

December 2019



EUREKA BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER



God showed how much He loved us by sending His one and only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through Him.

1 John 4:9

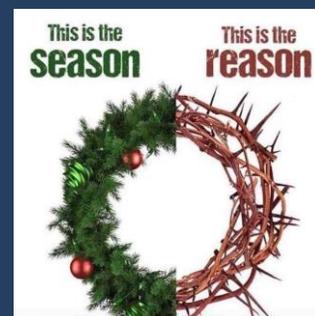


Community Carol Sing

Sunday, December 8
6:00pm

Christmas Service

Sunday,
December 22



Merry Christmas

Wednesday,
December 25



A Note from Pastor Seth

The goal of the Christian life is to see God and be able to enjoy him forever (Psalm 16:11). We were created to know our Creator (Colossians 1:16). In Bible study a while back one of our elders, Rob, asked the group the question, "what will be the happiest day of the believer's life?" This might sound strange but the answer is the day we die. The apostle Paul wrote that to be with Christ is "far better" than to be here on earth (Philippians 1:23). The question I want you and I to consider is this, how often do we think about entering the presence of God? Is our mind so set on earth that we rarely, if ever think about it. One day, all who belong to Christ will have the most extraordinary experience imaginable. We will see God. The Bible tells us that no one has ever seen God (John 1:18). During Moses' life he asked to see him and God showed him only part of his glory. What the Lord told Moses is, "I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen" (Exodus 33:23). This is to say that no mortal man, still in his sin in this life, can see God in all of his glory. But in the next we will see him.

Now as you read this you might be asking how can we see God? Is not God a spirit, invisible to the eye. This is correct. Jesus told the Samaritan woman that "God is spirit" (John 4:24). What this means is that we cannot see God like we can see one another. We can see each other because we are physical and we cannot see God because he is spirit. So when the Scriptures talk about seeing God what do the writers mean? Theologians down through history have called this future vision of God "The Beatific Vision." Another way to say this is "The Blessed Vision." The one who experiences this vision will be so awestruck and so filled with joy that this will indeed be the most blessed of all sights. This vision is a physical vision of God. Let me explain. It is true that God is spirit but the Second Person of the trinity, the Son, has taken on a body. He has two natures: a divine one and two thousand years ago he took on a human one when he became flesh (John 1:14), and

today he is in heaven with a resurrected body (1 Corinthians 15:49).

When God appeared before his creatures throughout Scripture a blazing light represented his presence. This is also called "the glory of God" (Revelation 21:23). In the Old Testament "the back" that God showed Moses was not literally his back, since he is not physical, but rather part of this radiant light was shone to him. This light shone to Moses was only a small fraction, for if it was shown in its full measure Moses would have died (Exodus 33:20). The reason is what I mentioned above. No one mortal can see him and live. This glory was also seen in the Mount of Transfiguration episode. Jesus was transfigured before his disciples Peter, James, and John and the author Matthew wrote, "his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light" (Matthew 17:2). The apostle Paul was also blinded by this white light when Jesus appeared to him on the road to Damascus (Acts 9:3). These are examples of the glory of God being shown to his people in Scripture.

In each of these cases only a fraction of his glory was able to be shown. But a day is coming when man will be able to see God in his full glory. That comes either at death or when Christ returns. The apostle John wrote, "when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is" (1 John 3:2). We will be like the Lord in two ways. First, we will be sinless as he is sinless. As John writes, "everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure" (1 John 3:2). The second way we will be like him is that we too will have a light shine from us (Daniel 12:3; Matthew 13:43; 1 Corinthians 15:43). It will be a much smaller light but it will still reflect God's glorious light.

