

Annual Report | 2015



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INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46228

www.lovelwcc.org

2015 IN REVIEW PASTOR'S SUMMARY

Light of the World has always served as a beacon of light and a resource of assistance in the world; our 2015 year has been no exception. Please allow this annual report to provide an overview of just a few of the many ways we, as a church family, have been blessed and have been a blessing. We do this humbly recognizing first and foremost how faithful God has been to us. As it has been stated in Luke 12:48, “to whom much is given, much will be required”. In 2015, God shined His love and grace on us to stand as a beacon of light and love within our church and within the community.



Dr. David A. Hampton, Senior Pastor

As a part of our Shining Lights principles, we took to the streets of Indianapolis to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Selma March. It was an honor and a privilege to lead so many on this march. People from every corner of Indianapolis and beyond were represented. I truly believe that we left a lasting mark on the City of Indianapolis. We were met with cheers from those within our community that had probably never seen the Church of Jesus Christ stand for social justice in this manner. During the reenactment of the Selma March, many of our youth joined in and embraced our history. As the “Keepers of the Faith”, we were handing to them the mantle that had been handed down to us... a means of showing a united front to remind the enemy that he has been defeated in ages past and will continue to be trampled under our feet.

During the past year, our youth were enlightened and found a myriad of ways to share



their love of Christ with others. One such way was through the Youth Lock-ins. Light of the World hosted two lock-ins in partnership with the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD) and the Indiana Black Expo (IBE). At both events, over 1,200 Youth attended and participated in fun, safe activities inside the church - not in the streets. Many of the LWCC Youth witnessed of the goodness of God in their lives and their peers responded, in action, during the Invitation to Discipleship. Our young people witnessed

through song, dance and testimony. Lives were changed. Relationships were restored, and many souls were added to the Body of Christ. Our commitment to youth is paramount in our ministry, as they are our future and need us to light their way.

We continue this commitment weekly every Tuesday. **P.R.I.M.E. T.I.M.E.** Tuesdays which stands for **Promoting Righteousness, Inspiring, Mentoring and Encouraging Teens In a Ministry of Excellence.** This weekly youth activity is hosted by the young people of LWCC, ages 13 - 18, known as the "Light Squad". Each Tuesday from 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. our youth enjoy food and fellowship while participating in bible study classes relevant to them. The young ladies attend the *Girls to Women* class and the young men attend the *Boys to Men* class. Monthly, the classes are combined and taught by Pastor Hampton. We provide homework assistance/tutoring and conclude with open-gym activities and basketball.

Our youth are the next generations of our rich history. In 2015, we celebrated our 149th church anniversary. During the past 149 years, Light of the World Christian Church, has had the privilege to light the way for many. Our light is not only about the Love of Jesus Christ. We also shine our light to assist others with the daily challenges of life like under-employment and unemployment. LWCC



partnered with the Trade Unions to host the Indy Plan Career Fair. Thanks to the vision of our Council President, Dave Collins, Light of the World served the community well by offering a pathway to success through the Trades Industry. Those that were seeking employment and those that desired to change career paths were assisted in doing so during this event. The opportunity to learn a trade was provided for all as Ivy Tech presented a plan for a hand up and not a hand out. The Trades Industry was on display and many left with employment offers in-hand. Others left with acceptance offers to Ivy Tech State College. The atmosphere was electric as many of those in attendance saw a way out of their current situation. God, through "the Light," provided hope and help!

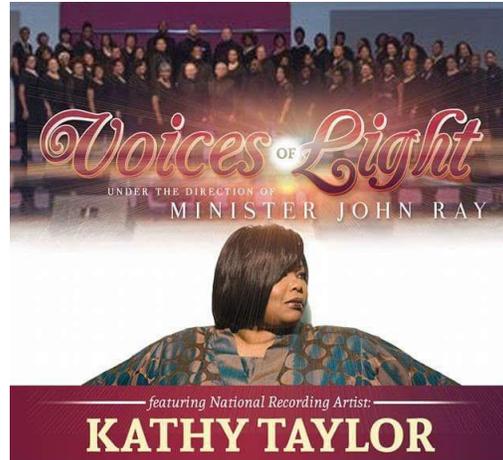
We also made an impressive commitment to address the issue of hunger in our community. In partnership with food banks within the Indianapolis community and with the generous support of our Church family, the food pantry provided food assistance to



our neighbors in need. "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me." – Matthew 25:35. In 2015, under the direction of Rev. Aaron Smith and the leadership of Rodney Shaw and a team of volunteers, the Pantry was open 45 of 52 weeks, filling over 1,600 boxes of groceries which provided service to over 6,600 families.

