

Light of Life Worship Center

New Partner Orientation

Class NP-100

**Participant's
Guide**



DISCOVERING CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

We're thrilled you've chosen to take this class. This class is designed to help you better understand:

- God's desire for you
- Ways to express your faith
- Why our church exists
- Unique features about our church
- The purpose of our New Hope Ministry
- How you fit into the purposes
- What our church believes

CLASS NP100- THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITMENT...is a commitment to God and the local church

CLASS NP200 - THE MATURITY COMMITMENT ...is a commitment to the necessary for spiritual growth.

CLASS NP300 - THE MINISTRY & MISSIONS COMMITMENT- is a commitment to discovering and using my God-given gifts and abilities.

THE PURPOSE FOR THIS CLASS:

"... You are a member of God's very own family ... and you belong in God's household with every other Christian." Eph. 2:19 (LB)

Most people live their entire lives without ever knowing "WHY?" They exist year after year with no idea of God's purpose for their lives. The most basic question a person can ask is, "What is the meaning of my life?" Everyone wants to be happy. People try many ways:

- Some look for happiness through friendships
- Some look for happiness through "pleasure" experiments
- Some look for happiness through popularity & power

"So God created human beings, making them in His image. He blessed them, and said, ... live all over the earth and bring it under control. I am putting you in charge." Gen. 1:27-28(LB)

Jesus said, "I have come in order that you might have life - life in all it's fullness!" John 10:10

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A MEMBER

The difference between "attenders" and "members" can be summed up in one Word: _____.

At LOLWC we recognize the need for a formal membership. We ask you to commit to membership for 4 reasons:

1. **A Biblical Reason:** Christ is committed to the church." ... *Christ loved the church, and he gave his life for it.*" Eph.5:25

2. **A Cultural Reason:** We live in an age where very few want to be committed to anything ... school ... a relationship ... our country. This attitude has even produced a generation of "church shoppers & hoppers. Membership is an unselfish decision. Commitment always builds character.

3. **A Practical Reason:** It defines who can be counted on. Every team must have a roster. Membership identifies our family of believers who can be counted on in our attempt to fulfill our purpose.

4. **A Personal Reason:** It encourages spiritual growth. The New Testament places a major emphasis on the need for Christians to be accountable to each other for spiritual growth. It's tough to be accountable when you're not committed to any specific church family.

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF ME AS A MEMBER?

At LOLWC we never ask our members to do more than the Bible clearly teaches. We only encourage our members to do what the Bible expects every Christian to do. These responsibilities are spelled out in the Membership Covenant.

The LOLWC Membership Covenant Pledge

I WILL PROTECT THE UNITY OF MY CHURCH

- By acting in love toward other members
- By refusing to gossip
- By following the leaders
- By reconciling conflict

"So let us concentrate on the things which make for harmony, and on the growth of our fellowship together." Rom. 15:19

2. I WILL SHARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MY CHURCH

- By praying for its growth
- By inviting the un-church to attend
- By participating in church sponsored activities and events

"To the church ... we always thank God for you and pray for you constantly." 1 Thess. 1:2

3. I WILL SERVE THE MINISTRY OF MY CHURCH

- By discovering my gifts and talents
- By being equipped to serve
- By developing a servant's heart

"Serve one another with the particular gifts God has given each of you ..." 1 Peter 4:10

4. I WILL SUPPORT THE LIFE OF MY CHURCH

- By attending services faithfully
- By living a godly life

"But whatever happens, make sure that your everyday life is worthy of the gospel of Christ." Phil. 1:27 (Ph)

About Us

Ministry Vision

We are a vibrant ministry which exists to glorify God through diversified **worship** and purposeful Christian living. Our distinct purpose is to develop **disciples** of Jesus Christ through sound Biblical instruction. We see ourselves as a center of Christian renewal in the lives of the individuals, families and **community**.

Our Mission

Transforming Lives in His Light: To Worship... To Serve... To Disciple

Our Motto "We are the Difference"

Our motto reflects the uncommon approach we apply to ministering the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Our Ministry Name "Light of Life Worship Center"

Our name is derived from *John 8:12 Then spake unto Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of thy world he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life (KJV)*

Our Future

Where are we headed?

