

August 2020



EUREKA BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

The **LORD God** is a
sun and shield:
the **LORD** will give
grace and Glory:
... no good thing
will He withhold
from them that walk **uprightly.**

Psalm 84:11

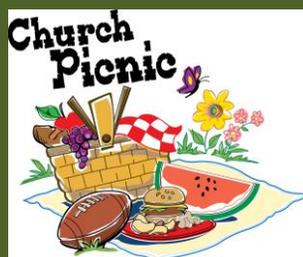


5K for Life

Saturday,
August 1

Church Picnic

Sunday, August 9
After Morning
Service
Skonewood
Christian Retreat



Online Sermons

Sunday sermons
will continue to be
shown on facebook
live until further
notice.



A Note from Pastor Seth

In the history of our nation these words from the Prophet Isaiah have never been more relevant. As he addressed excess evil in Israel he proclaimed, "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter." As we look at the country we live in, everything is backwards right now. A new morality has entered the mainstream culture that is opposed to biblical Christianity. This is new ground that we tread since for most of our nation's history the mainstream has at least loosely followed a Christian worldview. The general belief was that true morality came from the Bible. While it is true that radical beliefs have always been there, it was a minority voice for most of the history of America. Most people in our country believed to embrace radical immorality is destructive to society and it should remain a fringe voice and not a dominant one. The radical anti-Christian agenda has been slowly building steam for decades. The mainstream embrace of such radical ideas at one time seemed impossible, but those days are behind us, and every Christian reading this should understand that those days of decency and civility in our society will likely never come back.

This may sound like too pessimistic outlook to many reading this. As citizens in the St. Croix Falls area, a rural place, in some ways we live in a time warp. Many rural people, Christian or not, embrace a general belief that God created the world and our understanding of right and wrong comes from the Bible. So as we go through our lives in rural America we may not see how bad things have gotten. However, once you turn on the television, go on the Internet, or walk on a college campus one can see the rapid decline of society. What we must understand is that mainstream society does not see it this way. What the Bible sees as decline the secular world sees as progress. They view the secular agenda moving forward as drawing closer to an Utopian society - and they are blind to what is really happening, a gradual plunge toward destruction. You might wonder how we got here? As we look at the mainstream decline it really goes back to 1973 with the Roe v. Wade decision by the Supreme Court. This ruling gave the right for abortion on demand anywhere in America.

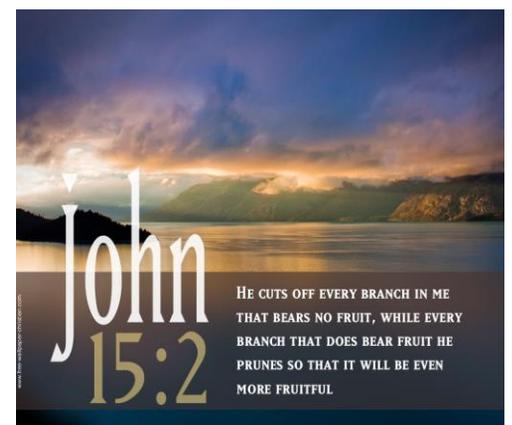
But the Bible makes clear in the sixth commandment that murder is sinful (Exodus 20:13). To take a child's life is wrong no matter how one spins it. Since this ruling was made it has gained increased support over time in our country. In 2019, one study found that three-fourths of Americans want to keep Roe v. Wade in place. Our nation has been on a downhill slide ever since.

Other areas of immorality have inevitably followed. In the last twenty years the gay agenda has increased. The Lord makes it clear in Scripture, "You shall not lie with a male as with a woman; it is an abomination" (Leviticus 18:22). Yet over the last twenty years the homosexual movement has gained steam and today it is widely accepted. We have also seen the transgender movement pushed strongly, even though it clearly disagrees with the Bible and science. The Bible says, "male and female he created them" (Genesis 1:27) and what science tells us is males have an xy chromosome, while females have an xx. More recently we have seen an effort to rid society of law enforcement who God has put in place to protect the citizens of a country (Romans 13:1-4). To do this will inevitably increase crime and chaos. As this agenda continues to head to further and further extremes it should be no surprise. If God's Word is not submitted to in one area then it will not be submitted to in others also. The secular agenda is a slippery slope with no moral compass. The moral system of this movement is political correctness, and the powers that be tell us what is right and wrong. Their agenda is to transform American society away from the fixed moral system on which it was founded. This new secular agenda is the "morality" and the goal is to gain power and overthrow the system, and sadly those who are not on steady ground in their Christian convictions are being sucked in. People need a shepherd to guide them, but instead people all over America are following the false shepherds of the world. There is only one true religion in the world and that is biblical Christianity. Christians are accustomed to refuting other false religions, but the new false religion has a different look to it. Secularists are running the show in this religion, and make no mistake about it; this is a religion. What we have seen over the last two months is this godless movement gaining more steam than it ever has before. As this radical

agenda has gained more power in society we have seen a call for all people to submit allegiance or else pay the consequences, and if one will not ally him or herself with this movement there will be consequences. We have already seen this as people have lost their jobs, been humiliated, spit on, called all kinds of names. To embrace the secular agenda is the new morality of society and it is at complete odds with biblical Christianity.