“The Light” is always about Family, Fellowship and Fun in Christ! In 2015, during our Annual LWCC Family Picnic, we took the opportunity to fellowship and break bread with the families that utilize the weekly service of our Food Pantry. As a church family and a church embracing its community, we enjoyed the food of various food vendors, met new friends and caught up with old friends. There was fun and activities for all. Our teens made their way to the “Game Truck” while the adults enjoyed live music entertainment, and the children enjoyed face painting and horseback rides.

On Sunday, November 15th, “the Light” did shine for the world to see as we celebrated 149 Years of Ministry! We came together as family during one worship service to lift up the precious name of Jesus. Every generation was represented as we worshipped God and thanked Him for watching over us, leading us and providing for us for 149 years. As the 2nd oldest African-American church in Indianapolis, we have much to be thankful for!



We gave thanks as the Voices of Light, under the direction of Minister John Ray, graced the stage to bless the masses during the 149th Church Anniversary Concert. The Voices of Light ministered like never before! The Holy Spirit filled the sanctuary as songs of praise were lifted. Our Special Guest was none other than Kathy Taylor! Kathy truly blessed us as she sang *The Corinthian Song!* “I’m a vessel full of power, with a treasure from the Lord” filled the air and the Saints of God owned their God-given power to stand and fight on!”

Education and mentorship was also a staple in our ministry efforts. Our SCOFE Student, Minister Milton Keys, from Christian Theological Seminary, was certainly used by God as he directed the choir in the selection *Psalms 150*. To hear his testimony and to see God use technology to allow Minister Keys to use his gifts and talents was simply amazing.

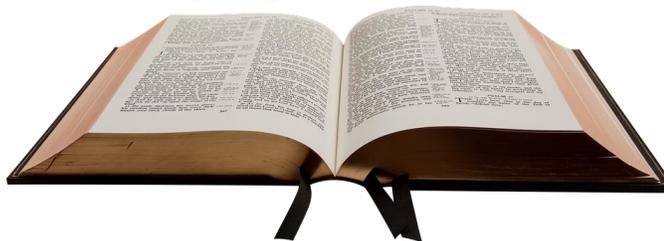
On Saturday, December 19th, we came together during our Annual Christmas Outreach. Hundreds from our community were provided clothes, food and toys. Over 2,000 toys



were provided by our Usher Ministry which is led by Bill & Michelle Petty. Several volunteers manned each station and assisted our brothers and sisters as they shopped from tables of clothing, coats, hats, shoes, boots, gym shoes, baby items, jewelry, and other items. As in years past, food was also provided for the families in need. This was a holistic

approach to outreach. Not only did we provide for the body, the spirit was also provided for as prayers were offered up on behalf of those that desired prayer. Lives were touched...hands were held...hope was restored, and we were reminded that we are “blessed to be a blessing”!

Finally, the central point of all ministries is education. We must also seek knowledge and understanding of the Mighty God we serve. Our Discipleship Ministry, under the leadership of Nerissa Hunt and a dynamic teaching team, provided not only our Sunday School classes and lessons for children church, they expanded and provided teaching series for all interests. The 2015 teaching series included classes on *Jesus on Leadership – Becoming a Servant Leader*; *How to Study Your Bible*; and *Places in the Bible – A Closer Look*.



We closed 2015 with a strong resolve to continue our commitment to serve all those in God’s Kingdom. Our new website was launched allowing us to share the Gospel throughout the nation. A new telephone system was installed to improve our care and service to all who need us. We stand strong as we boldly go into our sesquicentennial (150th) anniversary year. Poised to show all we see the Love of Jesus Christ and our ***Light*** that continually ***Shines Bright***.

Dr. David A. Hampton
Senior Pastor

OUR PURPOSE

Light of the World Christian Church has a simple committed purpose to lead lost souls to Jesus Christ, equip youth, adult and senior saints for service, and to proclaim the gospel message throughout the world.

Our focused goal is to be a church of excellence in the community, for the community, transforming the community with the love of Christ.

As a congregation, we worship and minister on the principles of our Shining L.I.G.H.T.S.

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

We are Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.

It is our vision to be a faithful, growing church that demonstrates true community, deep Christian spirituality and a passion for justice. *Micah 6:8*.

