

Walking by

# FAITH

and Not by Sight **2 Corinthians 5:7**

Living Faith Christian  
Center Newsletter



Living Faith Christian Center  
"Reaching the World"  
Teaching...Preaching...Healing

December 2021 - Volume 4 – Issue 12

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### Living Faith Christian Center Mission Statement

Our mission is to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom throughout the world, and train Believers how to live independent of this world's system and have dominion over it. To provide Believers a word of encouragement, hope and to aide in the development of their faith. Also, to teach Christians who they are in Christ Jesus and how to live a victorious life in their covenant rights and privileges.

### Calendar of Events

#### December 31, 2021

Watchnight Service  
6pm to 9pm  
Living Faith Christian Center  
Columbia, SC 29203

#### February 11-12, 2022

Singles Retreat  
Registration: \$75.00  
Registration Deadline: January 28, 2022  
Location: Embassy Suites  
200 Stonebridge Dr.  
Columbia, SC 29210

#### May 12-13, 2022

Joint Coalition Prayer Conference  
Speaker: Dr. Tony Evans  
May 12th @ 7pm  
May 13th @ 11am & 7pm  
Columbia Convention Center  
Columbia, SC 29201

### Service Times & Contact Information

Sunday Morning Worship Service @ 8:30am

Tuesday Noon Day Bible Study @ 12:00pm

Tuesday Night Bible Study @ 7:00pm

Web Address: [aldowningministries.org](http://aldowningministries.org) and [livingfaithsc.com](http://livingfaithsc.com)

Phone: (803) 609-5714

### Social Media

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*Merry Christmas*



**Bishop A. L. Downing and Lady Inza Downing**

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor; He hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and the recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised. To preach the acceptable year of the Lord” Luke 4:18-19

### Speaking Engagement Request

If you would like to invite Bishop Downing for a speaking engagement, the contact info is:  
A.L. Downing Ministries  
P.O. Box 291808  
Columbia, SC 29229  
Ph: (803) 609-5714

# Words of Encouragement

Bishop A.L. Downing

I want it understood we're NOT celebrating Christmas the holiday, I'm celebrating the BIRTH of CHRIST. I don't know why others don't celebrate the Birth of Christ, but celebrate His Resurrection. There can't be a resurrection without His birth. Let me tell you why LFCC and I celebrate His BIRTH. Prophets Foretold the Birth of Jesus Christ (Christmas).

## Prophets Foretold the Birth of Jesus Christ

Let us take a look at the prophecies concerning the birth of Jesus.

We know Jesus was of Jewish descent and therefore was the seed of Abraham. In Genesis 22:18 we are told that through Abraham's offspring "all nations on earth will be blessed." Christians believe Jesus is the fulfillment of this promise.

We also know that He is from the line of Jacob, Abraham's grandson. Numbers 24:17: *"I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near. A star will come out of Jacob; a scepter will rise out of Israel."*

**From Isaiah 11:1** we know He is from the line of Jesse, the father of King David: *"A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a branch will bear fruit. The spirit of the Lord will rest on him."*

**From Jeremiah 23:5-6** we know He is from the line of King David: *"The days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land ... This is the name by which he will be called: the Lord our righteous savior."*

Reaffirming that Jesus is from the line of King David, we have this prophecy from **2 Samuel 7:12-13**, which was actually spoken by Samuel to King David: *"When your days are over and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom. He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever."*

From the prophecy of **Micah, 5:2** we know He was born into the tribe of Judah in the region of Ephrathah, in the town of Bethlehem: *"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."*

**From Isaiah 7:14** we know that He was born from a virgin: *"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and you will call him Immanuel."* The name Immanuel means "God with us" and indicates the divinity of Jesus. Isaiah 7:14 is a **"Double Reference"** prophecy. ..let's

## Words of Encouragement cont...

look at it. **Isaiah 7:10-16; 8:3.** In **Isaiah 7:14** the word “virgin” is “almah”, which in Hebrew can mean a young woman who is promised in marriage or just young woman. In the New Testament, which was written in Greek, the word for virgin is “parthenos” when referring to Mary, the mother of Jesus, it literally means virgin only and not a young woman.

