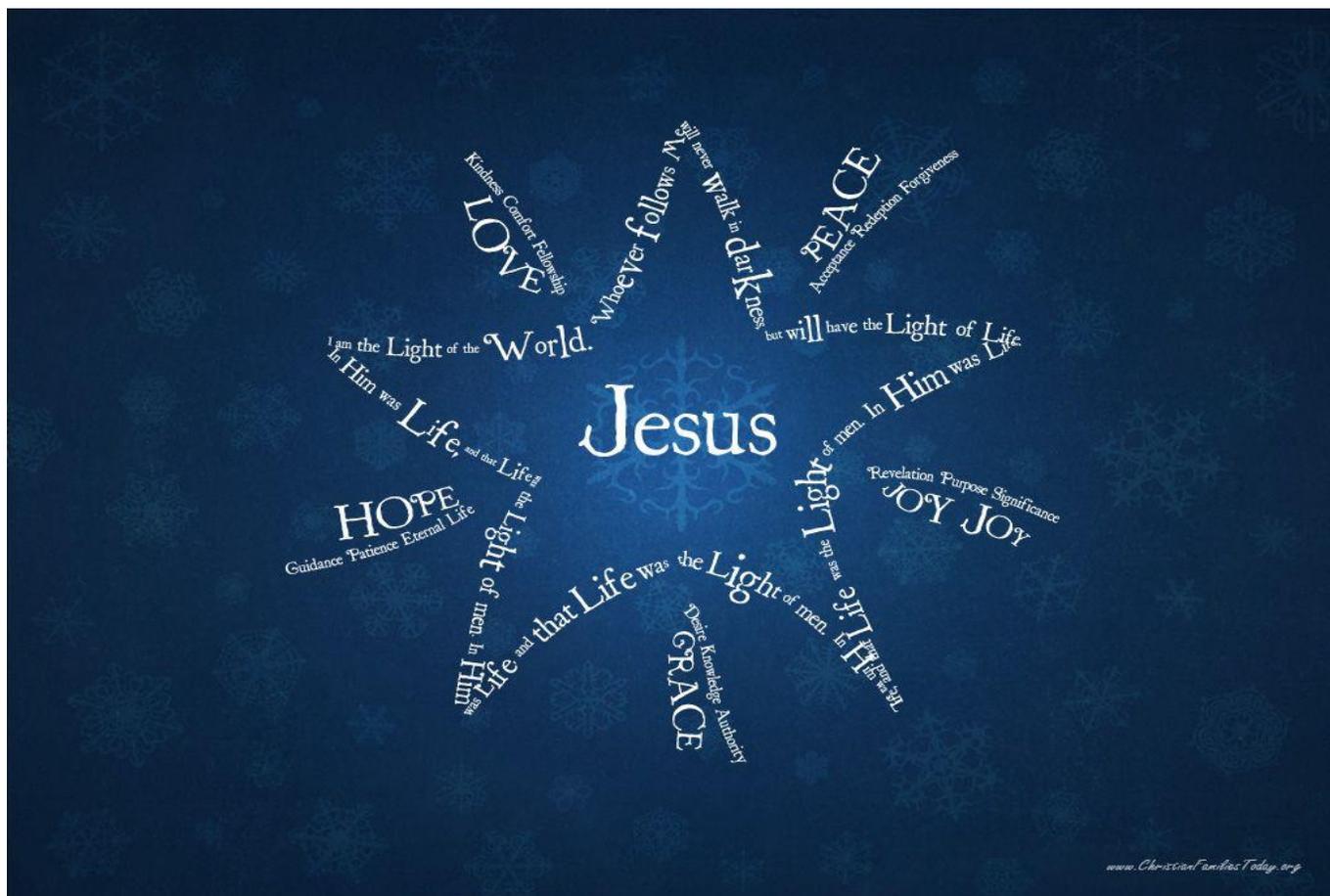




EUREKA BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

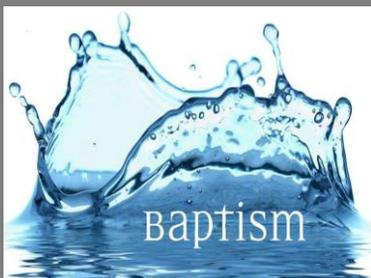


Ladies' Christmas Dinner

Saturday
December 4
6:00pm

Baptisms

Sunday
December 12
After morning service
Taylors Falls Baptist



Youth Group Event

Saturday
December 18
5:00pm



A Note from Pastor Seth

As we think about Christmas it makes me wonder how the world thinks of this holiday. This is a great time of year to share the true meaning of Christmas with your unbelieving family, friends, and neighbors. Lately, I have been pondering the reality that everyone, everywhere must recognize the important place that Jesus holds in world history. Any impartial survey of history will conclude that Jesus is the most important human who ever lived. He lived on this earth for thirty plus years and changed it forever. Christianity has shaped the world in ways that no other movement has over the last two thousand years. I was a history minor in college and I took several church history courses in seminary. I was struck by the fact that largely speaking, the study of western civilization is essentially a study of the history of the church. The last two thousand years has been shaped more by Jesus of Nazareth than anyone else. Let me give you a few examples of this. In the first century a movement that started out as a small Jewish sect (later called Christians) outlasted the powerful Roman Empire that crumbled several centuries later.