Our ultimate mission is to be and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, witnessing, loving and serving from our doorsteps "...to the ends of the earth." *Acts 1:8*

OUR CONFESSION

As members of the Christian Church, we confess that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God and proclaim him Lord and Savior of the world. In Christ's name and by his grace we accept our mission of witness and service to all people.

We rejoice in God, maker of heaven and earth, and in God's covenant of love which binds us to God and to one another. Through baptism into Christ we enter into newness of life and are made one with the whole people of God. In the communion of the Holy Spirit we are joined together in discipleship and in obedience to Christ. At the Table of the Lord we celebrate with thanksgiving the saving acts and presence of Christ. Within the universal church we receive the gift of ministry and the light of scripture. In the bonds of Christian faith we yield ourselves to God that we may serve the One whose kingdom has no end. Blessing, glory, and honor be to God forever. Amen

LOVE

Where the Love Shine Bright

INTRODUCE OTHERS TO CHRIST

Where each one reaches one and every member ministers

GLOBAL IMPACT

Where we impact lives locally, nationally and globally

HOLISTIC MINISTRY

Where we offer unto God our spirit, body, mind and treasure

TEACHING/TRAINING

Where disciples are developed, leaders are trained and everyone can serve

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Where we stand for Jesus and Justice everywhere

OUR SPIRITUAL OFFICERS

The Church Elders are responsible for providing spiritual guidance and support to the Senior Pastor and the congregation. They serve to assist the Senior Pastor with the meeting the myriad of spiritual needs within the life of the church.

ELDERS

Myron Richardson (*Undershepherd*)

Gail Pollard (*Asst. Undershepherd*)

Kevin Alcorn

Barbara Boner

Rev. Deborah Daniels Calhoun

Hoyt Diamond

Cecil Frink

Rev. Billy Hall

Rev. Carla Hall

Dr. Samuel Hollingsworth

Geoffrey Jones

Rev. Dr. Samuel Murray

(*The Late*) Paralee Sherard

Rev. Loretta Thomas

Bonita White

Rev. Maudine Wordlaw

DIACONATE

Minister Alice Hobbs (*Undershepherd*)

Donella Boyd (*Asst. Undershepherd*)

Lacy Boyd (*Asst. Undershepherd*)

Eric Broadus

Richard Bruce

James Bullock

Louise Bullock

Pammala Frink

Maxine Garrett

Mary Glover

Heath Holland

Ethel Jones

Robert Jones

Deborah Rouse

Cecilia Thurman

Marshall Williams

ELDERS EMERITUS

Maimie Beamon

Murvin Enders

Mildred Fletcher

Rev. Saint Samuel Johnson

Tom Shipp

William Vance



OUR CHURCH COUNCIL

The Church Council, elected on an annual basis, serves as the governing body for the church with key duties including: financial oversight and administration, presiding over church business meetings, business administration, strategic planning, maintaining operating procedures, and general oversight of the church.

2015 COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chairman

David Collins

Vice Chairman

Brenda Burke

Treasurer

Eric Newman

Assistant Treasurer

Dianna Brewer

Secretary

Elder Kevin Alcorn

Assistant Secretary

Michelle Jones Petty

Members-At-Large (*Listed in Alphabetical Order*)

Judge Shatrese Flowers

Dwayne Montgomery

Elder Paralee Sherard

Anderson White

Dr. Jeffry Woods

Ex-Officio

Dr. David A. Hampton

OUR MINISTRIES 2015

Our dedicated volunteers faithfully- served with the heart of Jesus Christ. We are thankful for their leadership and the incredible love they pour into each ministry thorough out the year.

Servant Leaders for 2015 are listed next to each ministry. For additional information about our ministries, please view our website at www.lovelwcc.org/how-we-love.