Over the years God has blessed us to outgrow every location that we have occupied. As a result, we have developed a plan to transition us toward building a facility that will house our ministry Vision. This Faith move will allow us to develop and facilitate ministries to help better serve the community and impact the world. Join us today in our endeavor to provide ministry to the whole man; mind, body and soul.

What to Expect?

You should expect is a personal, uplifting worship experience. Every service is geared for participation. We typically worship as we live, with enthusiasm.

What is appropriate to wear to church?

While our focus is not on what you wear, we do encourage ministry partners dress comfortably and safely. Our worship services are relaxed and most attire will vary from business to business casual.

Praise & Worship Experience

Our praise and worship experience is diverse and energetic. It includes the use of musical instruments and uplifting songs. Our Praise & Worship Team and Worship Dancers lead the congregation during Sunday Morning and Mid-week services in creating an atmosphere that is conducive for the manifested presence of God's Glory.

Ministry Time Prayer

A special time in the service is devoted to intercessory prayer, usually occurring just before the start of each service. Depending upon the leading of the Holy Spirit, intercessory prayer is sometimes incorporated in the midst of the worship service.

Challenging Messages

The high point of our services comes with the preaching of God's Word. The sermon messages are demonstrative, inspiring and practical. Our pastor may close the sermon by inviting congregants to come forward specifically for prayer. We refer to this time as the Altar Call, an opportunity for one to receive salvation, re-commit to their Christian Faith or pray about personal concerns. During the altar call, deep emotion and excitement may be demonstrated thereby, altar counselors and ministers are available if assistance is needed.

Meet our Pastors

Clark and Diane Lazare are the Senior Pastors of Light of Life Worship Center. Prior to accepting the pastoral call, Pastors Clark and Diane served diligently at Watson Temple Church of God In Christ (Tallahassee, FL.) under the Godly leadership of the late Bishop E.L. Sheppard.

With over 11 years of service at Watson Temple, Bishop Sheppard released the Lazare's to transition to the newly incorporated Life Changers Church of God In Christ (Tallahassee, FL). During the tenure at Life Changers, Pastors Clark and Diane received their national certifications for ministry. After four years of dedicated service at Life Changers Church, the Lazare's were directed by God to relocate to Ft. Lauderdale, Florida where they consequently acknowledged and accepted the Pastoral Call to ministry. Upon arriving in South Florida, Pastors Clark and Diane submitted their ministry under the leadership of Bishop Henry Fernandez (The Faith Center) for pastoral training. Pastors Clark and Diane Lazare have been married for over 22 years and have two beautiful children.

Pastor Diane (Di)

Pastor Diane is a Summa Cum Laude graduate of Florida A&M University. From there, she matriculated through the Florida State University's School of Social Work where she obtained an Advanced Master's Graduate Degree. Additionally, she obtained a Specialist Degree in Educational Leadership from Nova Southeastern University. In conjunction to her secular educational accomplishments; Pastor Diane attended C.H. Mason Bible College, where she became an avid student of God's Word. She is currently enrolled in Andersonville Theological Seminary where she is obtaining a Doctorate in Ministry Degree through distance learning.

Pastor Clark

Pastor Clark earned a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering from Florida State University's College of Engineering. He also earned a Masters of Business Administration Degree from the University of Phoenix. Pastor Clark is recognized by the State of Florida as a Certified Public Manager. In conjunction to his secular educational accomplishments, Pastor Clark attended C.H. Mason Bible College, where he became a devoted student of God's Word. He is currently enrolled in Andersonville Theological Seminary

where he is obtaining his Doctorate in Ministry Degree through distance learning.

Our Church History

After 1 ½ years of pastoral training, the Lazare's were directed to begin weekly Bible Studies. In February 2002, the Lazare's were installed as Pastors of the newly incorporated Light of Life Worship Center, Inc. With seven members LOL immediately we began holding worship services at Village Elementary School in Sunrise, Florida. Approximately 8 months later, the Ministry moved to a small store front in greater Ft. Lauderdale until quickly growing out of this location. In 2004, the church took a huge "leap of Faith" by occupying a facility 3 times the size of its previous ministry building. As the vision continued to unfold, there was need for additional space. In April 2009, LOLWC relocated its ministry home to our current location.

OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH

What we believe

Holy Scriptures

We believe the Holy Scriptures to be the only infallible Word of God. We further believe that the scriptures of both the Old and New Testament are designed for our practical instruction and conduct (2 Tim 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:21).

The Godhead

We believe that the Godhead eternally exists in three persons- God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit and that these three are one.(Matt 28:19).

Salvation

We believe that entrance into the kingdom of God may only be accomplished by spiritual rebirth, and that the new birth of the believer comes only through Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. We also believe the blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ has accomplished our redemption; this results from God's grace as an unmerited gift given by His love and not as a result of any form of human works (Jn 3:17; 2 Cor 5:21; Rom 10:9).

The Believer

We believe that all believers should seek to walk by the Spirit and separate themselves from worldly practices. Additionally, their lives should be a witness to the truths of the Holy Scriptures. (Rom 12; Gal 5:16, 25)

Three Ordinances of the Church

- **Communion** - Is a picture of Christ's sacrificial death (I Cor. 11:23-29)

- **Baptism-** It publicly identifies us with Christ (Mk 1:9)
- **Feet Washing** -they were shocked. His actions serve also as symbolic of spiritual cleansing and a model of Christian humility. (John 13:1-16).

OUR LIFESTYLE STATEMENT

What we practice

Beliefs are not worth much unless they are translated into actions. Based on what the Bible teaches, we feel very strongly about the following seven practices:

1. Bible as our sole authority.

Since God's Word is the only completely reliable and truthful authority, we accept the Bible as our manual for living. Our first question when faced with a decision is The Bible is the basis for all we believe.

2. Worshiping God

We believe that worship is important in the life of a believer. *"Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only."* Matt. 4:10

3. Spiritual and Natural Gifts

We believe the gifts are given to believers for local ministry and the overall kingdom of God. *He is the one who gave these gifts to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the Body of Christ.* Eph. 4:11-12

4. Tithing and Offering

At LOLWC we practice tithing for the support of Christ's Body, the church, as God commands. We recognize that giving 10% of our income is the Biblical standard of giving.

Additional Opportunities to Give Financially

- **Harvest Sundays**

Target is to boost ministry offering with 3rd Sunday Harvest Offering for Ministry Expenses (Minimum \$50 per partner/\$75 couples)

*Consistent givers are honored quarterly

- **Capital Funds Project (Formally known as Project Increase)**

Is our preparation for good success in purchasing a facility that will accommodate the Holistic Vision.(Pledge amounts vary)

- **Pastoral Appreciation**

This is an opportunity to present financial support to our Senior Pastors. We honor our Pastors annually during Clergy Appreciation Month (October). Each ministry partner is requested to give a pledge amount that is applied to the overall financial goal. Additional financial support may be given any time you feel led to bless your Pastors, simply use the Pastoral Appreciation envelopes.

- **Stars Inc.**

STARS is our non-profit 501(c)(3) faith-based organization dedicated to filling gaps in services to Florida's troubled children and their families. Services and programs provided focus on everything from education, social recreation, health and physical education, to leadership and citizenship development, and cultural enrichment.

5. Baptism

We practice baptism by immersion under water - the way Jesus was baptized, and the way the Bible commands. *"For when you were baptized, you were buried with Christ, and in baptism you were also raised with Christ ... "* Col. 2:12

6. Prayer

Prayer is communicating with God. It takes different forms, but basically it is when man talks with God and God talks with man. Prayer changes us as we draw near to our Father in heaven. Many lives can be transformed by the power of prayer: broken relationships can be restored; physical and emotional healing can be experienced. Prayer should be important to us. Jesus is our greatest model of intercessory prayer.

7. Spirit-led living

We believe the only way possible to live the Christian life is by God's power within us. So we seek to practice a daily dependence on God's Spirit to enable us to do what is right. (Phil. 2:13; Eph. 5:18)

8. Discipleship of every believer

It is the responsibility of every Christian to share the Good News with those whom God has brought us into contact. We practice personal sharing about Christ and inviting friends to church. *"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have."* 1 Peter 3:15

Our Ministry Leaders

Board of Directors

Our Board of Directors work along with our Senior Leadership providing direct oversight for managing annual budget for expenses needed to perform daily operations of the church, ongoing enhancements, maintenance, and provide training of staff.