Secondly, the calendar that most people use in the world uses as its starting point the life of Christ. Each year before the life of Christ are the letters, B.C. and this stands for "Before Christ." Every year after Christ's birth, are followed by the letters, AD, and these two letters mean Anno Domini. In Latin this means, "The Year of our Lord." Every time we say what year we are living in or mention some time from the past Christ's life is the reference point. Thirdly, it is important to note that the two most prominent worldwide holidays, Christmas and Easter, focus on the life of Christ. One holiday commemorates the day that he came to this earth and the other commemorates his resurrection. So no secular person can escape the reality that Jesus is the most influential person in the history of the world. Not only in the Middle East and western world, but everywhere.

For example in China there is over one hundred million Christians today. Worldwide, there are over 2 billion people who identify in some sense with Christianity. So the question that any honest person needs to ask is why is his influence bigger than anyone else's?

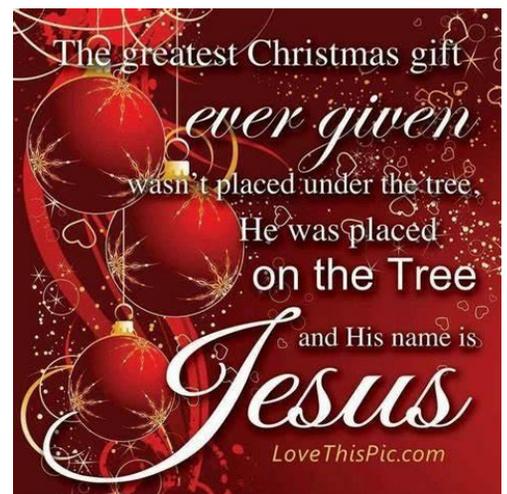
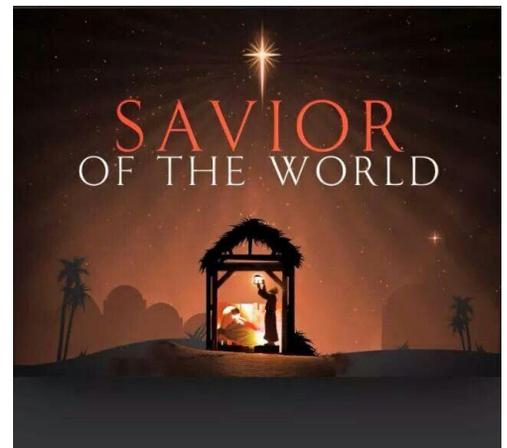
But here is the most important question. Do you realize that Jesus is the only person in world history that you cannot be indifferent toward? Understanding the true meaning of Christmas has eternal implications. As we enter December we enter a very special month. It is the time of year when Christians all over the world celebrate the incarnation. The incarnation is a fancy word to say that God became a man in the person of Jesus Christ. It is hard to wrap our minds around this, and frankly we never fully will. Think about this, the same one who created trillions of galaxies; and the same one who created you and me, became flesh and blood as we are. God never had a beginning, the Father, Son, and Spirit have forever existed in an eternal fellowship (John 17:5). The second person of that Trinity, the Son, is the one who took on flesh (John 1:14). When Jesus came to this earth he came on a rescue mission to save sinners (1 Timothy 1:15). After living a perfect life (1 Peter 2:22), he died on the cross to pay the penalty for sins and rose from the dead (1 Peter 3:18; 1 Corinthians 15:20), and anyone who believes in him will be freed from the punishment one deserves (hell), and will receive eternal life (John 3:16). To have eternal life means that you will live with the One you were created for (Colossians 1:15) and live in fullness of joy with him forever (Psalm 16:11). History shows that Jesus is the most influential person who has ever lived and the Bible tells us why. He is the God-man, the Savior of the world, and the forever king (Revelation 19:16; 22:1). It is of highest important that everyone on earth understands this most important truth.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Seth

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



FOR UNTO US
a child is born,
unto us a son is given:
and the government shall be upon his shoulder:
and his name shall be called
★ WONDERSFUL ★
COUNSELLOR,
THE MIGHTY GOD,
The everlasting Father,
THE PRINCE OF PEACE.
Isaiah 9:6

Mission Missions: reach

Miron Family: Ireland

Life Group

Probably the most exciting update in ministry for us is that we officially have a community group formed and running. The group is made up of our family and three other families that are members of the Galway City church but live around our area. We are so thankful for this group, and would invite you to really pray for us as we begin to build our community together. Please pray for unity, growing love, and that restrictions wouldn't interrupt our ability to meet.

