



“The true Light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.”
- John 1:9

What if you could make decisions that would *always* result in good for everyone involved and be executed with perfect timing and compassionate understanding? Sounds like a tall order to me, but the Bible says it is possible!

January 6 begins a season in the church calendar called Epiphany, which means “an unveiling”. In this season, we celebrate Jesus as the light shining into all of our lives. Jesus’ Light clarifies for us, decisions and pathways that are available at any given time. As we abide in his light, a New World of opportunities arises.

So the invitation for this new year is to seek Jesus above all and walk in the light that he gives. It will absolutely transform your perspective and attitude! May your journey through 2026 be abundantly blessed as you pursue the wisdom of God’s heart in Jesus every day.

Your Friend in Jesus,

Scott ❤️

Matthew 5:16

KEEPING YOU INFORMED:

- **COMMUNITY PRAYER & PRAISE:** **Friday, Jan. 23, 6pm, Lighthouse Church.** Community members invited to lead creative worship and prayer!
- **BURRITO NIGHT** on Friday night, **Jan. 16th, @ 6 pm** in the Church basement. Church supplies the tortillas, meat, and cheese - YOU bring items to add! And invite a friend!
- A great way to strengthen your faith is through **DAILY BIBLE READING**. Join us in 2026 in spending about 10 minutes a day reading the entire Bible in a year.

We will be doing a shared, chronological reading – from the creation to the end times. A downloadable daily reading plan is available [on our website](#) for you to use with any Bible translation you prefer. Others will be reading with you to share questions and observations. Join us in this enlightening adventure and we’d love to hear your insights!

- **ICE SKATE RENTAL** available to the community at no cost. Simply return skates when done using them. Spread the word!
- **WINTER GIFTS:** Please consider a special financial gift this winter to help with seasonally slowed giving. Your investment in the GOOD NEWS is deeply appreciated - THANK YOU!



Mission giving for the **1st Quarter** is being prayerfully considered. Let us know if God has touched your heart with an organization. Watch for updates in the Feb. newsletter. Our **Fourth Quarter Mission’s giving** focused on

international outreach: A 2026 mission to rural **Romania** through [Perspective Danes](#) and the lifesaving medical outreach to **Kenya** through [Love Matters Most](#). Watch for your total giving numbers on our website!

Winter months can be tough on folks so please spread the word that our **Community Food Bank** has food and other household items at no cost. Contact **Michelle Wallace** for food pick up or making a donation **(312-285-4505)**.

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

At the end of a two-week mission trip to Uganda, our team spent a day and a night on an island. As we traveled across the lake, it

(over)



was evident that we were in a rural location that had no electricity. When night arrived, it was so dark that I couldn't see my hand in front of my face. When I turned on my high-powered flashlight, the light beam only extended a few feet beyond the lens. It was dark! Oh, how I longed for daylight.

In John 8:12, Jesus called Himself "the light of the world." What did that mean at the time? What does that mean to us today? The religious leaders in Jerusalem had been trying to arrest Jesus during the Feast of the

Tabernacles. But they were unable to make a move because of Jesus' profound teaching that was having a significant impact on everyone who heard Him (John 7:32, 45-46).

The next time Jesus spoke publicly was in John 8. One of the most significant activities during the Feast of the Tabernacles was the lighting of the large lamps, which symbolized God's presence with Israel in the wilderness by a cloud during the day and a pillar of fire by night. It was within this context that Jesus made His extraordinary claim: "I am the light of the world" (v. 12).



He also stated, "Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (v. 12).

Those who follow the light that emanates from Jesus

Christ always see clearly because they have the very Light of life. How could the religious leaders have missed this important truth?

Go Deeper

The world we live in is blanketed by spiritual darkness. This may feel discouraging. But there is a source of light, powerful enough to illumine a clear path for you and me to travel. That light is Jesus, the Light of the world. Those who follow Him, will never walk in the dark.

Pray with Us: *Father, help us trust in and always cling to Your light, despite the*

arguments and pressure of unbelievers around us. May we be influenced by and submitted to You. You alone have light to penetrate the darkness.

- by Dr. Eric Moore

(From: <https://www.todayintheword.org/daily-devotional/the-light-shines/the-light-of-the-world/>)

Pearls Of Wisdom

"Our True Identity In Christ"

We are sanctified (made holy) and made acceptable in Jesus Christ.

See: 1 Corinthians 1:2

- Ruth Wise

January Birthdays

- 1 Patty Martin
- 25. Mark Wenger
- 26. Diane Grefer

January Anniversaries

- 1 Bob & Chris Muter

(If we don't have your birthday or anniversary, PLEASE let us know!)

ARTICLES FOR THE FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER ARE DUE TO THE CHURCH OFFICE BY: TUESDAY, JAN. 20TH (Email, if possible)



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