My goal in writing this is that you would have eyes to see what is happening around us. As you follow Christ and resist this movement you may experience persecution ahead, but the Bible tells us we should not be surprised when it comes. As the apostle Paul wrote, "All who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted" (2 Timothy 3:12). If we truly walk with him there will be opposition in this world. But there is good news. We will grow together as a church as we walk with him through this (John 15:2). The reality is that in America tough sledding is ahead for all faithful Christians, and we are not exempt from this where we live. The words from the apostle Peter are what we need to hear as we live in an immoral land, "Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you" (1 Peter 4:12-14). May we stand strong in the Lord when we personally or corporately experience this opposition.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Seth



MissionMissions:reach

Stout Family

Thank-you for praying! God has answered in Big ways!

1. The SEND funds were released by the bank! After 15 days, the deadline for the money to be in the bank before possibly being returned to SEND, the Macedonia Bank released the money for the Word of Hope Church Building. Pastor Pero now has the keys for our new church building! PRAISE JESUS!
2. Debby and I are flying to Croatia for our Vision Trip! Yesterday, we got the required COVID19 tests done (Both Negative) and now this afternoon, we will be flying to Zagreb and then driving to Zadar, Croatia, along the sea, our next possible place of living and ministry with SEND. Please pray that God would make His ways CRYSTAL CLEAR this week, as Debby and I meet with the SEND Croatia Team, Pastor Ivan and family, and others. Also pray for our 5 kids staying in Skopje, as they are in good hands with our team there!
3. Joy graduated from Mountain View Academy HomeSchool last Sunday, in our backyard with a few friends. Thanks for your prayers for Joy as she returned to Macedonia, to spend about a month here, before she flies on August 9th for the USA to attend Columbia International University in South Carolina to major in Psychology/Counseling. If you want to give Joy a Graduation Gift, you still can at this address:

JOY STOUT
68 CALIBOGUE CT
CHAPIN, SC 29036-6144



Thanks again for your prayers and praise God for His answers to prayers!

Verse of the month:

1 Peter 1:8-9 - "Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls."

when David faced Goliath he didn't talk about how dangerous Goliath was— he talked about how great God is.

Don't talk fear
Talk faith.

A Prayer for Teachers and Educators during the COVID Crisis

Father,

This is the day You have made, we will rejoice and be glad in it. It doesn't look like we thought it would look, nor will tomorrow and the days to come likely be executed in the way we expected and prepared for. Help us to see the good in each day. Help us to find reasons to rejoice and ways to be glad. Litter our lives with moments of laughter and lightheartedness, even in these extremely dark and trying times. Birthdays are still be celebrated each day. The sun keeps coming up, and You remain the same. We are created in Your image, God, to do good and great things to bring glory to Your name. Each one of us, both teacher and student, were created with specific purpose. Help teachers to have confidence in their craft. They were meant to teach, educate, coach, counsel and lead. They are needed, appreciated, and loved. Their work and their efforts are never in vain. When it is hard to see the good, grab our attention, Father. When we are sad and miss school, our normal routine, and our teammates and coaches, encourage our spirits. Sustain us through our very real fear of what is and will happen in our world, God. Remind us we are not alone, even when we feel isolated.

Pray for Continued Provision and Resources

Thank You, Father, for technology allowing many students to continue their educations online if needed. For virtual classrooms and technological resources. Thank You for every teacher and educator adjusting to their new normal. Comfort them as they could possibly miss interacting with their students in person. Equip them with energy and inspiration to come alongside their students in this challenging time of crisis. Protect their health, Father, both physically and mentally. Encourage them to use their gifts and talents to find new ways to reach students.

For the boards of education, principals and staff of our schools, we pray blessing over their lives and their livelihood. May the leaders of our schools be blessed with wisdom and energized to inspire their staff in this difficult time. May the needs of students be seen, and God we pray Your provision to meet those needs. Bless our school secretaries, to find a place to serve and work in this new and unique situation. We pray for the channels of communication to remain open amongst the staff of our school systems. Keep them connected, socially, and working together for the greater good of each student. Empower coaches and student athletes to communicate about their training virtually, and to stay inspired and reminded that impossible situations can be the fuel for big dreams to be realized.