| | |
|--|---|
| A-Team | <i>Minister Aaron Smith</i> |
| Acolytes | <i>Elder Bonita White</i> |
| Baby/Parent Dedication | <i>Rev. Yvette Foreste</i> |
| Bereavement | <i>Rev. Loretta Thomas</i> |
| Children's Church | <i>Vicki Tiller</i> |
| Children of the Light Choir | <i>Monic Hill</i> |
| Stephen Talley Community Garden | <i>John Jones</i> |
| Counseling | <i>Rev. Toni Colbert</i> |
| Dance | <i>Minister John Ray, Jr.</i> |
| Emergency Outreach | <i>Elder Gail Pollard and John Jones</i> |
| Food Pantry | <i>Rodney Shaw</i> |
| Media | <i>Dwayne Jarrett</i> |
| Men of Discipline (M.O.D.) | <i>Greg Garrett</i> |
| Golden Lights Choir | <i>Minister Altheria Madry</i> |
| Information Desk | <i>Sharetha Marshall</i> |
| Love Marriage | <i>Dr. and Mrs. David Hampton & Mr. and Mrs. Moses Gray</i> |
| Men's Ministry | <i>Eric Anderson & Greg Waites</i> |
| New Light Choir | <i>Tiffanie Coats</i> |
| New Members | <i>Minister Carmen Jennings</i> |
| Pastor's Partners | <i>Amanda Oliver</i> |
| Prayer Warriors | <i>Elder Barbara Boner</i> |

Prison Ministry

Rev. Tracy Ross

Sages

Rev. Maudine Wordlaw

Scholarship

Amber Clarke

Social Media

*Rachelle Hardiman Bible
Eric Anderson*

Social Justice

Dr. Carlton Waterhouse

Sunday School

Rev. Steve Garrett

Transportation

Charles Tomes

Ushers

Bill Petty

Voices of the Light Choir

John Jones

Women's Ministry

Minister Sheila Spencer

Young Adults

Rev. Chesla Nickelson

Youth

Anderson White



OUR CHURCH FINANCIALS

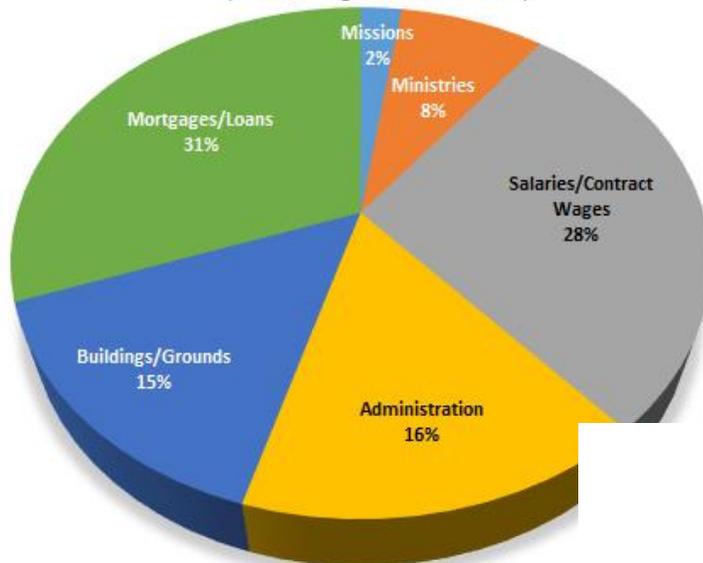
2015 was another banner year for Light of the World Christian Church.

While revenue was slightly down from 2014, our reserves increased, and our expenses were under budget, due to the diligent control of expenses by our Pastor, the Church Council and staff. Another major factor in our reduced expenses was the refinancing of our long term debt from a bond to a standard mortgage. This resulted in a significant reduction in our monthly mortgage payments. LWCC finished 2015 in a strong financial position.

The following two pie charts depict the percentage of LWCC's expense categories for budgeted and actual expenses for 2015. While each category is specific to the various budget categories, every aspect of what we spend is considered ministry and mission in our work as a local church, giving all glory to Jesus Christ.

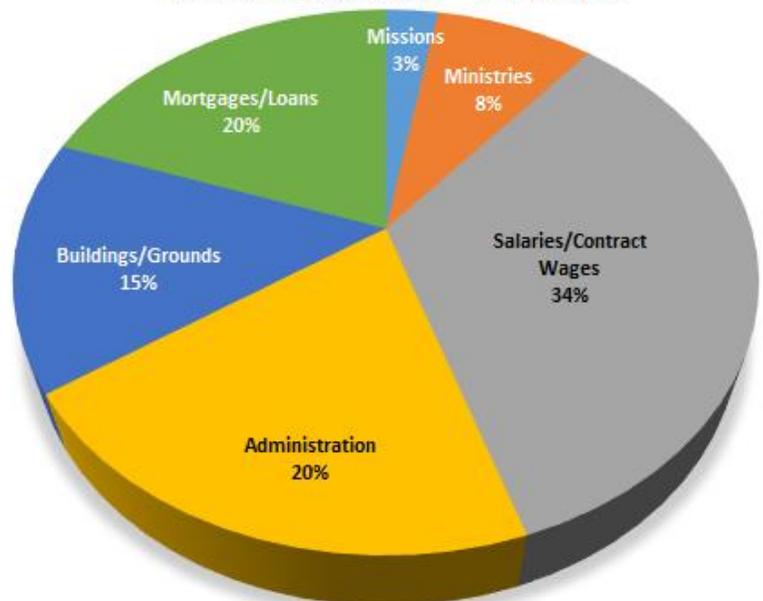
2015 Budgeted Expenses

(Total Budget = \$2.4 Million)