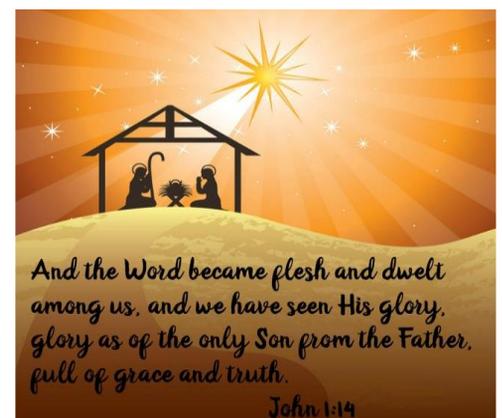
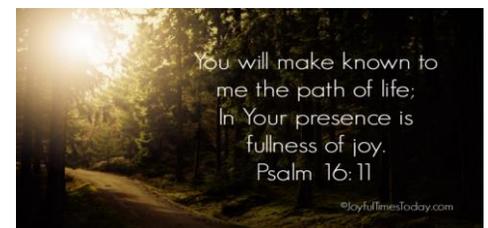
The light that will shine from Jesus Christ will be the brightest and most beautiful sight we have ever seen. The apostle John describes the glory of God shining from the throne in the last two chapters of Scripture. He wrote, "And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb" (Revelation 21:23), and "They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And night will be no more. They will need

Eureka Baptist Church
2393 210th Avenue
St. Croix Falls, WI 54024
715-483-9464
www.eurekabapchurch.com
Sunday Morning Service: 10:00am
*Kid's Church during Service
Sunday School: 9:00am
Bible Study: Weds at 6:30pm

no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever" (Revelation 22:4-5). In our world we need the sun to light up the planet so that we can see. But in the age to come Christ will be on the throne, and the radiant light of his glory will be so bright that the whole new earth will be lit up. What is remarkable is that we will be able to look upon this light because we will not be mortal anymore, but immortal (1 Corinthians 15:42-49). The future body that God gives us will be able to see and enjoy the glory of God that shines from his throne. It truly will be the most beautiful sight we have ever seen.

What is so remarkable is that we will be able to gaze upon God's glory forever in addition to everything else God has planned for his people in an eternity of bliss. Truly, the thoughts that this article put forth do not do justice to the experience that God's people will one day experience. But my prayer is that God would use this article to give you a homesickness for heaven. That each of us would be motivated to know him more while we are here, running toward a finish line where we will see God's glory from his glorious throne. We will be able to say that we are the most blessed as we gaze upon the most beautiful sight our eyes have ever seen.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Seth



MissionMissionsreach

Shepard Family: Guadalajara

Hello from lovely Mexico as the fall rains are gradually and reluctantly coming to a close. Our changing weather does not begin to compare to some of the drastic stuff some of you are experiencing. We love the steadfast, unchanging love of God. And we thank you for your partnership with us in the Gospel. What a great God we serve together! Ralph & Ellen

On Sunday October 27 another long-term prayer for our children was realized as we were in Golden, Colorado witnessing the wedding of Jeffrey to Allison Mahwinnie, a wonderful young woman with family roots in Pennsylvania, and a great heart for the Lord. The wedding, performed by Jeffrey's cousin, took place in Lookout Mountain with snow falling and temperatures dropping, but with a great spirit of joy and celebration. We loved being a part of this happy gathering which we know the Lord arranged.



MEXICAN "SNOW DAYS"?

Rainy season can be quite adventurous in Guadalajara, with torrential downpours, street flooding, rain coming through imperfectly closed windows, trees falling on cars, and a whole series of problems. Related to this, on a very minor home front, termites have come up through the floors under some of our doorways, forcing us to fumigate, and replace door frames. In addition, a small gecko- oops, make that four- have made their home somewhere in our kitchen. Through a series of efforts we have finally removed the pesky presence of three of them. Stay tuned for #4...

On a more major front, rainy weather often brings down the attendance at our house churches. In the US we talk of snow days. Although there is no term for it here, we definitely have "rain days" that alter our well-laid plans in unexpected ways, reminding us that God is sovereign.

While we sometimes chafe at God's sovereignty, it is also our ultimate rest. For when he says something, he does so from a point of knowing and understanding everything, and from there, managing the universe and carrying out his plans and purposes. How grateful to God we are for drawing us into his family, calling us into his service, partnering us up with you, sending us out into his fields, sustaining us with his presence, and drawing others into his family and friendship. Thank you to each of you for enabling and engaging in this ministry with us. May there be much fruit for his glory.