Pray for Hope and Endurance

Father, we know there are grave events happening, lives lost and many others on the line or fighting to breathe—but we also know that You grieve with us over every loss. Help both teachers and students to grieve losses looked forward to in a healthy and honest way, and then help all of them to rally in gratitude for all of the things that have not been lost. This crisis may be longstanding, but it will not last forever, Father. Help our educators and teachers come alongside our students in this moment of loss, fear, and crisis.

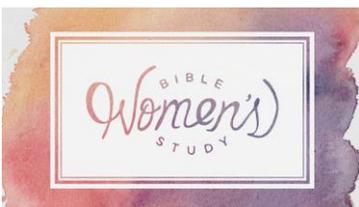
Our youth do not have the years of wisdom many of their teachers, counselors, and educators have from living more life on this earth than they. Our prayer today, Father, is that our teachers and educators will comfort and spur on our students. May the hope of Jesus Christ be with every teacher, educator, coach, counselor, principal, staff member, and student. Because it is through the hope of Jesus, we can be assured somewhere, sometime, somehow, there is light at the end of this dark tunnel we traverse.

You know our needs, Father. You know the heart of every teacher, educator, counselor, coach, aid, and staff member. You know the needs and challenges of every student. Be our guide, Father. Show us who needs help, how to help, and sustain and provide for us, Father.

In Jesus' Name,
Amen.

Meg Bucher: www.IBelive.com

Monthly Events



Women's Bible Study
*No Women's Study due to
5K for Life



Men's Breakfast
Saturday, August 8
8:00am



Every week before the sermon begins, the children, second grade and under, are invited to go downstairs for Children's Church.

While this is learning-through-play for the three years old and younger set, the others have a formal time of learning. An overview of the Old Testament was completed on July 19th. The final lesson explored how Nehemiah, under God's direction, rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem.

Now the children ages 4-8 are learning New Testament stories in Children's Church. Thank you to the teachers: Rachel Hall, Abby Swanson, Hansi Stridde, Sophia Trick, and Barb Trombley for their work with our children!



Weekly Events



Sunday School
Sunday Mornings
9:00am



Morning Service
Sunday Mornings
10:00am



Kids Church
Sunday mornings during
Morning Service

2020 Board Members

Deacons

Shaun Anderson
Gordon Trombley

Elder

Mark Brooks

Trustees

Randy Clark
Shaun Anderson

Deaconess

Barbara Trombley
Amber Lindo
Hansi Stridde
Abby Swanson

Secretary

Amber Lindo

Treasurers

Hansi Stridde
Abby Swanson



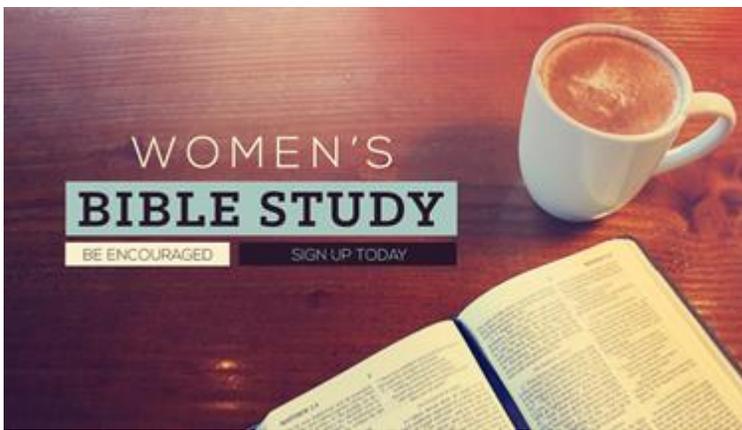
Work is completed on the classroom portion of the Matson Building. A special thank you to those that have helped on this project. Especially Shaun Anderson!

Church Announcements

- Women's Bible Study will participate in the 5K for Life instead of meeting at the church.
- Wednesday Evening Bible Study will start at 6:30pm on September 9th in the Matson Building.
- Sunday Sermons will continue to be shown on facebook live until further notice.

-HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Alvin Matson 8/6, Amber Lindo 8/10, Abby Swanson 8/22, Rachael Anderson 8/22, Jacob Lindo 8/24

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Mark & Lori Brooks 8/9



Women's Friday Morning Bible Study Starting on September 11

Praying is simply talking with God.

Having a conversation, if you will.