### Let's Talk about Christmas...Xmas

The use of “X” to refer to Christ dates back at least a thousand years. The “X” in “Xmas” comes from “Christos,” the word for “Christ” in Greek, the original language of the New Testament. Spelled “Χριστός” in the Greek alphabet, the first letter of “Christos” is “X,” pronounced “chi.” Early abbreviations of “Christ” borrowed the first two letters of the Greek “Christos,” “X” and “P,” a tradition that still holds in some contexts. (Some of you may already be familiar with the labarum, or Chi-Rho, a symbol of Christ made up of an “X” crossing over a “P” that appears in many churches.)

In 1021, an Anglo-Saxon scribe abbreviated “Christmas” with “Xpmas” to save space on expensive parchment. Over time, the “P” dropped out of use and left us with “Xmas.” The word has been around ever since; for example, in 1801, Romantic poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge wrote in a letter, “On Xmas Day I breakfasted with Davy,” and we can see it in use on this card dated 1910:

### Xmas

Finally, we get to the word **Xmas** (usually pronounced the same as Christmas, but some pronounce it, rather incorrectly, as /'ɛksməs/). Many people believe that writing “Xmas” instead of Christmas is an attempt to remove Christ from Christmas and may even consider it blasphemous.

However, “X” in “Xmas” is, in fact, not the English letter “ex”. It is an abbreviation of the Greek name of “Christ”, Χριστός (Christos), which starts with the Greek letter Chi. Abbreviating “Christ” as “X” can be traced many centuries back, with some written documents dated as early as 1100 AD.

**Isaiah 9:6**—Isaiah prophesies that Jesus Christ will come as a baby; Jesus is described by several names. “ For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the governments shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”

I don't know what month He was born in...

I don't know what day He was born on...

## Words of Encouragement cont...

But, I do know that when He was born, Heaven sent the angelic choir to sing of His arrival.

I know angels came to tell the shepherds the good news as they watched their flock on the Judean hillside, saying, *“Fear not for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And you shall be a sign unto you. You shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger”*.

I don't know when he was born but I know a multitude of heavenly host appeared with the angel praising God, saying, *“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men”*.

I don't know when He was born, but I do know that Simeon and Anna saw Him and lifted up their voices and gave praises to God for Him.

I don't know when He was born, but I know that He was born and that He is the Savior of the world.



## Words of Encouragement cont...

### *Testimonials:*

*Pastor, the position I had asked you to pray with me about, well they closed that particular requisition number and I hadn't heard anything since my August 24th interview. I met with my director on October 27th to let her know what all that I do in my position and how I applied and interviewed for the job but didn't hear anything. She told me she would look into it. Fast forward to November, because a new requisition number showed up in my email as if I had applied for this same job again on November 9th. Then today, I received the offer letter. Pastor that was the Favor and God through the whole process.*

*D.M.*

*I want you to know my church received an unexpected check in the mail! Praise God!!*

*D.I.A*

We would love to hear your testimonies. Send your testimonies to:

A.L. Downing Ministries

P.O. Box 291808

Columbia, SC 29229 or call (803) 609-5714

If you desire prayer please call: (803) 609-5714 and you will be put in touch with an intercessor who will pray with you.

*I want you to know that Inza and I love you and are so thankful for your support and that you're a part of this ministry.*

*Blessings and*



### **How You Can Get Involved...**

- Pray about our upcoming events and that we will pay the remaining mortgage off quickly.
- Become a faithful partner and contributor of the Ministry.  
Make contributions payable to: [A. L. Downing Ministries, P.O. Box 291808, Columbia, SC 29229](mailto:ALD@aldowningministries.org) or go to the ministry's website: [aldowningministries.org](http://aldowningministries.org). All contributions are tax deductible.

