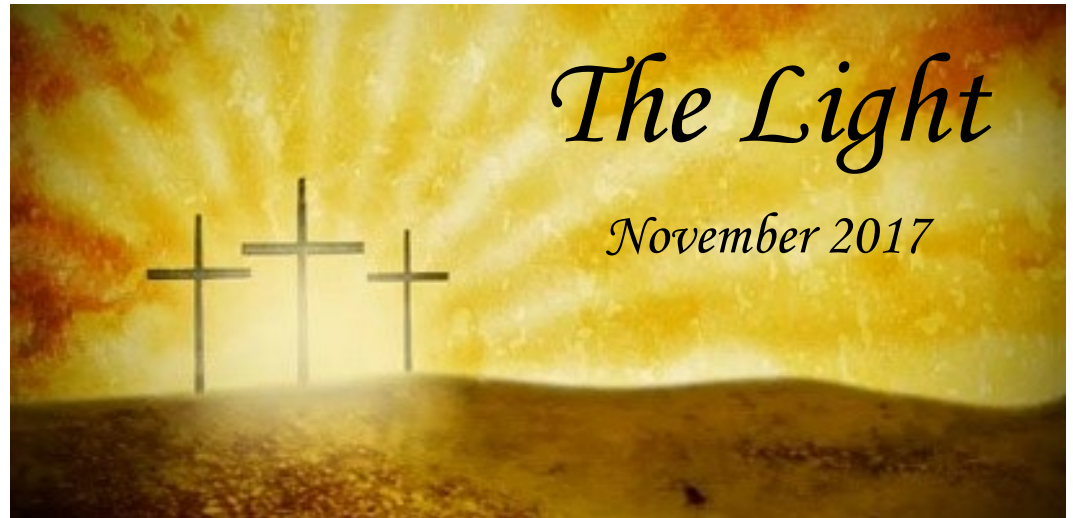


The Light

November 2017



EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
5515 WEST BROADWAY
PEARLAND, TX 77581
281-485-7833
281-485-5040 (FAX)
WWW.SHININGTHELIGHT.ORG

Pastor Jon Salminen
(Senior Pastor)
Pastor Nathan Misch
(Associate Pastor)
Pastor David Johnson
(Pastor of Music Ministries)

COME JOIN US!

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICES
(with Holy Communion)

NOVEMBER 22, 2017

NOON

7:00 P.M.

SANCTUARY



THE LATEST FROM EPIPHANY'S LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Epiphany's Leadership Council met for their regular monthly meeting on Sunday, October 15, 2017.

The following topics were discussed:

- ◆ Pastor Jon reported Epiphany's year-end worship attendance averages:
 - 2017 – 413
 - 2016 – 449
 - 2015 – 449
 - 2014 – 494
 - 2013 - 532
- ◆ Epiphany has received over \$34,700 for Hurricane Harvey relief. This money was dispersed the week of October 16.
- ◆ It was reported that the Congregational Dinner/Texans Game was a huge success. Many people enjoyed the dinner and the fellowship while watching the game on the big screen in the gym.
- ◆ The Leadership Council reviewed and endorsed the 2018 Budget as presented by Financial Officer, Anna Sites. This Financial Plan/Budget will be presented to the voters for their approval at the Voters' Meeting on Sunday, November 12 at noon in the AFLC gym.
- ◆ The annual review of Epiphany's finances was presented to the Council. This report highlights a review of the church's checking account, credit cards and MDO's finances.
- ◆ There will not be an Leadership Council meeting in November. The next scheduled meeting is Sunday, December 3 at 6:00 p.m. in room 202 of the AFLC and will combine both the November and December meetings.