VENEZUEXICO CONEXION

You may recall us mentioning that we had been praying specifically for some younger families, and God is answering that prayer. Among these is a Venezuelan couple who God mysteriously connected with our group in a way that no one can exactly explain. Paul and Jann are teammates who have been specifically investing in this family, and it is encouraging to see God provide for this foursome who have gone through so much, but have now come to know the Lord in a real way, and are growing in their knowledge and love for Him. Recently God provided career-gearred jobs, for him as an electrical engineer, and for her as a surgeon. We wonder if down the road the Lord would allow us to be ministering to many more Venezuelans who have had to deal with the economic devastation in their country, but who are now living in this city.



Merry
Christmas



Black and white photos: Eureka Baptist Church 1911.
Old Building on County Road G.
Bottom Photos: Eureka Baptist Church 1972.



Monthly Events



Women's Bible Study
Saturday, December 7
9:00am



Men's Breakfast
Saturday, December 14
8:00am



Prayer Meeting
First Sunday of the Month
6:30pm

Eureka Baptist Parsonage Burns

The Standard-Press

Thursday, December 14, 1978

41 Years Ago

Fire struck at 3 a.m. Sunday morning at the Eureka Baptist parsonage and burned out a large part of the building. Rev. Clifford E. Bjork said, "We just got out with the clothes on our backs. That's all."

The fire apparently started from an electrical source, the Reverend said. His wife awoke when a large bulb in the basement exploded from the heat of the flames. Bjork said he choked as he helped his family out through the thick smoke.

An emergency number sticker was on the phone. His wife called the Milltown Fire Department. "They were extremely prompt," the Reverend said. "It was 22 below that night and they arrived in less than 20 minutes." He estimates the distance as well over 10 miles.

The outside of the building was largely untouched by the flames. However, the inside would require considerable work if the building is to be restored, the Reverend said. "At this point, rebuilding is a toss up," he said, summarizing the situation.

The basement was literally "gutted out" in Bjork's words. He had building tools and many personal family items stored down there. Many of them are unsalvageable.

Even the joists in the basement have been largely burned through, he said.

The main floor was about half burned out. The kitchen was damaged the most. Next, the dining room was all but destroyed, he said. The flames followed through the air ducts. The plastic tile in the bathroom melted through.

The study and living room on the main floor weren't damaged quite as bad as the other areas, he said.

Most of the damage on the top floor was from smoke. The family has taken its clothes to the cleaners to see if they can be saved. Dining room sets might possibly be refinished, Bjork said. And, some of the dishes may be reclaimed.

The church has fire insurance to cover the damage to the parsonage, the Reverend said. Just recently, he took out personal coverage for the contents. This will further help to pay for damages, he said.

In the meantime, the family is living with Russell Jensen, a deacon at the church, who has his home in Eureka.

Having an optimistic eye on the future, the Reverend said his family might live in a mobile home at the church site. While living there, he hopes he can conduct the rebuilding of his former home.



Weekly Events



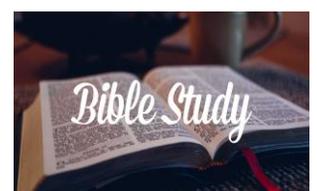
Sunday School
Sunday Mornings
9:00am



Morning Service
Sunday Mornings
10:00am



Kids Church
Sunday mornings during
Morning Service



Bible Study
Wednesday Evenings
6:30pm

2019 Board Members

Deacons

Shaun Anderson
Gordon Trombley

Elders

Mark Brooks
Rob Mickelson

Trustees

Randy Clark
Shaun Anderson

Deaconess

Barbara Trombley
Amber Lindo
Hansi Stridde
Abby Swanson

Secretary

Amber Lindo

Treasurers

Hansi Stridde
Abby Swanson

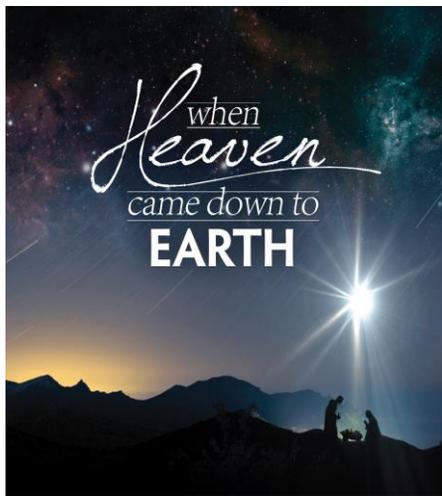
Christmas
THE KING HAS COME

Christmas Service
Sunday, December 22

Treats & Coffee 9:20am

Christmas Service
10:00am

Please invite friends and neighbors to celebrate the birth of our Savior!