Church Eldership

As we've mentioned before, we belong to and are partnered with a great church in Galway City while we wait on the Lord's timing for the church plant in Oranmore. One of their needs at the moment is for more elders, as at the moment there is only the one. So me and two other guys are currently taking steps towards eldership there to help serve and shepherd the body. One of those guys, Adam, is part of our community group and plans to be apart of the church plant as well. So the plan is to serve as elders at Galway City until the timing is right for the plant, and then be sent out by the Galway City church as church planting elders.

Sports Chaplaincy for Galway City United Football Club

Starting in January, I will be serving as sports chaplain for the Galway City United soccer team. Initially I had hoped to take a role with the rugby team here, but discussions with them never went any further. But, through that God seems to have opened another door with the professional soccer team in Galway. It will be a great opportunity to regularly connect with a bunch of young guys and hopefully be a person of encouragement to them. This will involve being present at the club on a weekly basis and being available to meet with them separately as well.

Life in General

We continue to see God at work as we build relationships in our village. Quality time spent with people is a win, and we're thankful for these opportunities, especially having not been allowed to do them for so long. Like being invited to a birthday party with several of the families we've connected with here. Or going out trick or treating on Halloween with some friends we've made.

I continue to be thankful for opportunities to regularly preach. Last Sunday I preached on the Prodigal Son at a little church out in the Connemara that we have connections with. One of the visitors there, Joe, was at church that day for only the second time in his life, and we had a very encouraging chat with him afterwards. Joe is an Irish guy that rejected God at an early age, using poor experiences with religion as his reason - a story that is most common here. But over the course of the last year, God has been moving in his heart in new ways, which is what led him to where he was that morning.

God's also been at work in... less "typical" ways. I had a fun opportunity this summer to be in extra in a movie being filmed in Ireland. And not just any movie, but a movie that will one day be known as man's greatest achievement in art - Dungeons and Dragons. Don't worry, I won't be running off to pursuit my acting career anytime soon. If I am in the film at all, it will be as the lifeless leg of a dead, nameless guard. But, the coolest part of it all, were the conversations God brought about with some of the other extras. I had opportunities to share the gospel with several people and have multiple conversations where the Spirit was certainly at work.... All while wearing a full suit of armour.



How to Trust God When Your Prayers Go Unanswered

By Kristen Clark

Standing in my bathroom on a warm April afternoon, I held the most unexpected news in my hands. I was pregnant. Against all odds, I had conceived again. After two miscarriages early in my marriage, I wondered if I would ever see those double blue lines. For six years I prayed for a baby. I was hopeful. But as each year slowly ticked by, my diagnosis of unexplained infertility loomed like a mysterious fog that wouldn't lift.

But here I was.

I wanted to embrace the joy of this miraculous news, but I was deeply afraid to celebrate. I silently prayed, *Please, God. Protect this little life inside of me.*

The weeks slowly continued to tick by. Nothing seemed out of the ordinary. Then I hit week eleven. I began to experience some light bleeding.

I scheduled an extra appointment with my doctor to check things out. My heart was torn between fear and hope as I walked into her office. Please, God. Please.

My doctor greeted me warmly and reassured me that everything was probably fine. As she conducted the ultrasound, her demeanor suddenly changed. She got quiet as she observed the screen. Then, without looking at me, she softly said, "I'm so sorry, honey, but there's no longer a heartbeat."

Her words stabbed me in the chest. Lying on my back, I stared at the ceiling in silence, gripping my husband's hand. Silent tears streamed down my face. I had no words to speak. All I could do was cry.

My dreams, longings, and hopes of motherhood came crashing down around me, again.

As I type these words today, I still have yet to experience a healthy pregnancy. As I've wrestled with my own unfulfilled longings to get pregnant, I've asked God why so many times. I've cried and wondered why God would give this good gift to other women but not to me. I've prayed fervently and sincerely, wondering why God wasn't answering my prayers. Why wasn't He giving me what I so desperately wanted—especially something that He calls a good thing?

Unfulfilled longings are painfully hard to deal with. But I don't have to tell you that. You've been there too. You've wrestled with your own unfulfilled longings and unanswered prayers. Maybe even right now. Just like me, you've poured out your heart to God.

God, please bring me a Godly husband.

God, please restore my broken marriage.