Scott Stewart, President
Jonté Greer, Vice President
Kim Garza
Dale Green
Sue Ellyn Kunkel
Jo Lauppe
Ray Martinez
Wayne Roberson
Brent Snyder
Renee Van Bramer
Pam Van Maaren

ONE WORD SAYS IT ALL - "GRACE"

As I shared recently in a sermon, for almost 58 years I have had the privilege of communing with God and His Body, the Church. For some that makes me a baby. For others I am older than dirt. For me, I'm finally old enough to realize how little I know. I'm finding that out more with each passing year. There is one thing I do know however. There is one thing on which I have placed my eternity. There is one thing that I have committed my life to proclaiming (hopefully in word and deed) and that is GRACE—God's undeserved love for sinful people in Jesus Christ.

As we look forward to the holiday season, we envision joy and family and gifts and feasts fit for a king. I especially look forward to seeing my family, watching the Detroit Lions on Thanksgiving Day and eating pumpkin pie with copious amounts of whipped cream. Our celebrations may be different in form, but one thing we have in common as Christians is that Thanksgiving, more than anything else, is about celebrating God's love for us in Jesus Christ—GRACE! I have come to understand that the special people in my life (and there are many of you) and all the blessings I have are simply an extension of God's Grace to me. Because of God's Grace to me, I want to be a person of grace in the lives of others.

Philip Yancy in his book, *What's So Amazing About Grace?*, writes: **"As I look back on my own pilgrimage, marked by wanderings, detours, and dead ends, I see now that what pulled me along was my search for grace. I rejected the church for a time because I found so little grace there. I returned because I found grace nowhere else."** As God's people we have been given a wonderful gift—the Grace of God, His love, mercy and compassion for lost and sinful people. Jesus is God's Grace in the flesh. This gift is not meant to be stored away or hidden but rather freely displayed in our lives and given to all those who encounter us each day.

My prayer for us this holiday season is that Epiphany will be a place of GRACE. May we be people who come expecting God's Grace to be given and shared in this place. May we reflect the grace of God to others so that they too might come to know what Jesus did for all!

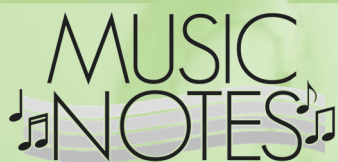
Let me challenge you specifically to experience God's Grace in worship. If you've been away for sometime know that you will be welcomed and loved—by Jesus and His people. If you are regularly celebrating the grace of God in your life bring a friend with you to worship Him who came to seek and save those who were lost in sin in order to make them the forgiven children of God.

May God's House be filled each Sunday as Epiphany becomes "The GRACE PLACE!"

Yours in God's Grace,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Pastor Jon", written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pastor Jon



WHO'S WHO IN MUSIC

Over the next several months I will be sharing profile pieces on some of the many musicians who serve in proclaiming the Song—Jesus!

From Pastor David

For this inaugural piece, we honor the God-given gifts of Terensa Castro. Terensa has faithfully served Epiphany for nearly 6 years. She shapes our worship life, providing leadership for the Praise Team, assisting with the orchestra, various ensembles, select vocalists and accompanying the congregation.

Terensa has a passion for congregational singing—connecting words and lyrics to our hearts and minds. She is critically aware that Christ-centered music reflects and delivers the Word of God. With great tenacity and nurture, Terensa encourages singing voices and the tuning of countless instruments for praise! It is music in the church that glorifies God, marrying language with melodies and harmonies. Praise and worship music confirms what we believe, comforts us in sorrow and connects us to all of Christendom.

Terensa joyfully strives to unleash her creativity and joins the community here in living out her faith in Jesus, providing music ministry in a local nursing home, in addition to being a full-time high school English teacher. She rightfully notes that “there is no music notation in the Bible; no required instrument or certain sound.” In profound efforts to unleash the Gospel, Terensa celebrates our creative Triune God who blesses His people with innumerable sounds and joyfully receives our sacrifice of praise.

Giving Options Increase!

Online Giving

This month and next we are unveiling a new option for giving joyfully out of what God has given to you in terms of treasure. We already accept checks and cash on Sunday mornings, and some of you have been giving through auto-draft (bill pay) for years.