Community Carol Sing

Sunday, December 8, 6:00pm

Bring your family, friends and neighbors to enjoy an evening of singing Christmas songs in a candlelit church

Church Announcements

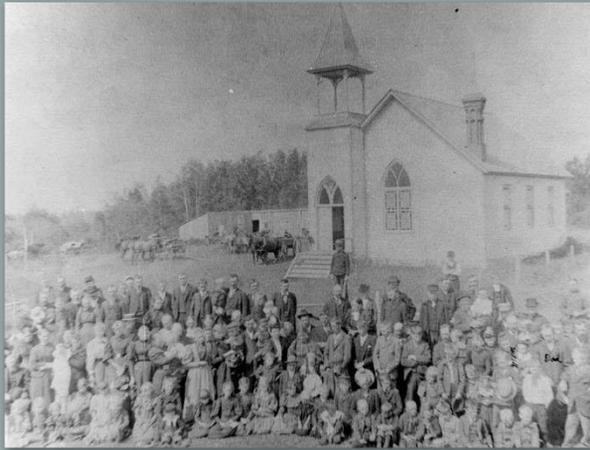
- There will be one Friday Women's Bible Study during the month of December. Friday, December 13 at 9:30am at Joyful Morning Coffee House in Dresser.
- Weekly News Blast Emails are sent out with church information. If you are not getting these emails, please contact secretary, Amber Lindo – j.a.lindo@hotmail.com
- If you plan to do any type of special during the month of December, please talk with Pastor Seth by 12/1.
- The Leadership Team will meet on 12/15 after morning service.
- Please plan to join us for the Annual Meeting in January! Pot luck lunch served after morning service. Meeting will follow the lunch. January 19th.
- Men's Group will meet on Saturday, December 28th at 8:00am
- No Wednesday Evening Bible Study on 12./4 and 12/25

Happy Birthday!!

12/3 Happy Birthday, Pastor Seth Brickley
 12/7 Happy Birthday, Jeff Lindo
 12/7 Happy Birthday, Teresa Crowder
 12/11 Happy Birthday, Shaila Johnson
 12/14 Happy Birthday, Brianna Brickley
 12/20 Happy Birthday, Shaun Anderson
 12/30 Happy Birthday, Patsy Anderson

THIS OLD CHURCH

Written by Barb Trombley



Light is an important theme throughout Scripture. God's first words at Creation were, "Let there be light," and there was light. (Genesis 1:3) Later, Jesus would tell us, "I am the Light of the world; he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the Light of Life" (John 8:12). And Revelation 21:23 states that the glory of the Lord will fill the New Jerusalem with light, so it will have no need of sun or moon to shine on it.

It is fitting for us as believers to consider the windows that allow light to come into our church.

During the summer of 1893, the congregation of Eureka Baptist Church erected a building on County Road G. Windows with stained glass arched tops and wide perimeters of stained glass contributed to the beauty of the building.

In 1922 this building was taken down, but its stained glass windows were placed in a new structure, our present church building in Eureka.

These windows served well for many years, into the twenty-first century. But in time, for a variety of reasons, they needed to be replaced. The question was raised, could the century-old stained glass be saved?

It could.

The original stained glass pieces in the top arched sections of each window still remain in place, but the rest of the window was removed. Sam Leggitt built new window frames, and new windows with textured glass, specially ordered from Bass Lake Lumber, were installed. New blinds provided a finishing touch.

As many of the stained glass pieces in the lower windows as possible were carefully preserved. Leonard Olsen fashioned a cross from the rectangular pieces, leaving them in their original dimensions. He also constructed a light box, which allows the cross to be illuminated. Randy Clark and Mike Rademacher hung it up in the front of the church.

So it is that the beauty of the stained glass from the 1893 church can be enjoyed today. And in our church, The Light still shines.





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