This fall, we will be exploring conversations people from the Bible (from Abraham to Jonah to Jesus himself!) had with God.

We will be inspired to seek Him deeply, daily.

The book "Divine Conversations" by Kathy Schwanke will provide the basis for our study.

This ten-session study will meet at the church and begin on Friday, September 11, at 9:30.

If you are available on Friday mornings, please prayerfully consider attending this Bible study. The Holy Spirit works mightily among us when we pore over His Word together.

Please see Barb Trombley if you have any questions or would like to preview the book.



Large prints of the church building and daughter churches have been framed and will be on display in the Matson Building. Thank you to Shaila Johnson for collecting the photos and completing this project.



Sunday, August 9th
after morning service

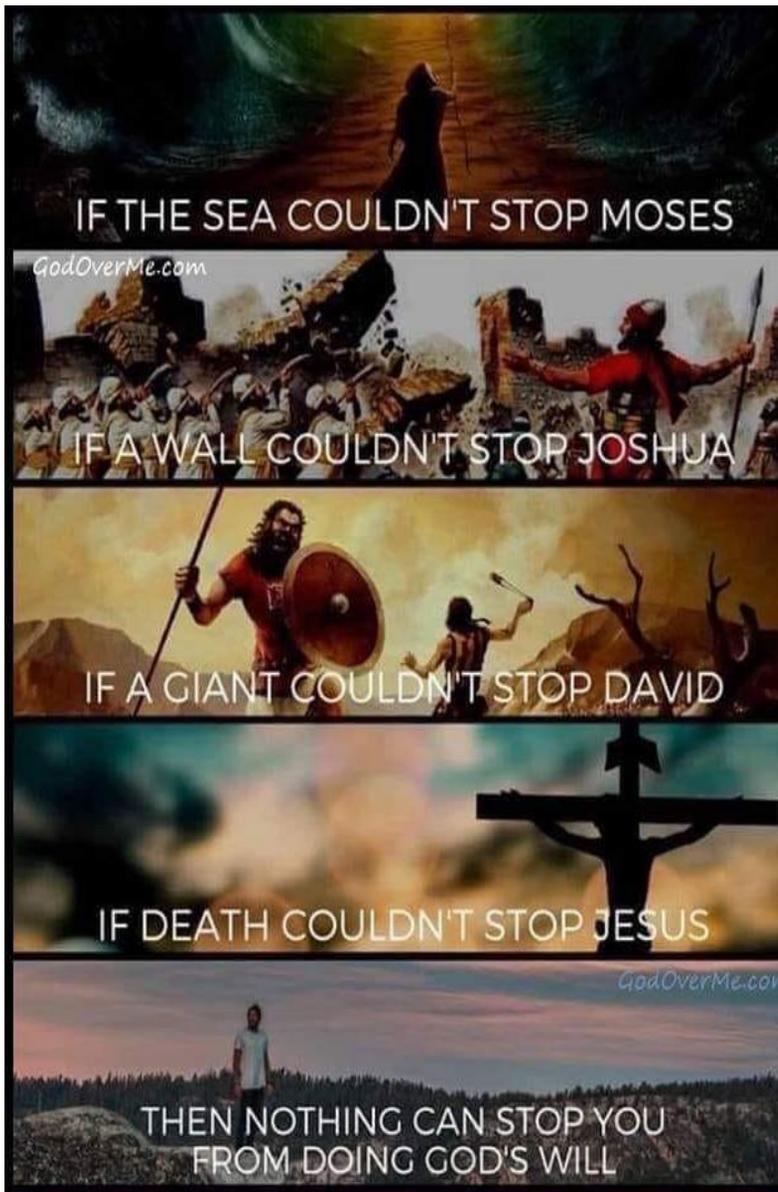
*Due to COVID, each family is asked to bring their own meal. Beverages will be provided by the church.

Skonewood
Christian Retreat
2104 260th Avenue
Cushing, WI

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



“It was a nice surprise to get the card shower for my 90th birthday. Especially the hand made cards by some of the children. I received over 22 cards from family & friends. Thank you all!
-Susan Matson



Join us on August 1st

Options for Women

5K for Life

COME TOGETHER
Options for Women | TRI-COUNTY

10TH ANNUAL
5K FOR LIFE
WALK/RUN

August 1, 2020

FUN FAMILY EVENT!!

- Kids 200 Meter Race
- Two Mile Walk
- 5K Run

**HOPE CHURCH
OSCEOLA, WI**

REGISTRATION: CALL 715.755.2229 OR
WEBSITE: OPTIONSTRICOUNTY.ORG





Eureka Baptist Church
2393 210th Avenue
St. Croix Falls, WI 54024