We have partnered with Vanco in order to offer Online Giving. There are two ways you can participate in this:

1. Go to www.ShiningTheLight.org and click on the green “Online Giving” button. You will be redirected to another page where you can set up a onetime gift or set up a recurring gift. (If you already use bill pay, just continue to do that.)
2. Download the Give+ App for Android or iPhone. Search for Epiphany Lutheran Church by name or zipcode (77581) and then click on Epiphany then follow the instructions to give from your phone.

Online Giving (or through the app) is simply one more avenue to express the thankfulness and joy we have for what our God has done for us in Jesus.



SCHEDULE OF SPECIAL SERVICES

November 22	Noon 7:00 p.m.	Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service w/com Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service w/com
December 6	4:30 p.m. 5:15-6:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Advent Service Advent Meal Advent Service
December 13	4:30 p.m. 5:15-6:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Advent Service Advent Meal Advent Service
December 17	10:30 a.m.	Children's Christmas Program-AFLC
December 20	4:30 p.m. 5:15-6:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Advent Service Advent Meal Advent Service
December 24*	10:00 a.m. (in the sanctuary) with children's choir & bells 3:00 p.m. (in the sanctuary) with adult choir 6:00 p.m. (in the AFLC) contemporary Christmas service 9:00 p.m. (in the sanctuary) w/com and orchestra (No Sunday School or Adult Bible Classes!)	

*Please note that all of these services will include singing "Silent Night" by candlelight.

December 25	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service w/com
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**Saturday
December 9
6 to 9 PM**

The Light Fest

Shine Jesus, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD, in our community this Christmas! The Light Fest is an evening of food, music, children's activities, a living nativity including animals and LIGHTS! We need YOU to make it possible. Youth and adult volunteers are needed for planning, stringing lights, set up and helping the day of the fest. Most of all, please begin to pray about who you can invite to The Light Fest!

To register to help and for more information, go to www.ShiningTheLight.org. and click on the banner.

DONATIONS NEEDED!

AS WE PREPARE TO OUTREACH TO OUR COMMUNITY WITH THE LIGHT FEST, WE COULD USE A HAND WITH A FEW THINGS!

GENERATORS (ON LOAN)—From November 24 to Jan 1

NEW LED LIGHTS—Longer strands preferred

EXTENSION CORDS—The longer, the better!

FLOOD LIGHTS—With outside housing

HEAVY CHAINS AND LOCKS—For generators

DROP OF IN THE NARTHEX. CONTACT CHASE@EPIPHANYPEARLAND.ORG FOR MORE INFO.

Finally, a little cool weather. It is starting to feel like Fall and we all know what that means ... Christmas is coming! As I type these words, Christmas Eve is just 59 days and 9 hours away.

Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year which provides a unique opportunity. For the past several years we have seen that more and more people prefer to go to church on Christmas Eve earlier rather than later. At least, that is what the worship numbers indicate as our 4 :00 p.m. service has been our biggest for the past few years. Last year as Christmas Eve fell on a Saturday we moved our 4:00 p.m. service to 3:00 p.m. and it grew even larger. With that in mind, please note that on Christmas Eve this year we will offer four services, two early and two a little later. The schedule will be as follows:

10:00 a.m. (in the sanctuary) with children's choir and bells

3:00 p.m. (in the sanctuary) with adult choir

6:00 p.m. (in the AFLC) our contemporary Christmas service

9:00 p.m. (in the sanctuary) with orchestra and Holy Communion

**Please note that all of these services will include singing "Silent Night" by candlelight. Have a great day in the Lord!
Pastor Jon**



ADVENT MEALS

WHAT'RE YOU DOING TO GET READY FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON?

Well, here's a suggestion ... it's that special time again when we gather together on Wednesday evenings during the Advent season to enjoy the food and fellowship provided by our church friends.