# *Lady Downing Thoughts for the Month*



**“GOD didn’t lock that door, you just never turned the knob...Faith”**

**“God is about to give you some “first times” in your life.  
It will be far greater than you ever imagined.”**

**“Prayer is your communication with God. Have you talked to him today?”**

**“The enemy will speak a negative thought into your mind with hopes that you'll entertain it....Don't fall for his foolishness!”**

**“Don't listen to what your situation is telling you. Listen to what your God is telling you  
and only speak what you hear Him say!  
You know the authority you have as a believer.”**

**“Guard your heart.  
Be careful what you listen too, what you watch and who’s in your circle.”**

**“You need people in your circle who help you magnify the Lord and not your  
Problems.”**

**Be Blessed,  
‘First Lady Downing’**



# Living Faith Christian Center Baptism

*Baptism of Joseph Guider*



# LFCC Thanksgiving Food Giveaway



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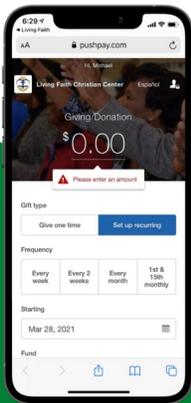
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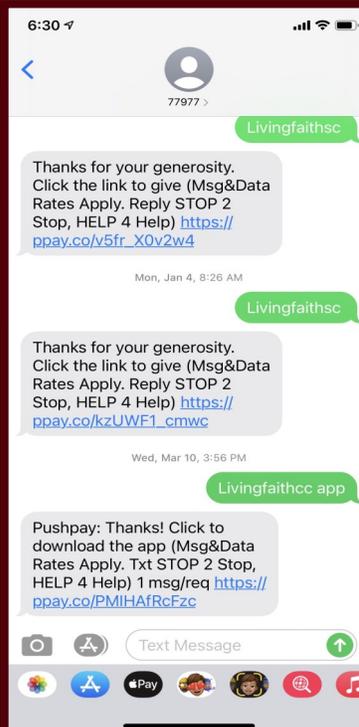
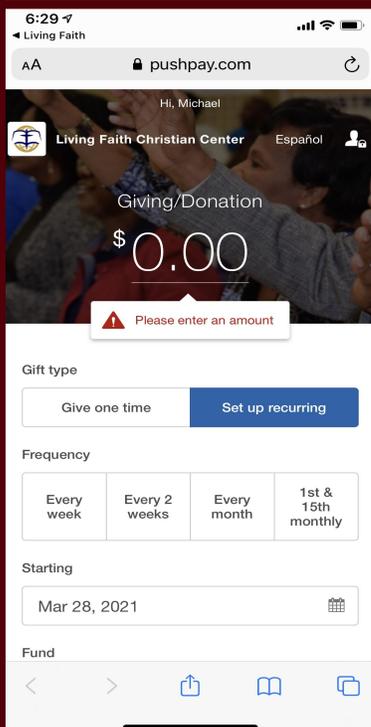
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# SCHOOL *of* THEOLOGY

## Living Faith Ministries

“Reaching the World”

TEACHING    PREACHING    HEALING

### OUR PROGRAM

Living Faith Ministries School of Theology (LFMSOT) offers the following types of Certificates, Diplomas, and Degrees.

#### AUDIT CERTIFICATE

The Audit Program is for those individuals attending for their own personal spiritual growth. Audit students must attend all lectures and read all text books. Audit students will receive a Certificate of Attendance for each 30-credit hour program completed.

#### DIPLOMA PROGRAM

A Diploma in Theology is awarded to students who successfully complete their designated first-year program for academic credit (30 credit-hours total).

#### ASSOCIATES DEGREE PROGRAM

An Associates Degree is awarded to students who successfully complete their designated second year program for academic credit (60 credit-hours total).

#### BACHELORS DEGREE

A Bachelors Degree is awarded to a student who successfully complete their designated fourth-year program for academic credit (120 credit-hours total)

#### MASTERS DEGREE

A Masters Degree is awarded to students who successfully complete a minimum of 36 credit-hours above the Bachelors Degree Program for academic credit.

#### DOCTORAL DEGREE

A Doctor of Ministry (D. Min) is awarded to students who successfully complete 45 credit hours above the Masters Degree program for academic credit.

**Classes are held at the main campus of**

**Living Faith Christian Center**

**1536 Frye Road**

**Columbia, SC 29203**

**For more information call 803-609-5714**