will plan on meeting the third Saturday morning of every month at 8:00am. We will meet at a restaurant, where we can have breakfast and chat

about God's Word.

Our first six lessons will fall under the topic of "Men in the Church," a study that focuses men on living God-pleasing lives in every aspect of their lives.

All the men are invited to join us, and we hope you'll be able to find some time to get fed, both physically and spiritually!

## *Family Fun Night Returns*

As Sunday School and other activities start back up here at Light of the World this month, our Family Fun Nights are also beginning again.

These nights are an opportunity for you to spend time with other members and their families while enjoying



some snacks and games. We try to have these get-togethers the third Friday of every month. This month's game night will be pushed back a week because of the Women's Retreat.

This year, we hope to do some bowling, mini-golfing, and other fun activities. We hope you can join us!

# SEPTEMBER 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
	1 HAPPY LABOR DAY!	2 6:30—Sunday School Teachers Meeting	3	4	5	6
7 8:00, 10:30—Worship w/ Communion 9:15—Sunday School for all ages begins 12:00—Member Ministry Team Meeting	8 4:30—Catechism	9	10	11 6:00—6th Grade Confirmation	12	13
14 8:00, 10:30—Worship 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 12:00—Monthly Potluck	15 4:30—Catechism	16	17	18	19 7:00—Alaska WELS Women's Retreat Begins	20 6:30—Alaska WELS Women's Retreat 8:00—Men's Bible Study @ The Cookie Jar
21 8:00, 10:30—Worship w/ Communion 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 12:00—Council Meeting	22 4:30—Catechism	23	24	25	26 6:00—Family Fun Night Returns	27
28 8:00, 10:30—Worship 9:15—Sunday School for all ages 12:00—Elder's Meeting	29 4:30—Catechism	30				

**Facebook!**

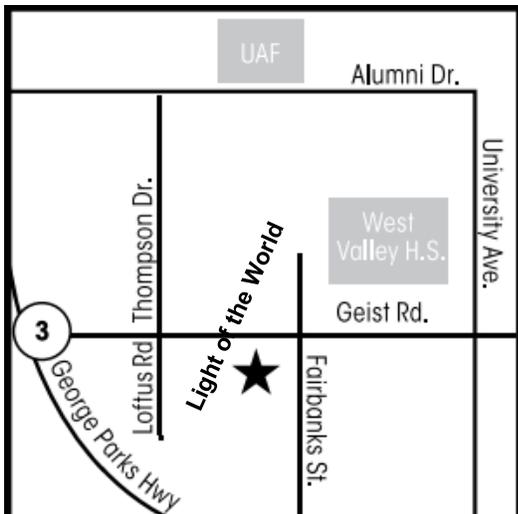
**Check us out on**

Pastor Jason Strong  
Phone: 907-479-4324  
E-mail: [strongjas@gmail.com](mailto:strongjas@gmail.com)

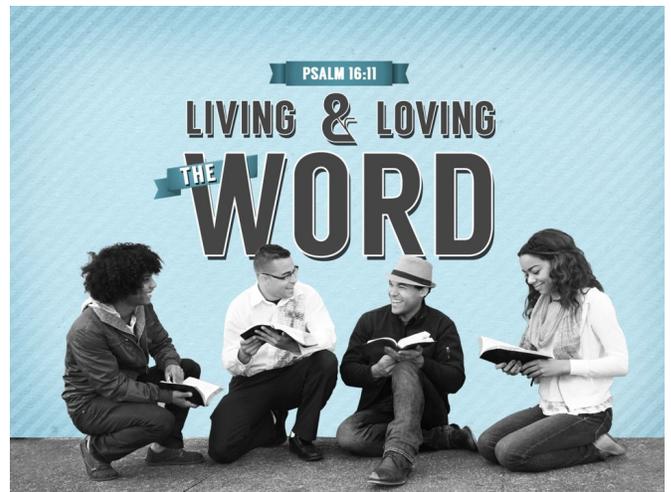
4155 Geist Road  
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Light of the World Lutheran Church  
[www.LightoftheWorldLutheran.com](http://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



***“Direct me in the path of  
your commands, for  
there I find delight.”***

***- Psalm 119:35***