Wednesday night Advent meals are always fun to plan/accomplish and even more fun to enjoy the results! The dates for this year's Advent meals are:

December 6
December 13 (nacho-themed)
December 20

Meals take place between the worship services from 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. Please use this opportunity to serve our Lord and Epiphany. **WE HONESTLY WON'T BE ABLE TO DO IT WITHOUT YOU!**

Be sure to check out Facebook and the boards in the AFLC and narthex for sign-up sheets.

If you are interested in helping or providing a dish, please contact Celina Brunette.

PARADE LOVERS!

The date for the 36st Annual Pearland Lighted Christmas Parade is coming up fast – **December 2!** The parade route is east on 518 from Old Alvin Rd to Pearland Parkway. Epiphany is looking for an organizer so that we can participate in this year's parade. If you are interested, contact Linda Easto in the church office at 281-485-7833 or email lindae@epiphanypearland.org no later than November 15. **It's a fun job and Epiphany needs to shine!**

HOUSTON LUTHERAN CHORALE CHRISTMAS CONCERTS


Friday, December 1
Memorial Lutheran Church
Katy, Texas
7:30 p.m.

~

Saturday, December 2
St. Timothy Lutheran Church
Houston, Texas
7:30 p.m.

~

Sunday, December 3
Trinity Lutheran Church
Houston, Texas
4:00 p.m.



*For God so loved the world that he gave
his one and only Son, that whoever
believes in him shall not perish but have
eternal life.*

John 3:16



BE CHRISTMAS

TO A CHILD

Share the joy of Christmas with a child! This year, we are partnering with LINC Houston to bring Christmas gifts to children in Houston and impact them with the love of Jesus. Beginning November 19, there will be Giving Trees set up in both buildings. **NEW THIS YEAR:** Gifts may be purchased for any age boy or girl. Here's how you can help:

- Pick up a tag from one of the Giving Trees OR print one from www.ShiningTheLight.org. Please see sample tag.
- Purchase a new toy or gift card (between \$15 and \$20). Mark the age and gender of the intended recipient on your tag.
- Wrap gift and attach the tag – no bows please!
- Return the wrapped gift to the Giving Tree by December 10. Gifts may also be dropped off at *The Light Fest* on December 9.
- Pray for the recipient of the gift that they may know JESUS, the greatest gift.

Epiphany's Giving Tree

Return your gift by December 10.

Please mark the age and gender of intended recipient.

Circle One: Boy Girl

Check Age Range:

<input type="checkbox"/> Under 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 8-10
<input type="checkbox"/> 2-4	<input type="checkbox"/> 11-13
<input type="checkbox"/> 5-7	<input type="checkbox"/> 14-18

THANK YOU'S

To our entire church fellowship and beyond,

Our family would like to thank each person who came to our aid after Hurricane Harvey! There were many who came to assist, both at my mother's (Choyce Piel) home as well as our own. They came for more than just one day and gave up their own time away from their families to assist ours. We are extremely grateful to every one of you from the bottom of our hearts!

God has blessed our entire family throughout the years, through the good times and the bad. We believe if you have faith and believe in him, he will always have your back! He had our back once again through the generosity, labor and love of such a wonderful fellowship of Christians at Epiphany! We thank the Lord for every one of you! We also would like to send a special word of thanks to the leading disciples on the recovery effort, Beth and Chase. They were, and still are, leading the charge in order to help so many recover! So once again, thank you and may God Bless each one of you!

From the entire Piel Family,
Brad, Kim and Choyce

We want to thank you so much for your care, love and generosity toward our family. We couldn't have gotten through this last month without it. Thank you so much for being our family in Christ.

Marlene and Waddell Heinrich

Dear Rev. Salminen,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$400 to our center. The Board of Directors, our tutors, and adult learners also extend their sincere appreciation. These funds will enable us to transform adult literacy learners into self-sufficient wage earners and parents who are actively involved in their children's education.