2015 Actual Expenses

(Total Actual Expenses = \$2.06 Million)



LOOKING FORWARD

2016 is a landmark year for Light of the World Christian Church as we celebrate our sesquicentennial church anniversary – marking 150 years of triumphant Christian ministry. For nearly two centuries, Light of the World Christian Church has been a beacon of hope and a symbol for servanthood throughout the Indianapolis community and around the world. As we prepare to officially celebrate our sesquicentennial celebration, we do so with esteemed humility – looking back on the faithful accomplishments of yesterday, while looking to the future with renewed commitment and faith.



Our theme for this time of jubilee is taken from the Gospel of Matthew 5:14-16, wherein Matthew writes – “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven” – and together, we are **“Celebrating 150 Years of Light and Love.”**

As we continue to think strategically about the next phase of our church’s history, we want to focus our intent on three key areas of ministry – (1) Enhanced Facilities; (2) Evangelism and Growth; and (3) Outreach Expansion. Each of these three areas, combined with your steady involvement in the life of our church and financial support, are crucial for the continued success of our ministry.

During this season of celebration – spanning the months of July to December– we invite every generation of 'The Light' to join us in the myriad of events and activities that we have planned. Above all, we thank God for His continued faithfulness towards us, and we pray that He continues to keep our hearts committed to the work of ministry and keep our feet firmly planted in Him.

ADMINISTRATION

Our church staff is responsible for managing the day-to-day business of the organization. Support staff, administrators and ministers work together to maintain a high level of excellence in meeting the goals and objectives of Light of the World Christian Church. Our 2016 staff directory is as follows:

Reverend Dr. David A. Hampton - Senior Pastor

Shannon Lawrence, JD - Chief of Staff/Communication Director

Lynn Martin, M.Div. – Chief Operating Officer/General Ministries

Minister John Ray – Director of Worships & Arts

Dwayne Jarrett – Director of Media

Reverend Aaron Smith – Director of Evangelism/Outreach

Nerissa Hunt – Director of Discipleship

Minister Alice Hobbs – Office Administrator

Eugene Hobbs – Facilities Management

June Ellington – Accounting

2016 CHURCH COUNCIL BOARD**Chairman**

David Collins

Vice Chairman

Deacon Lacy Boyd

Treasurer

Myron Hardiman

Assistant Treasurer

Cassandra Tomes

Secretary

Elder Kevin Alcorn

Assistant Secretary

Michelle Jones Petty

**Members-At-Large - (Listed in
Alphabetical Order)**

Judge Shatrese Flowers

Keith (Kip) Payne

Elder Gail Pollard

Elder Myron Richardson

Ellen Stancil

Dr. Jeffry Woods

Ex-Officio

Dr. David A. Hampton

2016 SPIRITUAL OFFICERS



Myron Richardson, Servant Leader

Barbara Boner

Rev. Dr. Yowanda Bowens, *In-Training*

Rev. Deborah Daniels Calhoun

Hoyt Diamond

Cecil Frink

Pammala Frink, *In-Training*

Dr. Samuel Hollingsworth

Ethel Jones, *In-Training*

Geoffrey Jones

Robert Jones, *In-Training*

Rev. Dr. Samuel Murray

Gail Pollard

Norman Reed

Rev. Loretta Thomas

Rev. Maudine Wordlaw

CONTACT US



Light of the World Christian Church
4646 N. Michigan Road
Indianapolis, IN 46228

Worship services at 9 am and 12 Noon

ONLINE

<http://www.lovelwcc.org>

SOCIAL MEDIA

FACEBOOK: LWCCindy

TWITTER: @LWCCindy

PHOTOGRAPHY PROVIDED BY:

Grace Michael Photography, Keyla Jones
O'Bannon Photography, Re'Nita O'Bannon