Ministerial Leadership Team

Build and maintain church fellowship and provide Christian leadership in order to help the church attain its spiritual mission. They serve the church and community on a voluntary basis by actively participating in ministry services, activities, and events. Ministerial leaders also serve as an extended arm of the Senior Pastors by overseeing the immediate needs of our ministry partners.

Elder Chris

Elder Tiffani

Minister Shirley

Ministerial Trainee David

Ministerial Trainee Belinda

Our Covenant Ministry Affiliation

The Preparation Fellowship is a ministry coalition whose distinct purpose is to equip churches and their leaders for effective leadership. This organization is spearheaded and directed by *Bishop Shelton Bady of Houston, Texas*.

Our Ministry Structure

Our Ministry Partners are overseen by our awesome Ministerial Team, assigned by last name. The Ministerial Team serves:

- An extended arm of our Senior Pastors
- A teacher of ministry's policies & procedures
- A contact person for the Ministry
- A mediator for conflict resolution
- An instructor of Biblical Principles
- An example of Holiness

Ministry Departments

Fire Prayer Ministry

Prayer is an integral part of the ministry at Light of Life Church. The Fire Prayer Ministry along with laypersons meet the 1st Saturday of each month at 9am for the purpose of corporate prayer.

Ablaze Women's Ministry

Ablaze Women's Ministry is an exciting place for women of all ages to grow in Christ. It focuses on caring for the spiritual and physical needs of women in our congregation and creates wonderful opportunities for Christian fellowship.

Youth Ministry Department

The mission of the Xtremme Youth ministry is to focus is on spiritual growth, positive relationships and fun activities. Our commitment is to help youth experience the presence of God. *Xtremme meets on the 2nd Friday of each month at 7pm.*

Jesus and Me (J.A.M.) Grades K-2 and 3-5

Radical Anointed Youth Servants (R.A.Y.S.) Grades 6th -8th “*Shining the light of Jesus*”

Blazin’ Grades 9th-12th “*Teens on Fire for Him*”

Worship & Music Ministry Department

Sound of Judah

Sound of Judah (“Judah”) is an anointed choir made up of both adults and young adults who have a passion for Praise and Worship. The choir offers a wide variety of music ranging from traditional to contemporary. *Rehearsal times are Thursdays @ 7pm.*

Divinity Praise & Worship Team

Divinity is the Praise and Worship ministry team of our church. They are a contemporary group of vocalists and worship leaders. *Divinity* leads our congregation in Sunday morning and mid-week services through songs of worship and praise. *Rehearsal times are Thursdays @ 8pm.*

Fuzion Musicians Ministry

Our musician’s ministry consists of a group of dedicated adult and student musicians who work closely with the praise & worship team and choir of Light of Life Church.

Fine Arts Ministry

The Fine Arts Ministry is a combination of Dance, Drama and Poetic Expression. This area of ministry uses unique art form to exalt the name our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ through movement and creative arts.

Pharez

Pharez is the adult female liturgical dance ministry. Pharez dancers range from age 18 and up. Prior dance experience is helpful but not necessary.

Selah

Selah is the mime ministry that uses drastic movements, facial expressions, and hand signs to depict God's Word, life's struggles and accomplishments.

Davidian

Davidian is the youth Holy Hip Hop dance ministry for both male and females ranging from ages 6 to 18. Davidian seeks to deliver a positive message through the use of upbeat Christian music and urban energetic dance moves.

Aglow

Aglow is the teen female dance ministry that edifies the body of Christ through liturgical, modern, and interpretative dance. Aglow dancers range from ages 12 to 17.

Little Lites

Little Lites is the dance ministry for female youth ranging from ages 5 to 11. This dance ministry allows the young dancer to learn and embrace the tenets of worshipping God through dance.

Radiance Worship Dancers

Worship Dance is the ministry for those called to minister in conjunction with the praise & worship ministry during worship services. These dancers are considered worship leaders and require little choreography.

IGNITE Missions Ministry

We are commissioned to go out and compel men and women to come and receive Christ. We are looking for dedicated people to serve as connectors and canvas the community on a consistent basis. *Outreach Meeting times are the 1st Saturdays of each month @ 10:30am.*

Helping Hands

The Outreach Ministry endeavors to support the local community through several means. Our current local missions are listed below. For information about how you can support others in need please contact an IGNITE Team Member.