William, a Texas Certificate of High School Equivalency student, said, “The Adult Reading Center has given me new insight on my future. With some of the greatest teachers and tutors, I feel empowered when I go to class to study to get my GED so I can further my career.”

We are grateful for your commitment to a literate community.

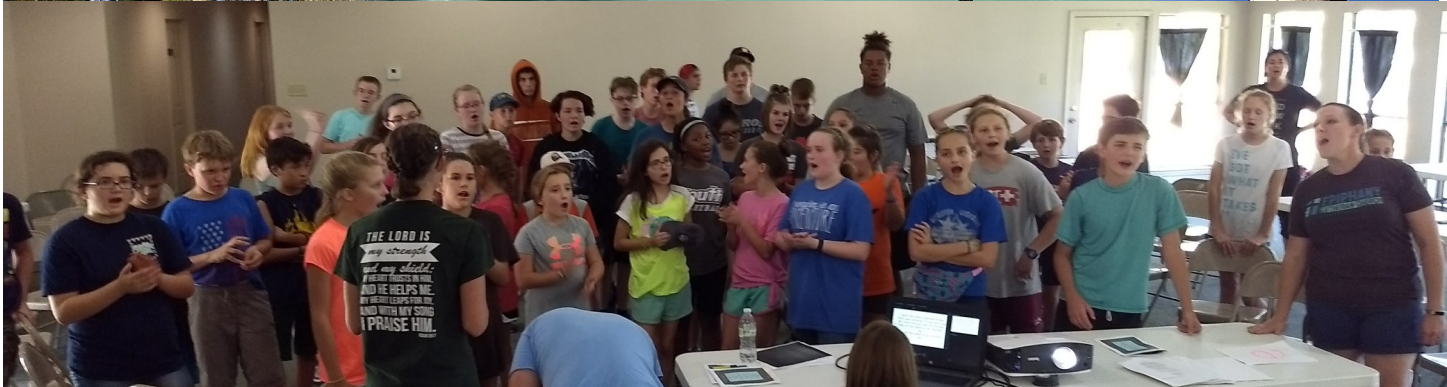
Sincerely,
Dale E. Pillow
President & CEO
Adult Reading Center



fall

RETREAT

On October 6-8, Epiphany's youth headed to Carolina Creek Christian Camp for our annual fall retreat. The weekend included zip lines, water fun, campfires and more. Most importantly, it was an opportunity to study God's Word, worship and build relationships with one another. Thanks to all our adult volunteers who made it possible.





NFUZED
7TH GRADE WELCOME

NOVEMBER 5
6-8 PM
ROOM 205

7TH-12TH GRADE YOUTH NIGHTS ARE SUNDAYS FROM 6-8 PM.
 TEXT @NFUZED78 TO 81010 TO RECEIVE TEXT UPDATES.



ROAD TRIP 
MISSION TRIP

July 15-21, 2018
7th-12th Grade
\$195

Come serve this summer! We will travel to Houston, San Antonio and Austin to be the hands and feet of Jesus. Sign up to hold your spot today at ShiningTheLight.org. \$100 Deposit due by February 17, 2018!




YOUTH
C H R I S T M A S
PARTY

Sugarland Ice || December 17 || 4:45 - 8:00 p.m. || 5th-12th Graders || \$15
 Broom Ball, games, food and more! Drop off and pick up at Epiphany. Register by December 10.
www.ShiningTheLight.org