God, please heal my loved one who's sick.

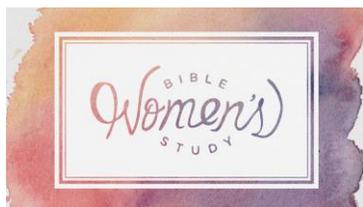
God, please open the door for a better job.

God, please give me a baby.

God, please help my friend to know you as their Savior.

God, please mend this strained relationship with my in-laws.

Monthly Events



Ladies' Christmas Dinner
Saturday, December 4
6:00pm



Men's Breakfast
Saturday, December 11
8:00am



Marriage Bible Study
Monday, December 6

There's that moment when we all feel desperate. We're done waiting, and we just want what we want. We want to take control to make it happen. We're weary and exhausted and wonder if God has completely forgotten us.

Friend, I've been there time and time again. It's so hard. But here's something I want you to consider. Maybe God is answering your prayers, He's just not giving you the answer you desire. I used to think that God wasn't answering my prayers when I didn't get pregnant. But over the past decade God has helped me to see that He was answering my prayers all along. He just wasn't saying "yes." It took me a while to catch on, but I eventually realized that God answers prayers in one of three ways:

1. He says "yes" and gives me what I prayed for.
2. He says "no" and closes the door in that area.
3. He says "wait" and wants me to patiently wait for an answer down the road.

Out of those three options, I think the hardest one is "wait."

But here's the truth. God knows the waiting is hard for us as humans. He knows it's challenging for us. Ultimately, though, He knows it's good for us. The waiting causes us to come face-to-face with our own inability to do anything about it. The waiting forces us to look in the mirror and acknowledge that we're not in control. As I share in my book, *Not Part of the Plan*, "**God knows that our greatest need isn't to get what we want out of life but to get more God into our life.**" And if we're totally honest with ourselves, one of the best ways for us to see our need for Him is through the lens of our unfulfilled longings."

You see, God cares deeply about our prayers and unfulfilled longings, but He is graciously calling us to pursue something better. Something more satisfying. Something eternal. He is calling us to find our true hope in Him alone. Our relationship with God is the deepest and truest need of our heart. It's the only thing that can bring genuine satisfaction to our soul. Yes, our desires are great, but they shouldn't be our greatest desire. Our Heavenly Father is lovingly and graciously pushing us toward true and lasting hope.

As women of faith, **God is helping us see that our greatest need isn't to get what we want, but to know Him more fully and to love Him more deeply.** We will find peace in the midst of our desperate longings when we entrust them to our Heavenly Father. When we open our hands in surrender, and give our burdens to the One who holds all things together, we find peace. And we do this by faith.

By faith we trust that His timing is better than our own.

By faith we choose to believe that God knows best.

By faith we entrust our future to God and rest in His plan.

By faith we hold on to the promise that if we never get the things we've prayed for, God will still be enough.

Sister, there is so much God wants to do in your life during the waiting. There is so much wisdom to be gained in the wanting. I don't know what's weighing on your heart today, but I do know this: by faith, you can choose to put your trust in the one true God who is with you in the midst of your circumstances. **Whether or not God ever gives you the longings of your heart, you can find lasting peace and fulfillment right now.** Let's run to the loving arms of our Savior together.

Weekly Events



Sunday School
Sunday Mornings
9:00am



Morning Service
Sunday Mornings
10:00am



Fridays
Matson Building
9:30am



Kids Church
Sunday mornings during
Morning Service

2021 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

Church Announcements

- **Ladies' Christmas Dinner** will be on Saturday, December 4 at 6:00pm. Please bring a dish to share. (No Women's Group that morning).
- Are you able to help out this winter with **Church Cleaning** or **Snow Shoveling**? Please let us know!
- There will not be **Women's Friday Group** the month of December, but will resume again after the new year.
- **Marriage Bible Study** is Monday, December 6 at 7:00pm.
- There will be a **Leadership Team Meeting** on Sunday, December 5 after morning service.
- **Indoor Baptisms** at Taylors Falls Baptist on Sunday, December 12 after morning service.
- **Youth Group Event:** Progressive Dinner on Saturday, December 18 at 5:00pm. Appetizer, salad, main course, and dessert.
- No Bible Study on Wednesday, December 22
- **2022 Annual Meeting & Potluck** – Sunday, January 16

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Pastor Seth Brickley 12/3, Jeff Lindo 12/7, Shaila Johnson 12/11, Zarah Braund 12/11, Brianna Brickley 12/14, Keith Johnson 12/15, Shaun Anderson 12/20, Levi Tomlinson 12/27, Patsy Anderson 12/30

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Brad & Anne Miklya 12/31



THANKSGIVING
SERVICE





HARVEST SERVICE





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