Partner and Visitor Relations Department

The Partner & Visitor Relations department provides informative training on the history, vision and organizational structure of Light of Life.

Care Ministry

The Care Ministry provides assistance to partners that may have a need as a result of uncontrolled circumstances. Additionally, this ministry focuses on showing our love and support to all partners during their time of crisis.

New Light Program

This ministry is designed to provide mentorship for a minimum of 6 weeks to new ministry partners in becoming acclimated to the structure, policies and procedures of LOL.

The Touch Team

The Touch Ministry calls or writes members who have been absent over a period of time to let them know that they are missed and the church is concerned about their welfare.

Operations Ministry

The Operations Ministry work to ensure the upkeep and maintenance of our facility. This ministry ensures that the facility is maintained in a Spirit of excellence.

Maintenance

The Maintenance Ministry is composed of skilled men and women who maintain the Light of Life Church facilities. This ministry ensures that all departments assist in being on one accord in keeping their areas cleaned and organized before and after all events including rehearsals and meetings.

Sound/Logistics Ministry

Ensures audible sound that is sent from microphones/speakers are adequate and balanced during worship services, conferences and for recordings.

Education Department

LOL welcomes you to explore the Word of God through the challenging, supportive, and interactive study of God's Word. Our mission is to provide a learning environment where our members can live successfully as Christians.

New Partner Orientation

New member classes are designed for those interested in joining the church, held on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Sunday of each month @ 9:30am. These classes will give you important information about this exciting ministry and ways that you can become involved by carrying out the vision of the church.

Kingdom Life Bible Studies

Our weekly Mid-Week Bible Study is designed to equip the believer with the necessary tools for growing and maturing in their Christian Faith. Our Pastors and Ministerial leaders teach in a format that is easy to follow and understand. *Bible Study is held on Wednesday Nights @ 7pm.*

Christian Education Classes

The Christian Education ministry of the church focuses more on the nurturing or building up of believers. Classes are geared toward helping people learn more about God and His ways. These classes are offered the 4th Sunday of each month @ 9:45am. There is a class for adults, 18 & up as well as specialized classes for youth 17 and under.

Fresh Start

Fresh Start is 4-week training class for new converts. It is both exciting and overwhelming when you make a commitment of your life to Jesus.

Multi-Media Ministry

The goal of the Multi-Media Ministry is to publicize the work of the church via daily and weekly publications, Internet, radio and television stations.

Audio Ministry

The Media Ministry manages the church's audio and video needs. It also records worship services and official activities of the church and supplies the recordings to members and visitors.

Marketing/Advertisement

Ensure all events and activities held at LOLWC are communicated to the public via newspaper, Internet, radio and television public service advertisements.

Photography

The Photography Ministry takes pictures of church life, activities and events for display on the church's website and in publications.

Website

The Website Team informs the public as well as ministry partners of events/activities of LOLWC through website publishing.

Graphics The Graphic & Arts Ministry is responsible for reinforcing our messages through graphics, images and brand identity

First Touch Ministry

Usher Team

Welcomes and seats ministry partners and/or visitors and tidy up sanctuary after services. Ushers greet people with a pleasant smile and a warm welcome and direct them to a comfortable seat. Additionally, they provide assistance when and where

needed to worshipers.

Greeters

Greet worshipers as they arrive at church. The Greeters provide directions to first-time visitors. The ministry's goal is to ensure that every person's first visit is a pleasant one.

Information Center

The Information ministry team is located in back of the sanctuary immediately after services to provide ministry partners and visitors with additional information concerning church activities and events.

Small Groups

A group typically made up of three or more who meet on a consistent basis to share about their lives, support one another, pray together, worship God, and study biblical truths. Groups meet in a number of different locations including coffee shops, restaurants, the church, and work places, but typically they meet in homes. Most groups meet monthly during evening hours. Our goal is to accommodate the different needs of those in our church by offering a variety of options.

The Torch: A Men's Ministry established to pursue men and connect them to God, His Word, and other men for the purpose of winning, growing, and training God's man in Christ.

Sparkle Marriage: Established to bring couples into a closer intimate relationship with God and their mates by: providing tools to enrich marriage through education and activities.

Single Adult Parenting: Established to connect, equip and empower single parent families by providing a safe, Christ-centered environment.