BIRTHDAYS

11/02 Sharla Ortiz
 11/02 Wesley Gordon
 11/03 Patrick Kramer
 11/03 Kelly Cmaidalka
 11/03 David Hay
 11/03 Laura Russo
 11/04 Susan Karloski
 11/04 Carmen Staerkel
 11/04 Buster Keasler
 11/05 Seth Kirk
 11/05 Gary Wilson
 11/06 Terry Medack
 11/06 Joe Calderon
 11/06 Johnathan Nester
 11/06 Georganna Triplett
 11/06 Andy Bilich
 11/07 Burnia Oller
 11/07 Debra Sanford
 11/07 Ardell Wilson
 11/08 Al Lentz
 11/08 Miracle Hilliard
 11/09 Kim Piel
 11/10 Teresa Knudson
 11/10 Lyn Wolff
 11/10 Julia Parrack
 11/11 Melchor Garza
 11/11 Jerry Langer
 11/12 Sue Hufnagel
 11/12 Elijah Ward
 11/12 Jonesy Chauvot
 11/12 Ryan Pontifes
 11/12 Callie Jo Aaron
 11/12 Jim Hebert
 11/14 Becky Keasler
 11/14 Pat Succop
 11/14 Scott Gilbertson
 11/14 Ronnie Patke
 11/14 Bob Plitt
 11/15 Mallory Ring
 11/15 Jason Gutierrez
 11/16 Vicki Roesler
 11/16 Leigh Ann Moore
 11/16 George Stafford
 11/16 Emily Van Maaren
 11/18 Albert Schulze
 11/18 Jack Ostermaier
 11/19 Deborah Nester
 11/19 Amy Heer
 11/19 Jack Arnold
 11/20 Joyce Walker
 11/20 Elizabeth Cornelius
 11/20 Fran Wukasch
 11/21 Alyssa Moore
 11/22 Tom Stine
 11/23 Erika DiLuca

11/24 Alex Tews
 11/24 Diana Langer
 11/25 Tara Joergens
 11/25 Kalista Heinrich
 11/26 Vyneeca Pietsch
 11/26 Michael Ortiz
 11/27 David Klewer
 11/27 Cecelia Ganje
 11/28 Ruby Troyer
 11/28 Flash Gordon
 11/30 Olivia McDonald
 11/30 Amanda Underwood
 11/30 Ginger Green
 11/30 Ethan Lodrigue



ANNIVERSARIES

11/04 Jack & Kenya Hamilton
 11/04 Thomas & Carol Kidd
 11/05 Jeremy & Katy Broussard
 11/06 Wesley & Heather Gordon
 11/06 Dennis & Evelyn Rohne
 11/07 Paul & Frances Meyer
 11/11 David & Lisa Maly
 11/13 Rob & Tricia Robinson
 11/13 Tom & Joan Stine
 11/13 Kelly & Lynn Tharp
 11/14 Cash & Jessica Elston
 11/19 Danny & Amanda Underwood
 11/20 Frank & Annette Tausch
 11/23 John & Trisha Meiller
 11/28 Gene & Verna Allbee
 11/28 Buster & Becky Keasler



BAPTISMS

Cassius Alexander Elston IV
 October 8, 2017

Jolene Olivia Kirk
 October 22, 2017



Like us on Facebook

Sunday Morning Schedule:
8:00 am - Traditional Worship Service-sanctuary
9:15 am - Sunday School & Adult Bible Class
10:30 am - Blended Worship Service-sanctuary
10:30 am - *The Light* Worship Service-AFLC

