

December  
2018



*Experience God.  
Walk with others.  
Serve the world.*



## A Word From: Pastor Tim Olson

### *"Light Up The Night"*

Light Up The Night - These four words have been on repeat in my mind this entire pre-Christmas season. I think the Lord just might be trying to tell me something. Lighting up the night, after all, is very Christmassy. It's actually the very reason Jesus came into this world. The Apostle John wrote about Jesus that, "In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:4-5)

I have decided this Christmas to make it my personal goal to light up the night. First, I'm asking God to shine His light more intensely upon my own soul. And second, I'm asking God to help me reflect His light more truly and brightly than ever. In a world so engrossed in darkness, the light of Christ is our only hope. May Christ's love, hope, compassion and holiness shine through our lives, undimmed by hypocrisy or duplicity. As followers of Jesus, let's light up the night!

Bethel Church is sponsoring several events this Christmas season for the sole purpose of lighting up the night. This year's Christmas production, "Heart of Glass," carries the message of God's redeeming love through drama and music. The Annual Bethel Women's Christmas Brunch is the perfect opportunity to invite a friend, coworker, or neighbor to enjoy the grace and love of the Christmas season. "The Big Give" is an expression of the generosity of God's love through providing Christmas gifts and meals to McLoughlin Middle School families in need. And Bethel's Christmas Eve Service is a beautiful evening of Christmas music celebrating the birth of Christ!

Remember, the best method of advertising is you! I encourage you to be an inviter. Partner with us as we endeavor to be used by God to light up the night!

It's going to be so lit!

*Pastor Tim Olson*





## **CHAPTER 2**

**Tues, Dec 4 at 12pm**

**If you are a single, mature woman you are invited to Chapter 2 for "The Reason for the Season." Lunch will be served.**

## **THE BIG GIVE**

**We are once again blessed to be able to provide gifts and food to families from McLoughlin Middle School. Out in the lobby is a Christmas tree with tags on it. Each tag has information about the student the tag represents along with a gift suggestion. Take a tag, go shopping (max \$25 per tag), wrap the gift and bring it back with the tag attached by Sunday, December 9. If you are unable to shop, but still would like to help, monetary donations will certainly be accepted. Thank you for your part in this physical representation of the love of Christ! Merry Christmas!**

## **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**

**Mon, Dec 24 at 5pm & 7pm**

**The Bethel Church Christmas Eve Service is quickly approaching. There will be scripture reading, Christmas music to sing, kids bells, and, of course, carols by candlelight. Load up the minivan or SUV with family, friends, and neighbors for a great start to your Christmas celebration!**

## **2018 GIVING**

**Tithes and Offerings must be turned in to the church office by Thur, Dec 27 at 4pm or on Sunday in the offering in order to be added to your 2018 giving record. Checks mailed and postmarked on or before Dec 31, 2018 are accepted as 2018 donations. A check deposited in the offering in Jan of 2019 cannot be deducted in 2018 even if it is backdated to 2018.**

## **HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

**Wed, Dec 5 - No Pursuit Service**

**Mon, Dec 24 - Wed, Dec 26 - Church Office Closed - Merry Christmas!**

**Wed, Dec 26 - No Pursuit Service**

**Thur, Dec 27 - Church Office Opened - 9am - 4pm**

**Mon, Dec 31 & Tue, Jan 1 - Church Office Closed - Happy New Year!**

**Wed, Jan 2 - No Pursuit Service**