***WOR: Worship**
COM: Worship with Communion
SS: Sunday School
ABC: Adult Bible Class



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>12 9 6</p> <p>5 COM/SS & ABC/COM/WOR* <i>All Saints' Day & LWML Mite Box Sunday</i> 9:00-10:15am-Blood Pressure Screening-106 9:15am-201 Class-207 9:15am-New Member Class-202 No FPU FLEX! 9:15am-Revolutionary Parenting-101 9:15am-Christianity & the Competition-102 No Orchestra Practice! 11:45am-Kid's Choir-101 2:00-4:00pm-Basketball-gym 6:00-8:00pm-Confirmation 6:00-8:00pm-Youth Nights-gym/204</p>	<p>6 Announcements Due! 9:30am-Ladies' Bible Study-203 10:00-11:30am-Bible Markers-207 7:00pm-IFC* Meeting-203 (* International Friendship Center) 7:00pm-<i>The Light</i> Worship Team -AFLC</p> <p>13 Announcements Due! 9:30am-Goodtimers-101 9:30am-Ladies' Bible Study-203 7:00pm-<i>The Light</i> Worship Team -AFLC</p>	<p>7 9-2 MDO 4:00pm-Bible Study-202 7:00pm-Board of Elders-202</p>	<p>1 9-2 MDO 6:30pm-PT-sanctuary 7:30pm-Choir-sanctuary</p> <p>8 9-2 MDO 6:30pm-PT-sanctuary 7:30pm-Choir-sanctuary</p>	<p>2 9-2 MDO 9:15am-LifeLight-203 7:00-8:15pm-Midweek Meet Up <small>(high school Juniors -young adults)</small> 7:00pm-Bell Choir -sanctuary</p> <p>9 9-2 MDO 9:15am-LifeLight-203 7:00-8:15pm-Midweek Meet Up <small>(high school Juniors -young adults)</small> 7:00pm-Bell Choir -sanctuary</p>	<p>3 9-2 MDO</p> <p>10 9-2 MDO 5:30am-Men's Bible Study Group -MB kitchen</p>	<p>4 7:30am-Men's Bible Breakfast-203 9:15am-Elders' Meeting-203</p> <p>11 7:30am-Men's Bible Breakfast-203 9:15am-Elders' Meeting-203</p> <p>18 9:30am-LWML Meeting-203</p>
<p>19 COM/SS & ABC/COM/WOR* 9:15am-201 Class-207 9:15am-New Member Class-202 9:15am-FPU FLEX-203 9:15am-Revolutionary Parenting-101 9:15am-Christianity & the Competition-102 11:45am-Orchestra Practice-sanctuary No Kid's Choir! Noon-Psalms 68.5 Event-203 2:00-4:00pm-Basketball-gym No Confirmation! No Youth Nights!</p>	<p>20 Announcements Due! 9:00am-Quilting-202 No Ladies' Bible Study! 10:00-11:30am-Bible Markers-207 7:00pm-<i>The Light</i> Worship Team -AFLC</p>	<p>21 NO MDO! No Bible Study!</p>	<p>22 NO MDO! Thanksgiving Eve Services w/communion Noon & 7:00pm</p>	<p>23 NO MDO! Holiday- Church Office Closed!</p>	<p>24 NO MDO! Holiday- Church Office Closed!</p>	<p>25 DECEMBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE NOVEMBER 10!</p>
<p>26 WOR/SS & ABC/WOR/COM* 9:15am-201 Class-207 9:15am-New Member Class-202 9:15am-FPU FLEX-203 9:15am-Revolutionary Parenting-101 9:15am-Christianity & the Competition-102 11:45am-Orchestra Practice-sanctuary 11:45am-Kid's Choir-101 2:00-4:00pm-Basketball-gym No Confirmation! No Youth Nights!</p>	<p>27 Announcements Due! 9:30am-Ladies' Bible Study-203 7:00pm-<i>The Light</i> Worship Team -AFLC</p>	<p>28 9-2 MDO 4:00pm-Bible Study-202</p>	<p>29 9-2 MDO 9:00am-Quilting-202 6:30pm-PT-sanctuary 7:30pm-Choir-sanctuary</p>	<p>30 9-2 MDO 9:15am-LifeLight-203 7:00-8:15pm-Midweek Meet Up <small>(high school Juniors -young adults)</small> 7:00pm-Bell Choir -sanctuary</p>		

The background of the entire image is a deep blue night sky filled with small, glowing white stars. A large, bright, multi-pointed star is positioned in the upper center. In the lower portion of the image, there are dark silhouettes of rolling hills. On the left, two figures are visible: one riding a donkey and another walking beside it. On the right, there is a silhouette of a city or castle with several lit windows and a tall tower.

THE LIGHT HAS COME

(CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2017
10:30 A.M.
AFLC