



EUREKA BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

Love

is patient
 is kind .
 It does not envy,
 it does not boast,
 it is not proud.
 It is not rude,
 it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered,
 it keeps no record of wrongs.
 does not delight in evil
 but rejoices with the truth.
 always protects, always trusts,
 always hopes, always perseveres.
never fails.

1 Corinthians 13:4-8a

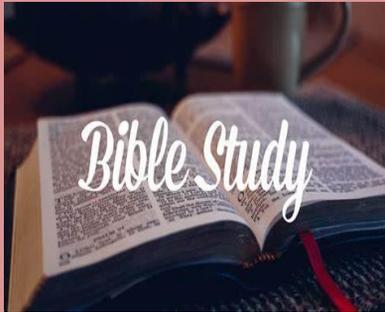


Women's Bible Study and Men's Breakfast

Join us!

Valentine's Day

Sunday
February 14



Wednesday Evening Bible Study

6:30pm
Matson Building



A Note from Pastor Seth

Back in Minnesota we had a family friend that passed away in early January. This man has known our family since the mid-80s. My dad saw him three weeks before his death and everything was normal. But sadly he contracted Covid-19 and died about a week later. When my dad saw him there was no indication that his days were very numbered, but God knew and so is life. None of us know the day we are going to die. The Psalmist tells us, "The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away" (Psalm 90:10). Our friend flew in to the presence of the Lord in early January with no notice that he would be arriving there so soon. As I pondered his death and the reality that many people die every day with no warning, it made me think about how intentional we should live our lives on earth. As we go through life it feels so permanent and there are many people that hardly ever think about their death, but the end of your journey will come. As we think about this it would be helpful to ask the question, how should we spend our last week on earth? The apostle Paul wrote that he would prefer to be with the Lord rather than live here, "My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better" (Philippians 1:23). But he also wrote a verse earlier, "If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me" (Philippians 1:22). So what Paul tells us that we are to spend our time well while on earth. He writes in another place, "Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time" (Colossians 4:5). God calls every believer to spend one's time wisely.

We are not to spend our time here living for pleasure (2 Timothy 3:4). We are not to waste our time going down unhelpful rabbit trails (1 Timothy 1:4). We are not to live for ourselves (2 Corinthians 5:15). We are not to live with our eyes so fixed on the world that we forget this life is so short and eternity is never ending (2 Corinthians 4:18). We are to live for the One that holds our life in his hands and will call us home when our time is done (Acts 17:25; Acts 7:59). We are to live a life of risks, realizing that our only true security is found in God (Acts 20:24). We are not to care what the world thinks about us, realizing the world and their sinful desires are passing away (1 John 2:15-17). We are to have our eyes fixed on Jesus who is the only One that will ever make us joyful forever (John 15:11). He is the only One where true peace is present (John 14:27). He is the only One from whom we can truly be comforted (2 Corinthians 1:4). He is the only One where true hope is found (Romans 5:4-4). He is the only One that can be fully trusted never to let us down (2 Corinthians 1:20). So how should we live in our final week? The number one thing we should do is spend time with God in his Word. The only place we will hear from him is through the Bible. In America right now truth is rare, but every time you read the Bible you can be confident that everything you read is absolutely true, and everything you read will be life giving. Number two: we are to spend time with God in prayer. Reading the Bible and praying go together. As we know the Bible better we are going to know how to pray better. God is waiting for us to ask him for things that he has already promised. As the apostle John wrote, "This is the confidence that we

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Sunday Morning Service: 10:00am

*Kid's Church during Service

Sunday School: 9:00am

have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him" (1 John 5:14-15). If we pray for his promises we will receive what we ask. If you are living your last week on earth you should pray to know him more, to love him more, to reflect him more, to trust him more, to have joy, peace, comfort, strength, and hope. To finish the race strong, preparing yourself to meet him. These are all things that God wants a believer to have and we will have these things in increasing measure if we ask him for them. This prayer time is deep intimacy with God. He is your greatest friend. No one knows you better than him. No one loves you more than him. No one knows what you need more than him, so be in continual conversation with him.

If you are living your last week on earth you will also prioritize relationships. This does not mean just shooting the breeze with your buddies, but rather having rich Christian fellowship. This means speaking truth to one another and encouraging one another as we approach the Day we meet the Lord (Hebrews 10:24-25). This rich time will be with fellow believers, whether biological family or not. There is one more priority to add and that is getting the gospel out. We tend not to share the gospel because of what people will think, but if we have one week to live this should give us boldness. People are dying apart from Christ and going to hell. If it is our last week on earth, we will be more urgent with evangelism. To live our last week this way would be the best way to go out. But here is the question we need to ask, why do we not live every week this way? If we do, what a life well lived when it is all said and done. So may every week be as though it were our last.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Seth

Mission Missions:reach

Stout Family: Croatia

**** HAPPY NEW YEAR 2021**

God never changes! We change! God wants to change each of us to become more like His Son Jesus Christ! This past year of 2020 brought lots of changes for our family, that hurt deeply, yet believe God is using it to change us and hopefully others too in the process. The Lord led us out of Macedonia, after serving there with SEND for 14 years to now Zadar, Croatia, where we have been for about 3 1/2 months. Be reminded of how God can use it all, the "good and ugly", to shape us in this crazy world to become more like Jesus and to also share HIM with a lost and dying world.

**** Purchase of Word of Hope Church Building**

Praise the Lord that Word of Hope Church in Macedonia was able to purchase a church building and renovate it. It sits over 100 people and it looks great! Thank-you to all that prayed and gave towards this project these past 10+ years. A few weeks ago, they started meeting in this new building. Thank-you for being a part of the blessing!

**** Gospel shared in Macedonia**

Macedonia is a beautiful country with amazing people! God called us to preach the Gospel to Macedonia back in 2006 when we first arrived. The Gospel continues to be preached in Macedonia.

**** Welcome to Croatia!**

After months of prayers, seeking the Lord for next steps because of health struggles and the call of God to serve Him in a new place to share the Gospel. God opened a door to Zadar, Croatia, where we moved to on October 2, 2020, to join a younger and smaller team that works in Croatia to share the Good News!

**** CROATIA 2021**

Our focus in Croatia now is language study, cultural learning, attending our new church at Zadar Baptist, and making new friends to share the hope of Jesus Christ. Brian aims to get 30 hours and Debby around 15 hours of language study per week. Debby also homeschools our kids. We are beginning to understand about 40-70% of the messages, as the language is similar, yet the grammar is TRICKY as it has 7 cases. As you all know, Debby understands more and Brian speaks more, but Debby sounds better and looks better too:)

PRAYER PRAISES/REQUESTS

- * Praise God that we got our Visa for Croatia!
- * Praise God that Joy was able to make it to Croatia for Christmas and then back to CIU in the USA!
- * Praise God for a good partnership/relationship with Pastor Ivan and Irena. (Pictured here)
- * Praise God that we are safe, as there have been over 300 earthquakes this past month in Croatia. Pray for this country!
- * Pray for our language learning as that is our focus at this time
- * Pray for wisdom about our housing situation
- * Pray for Isaiah and Brian to Breath Free, as they both have had struggles getting deep full breaths
- * Pray for salvation of our neighbors. We were able to give some of them Christmas gifts and a Bible this past month.
- * Pray about our need - since we got our visas now, we have to enter the Croatian Health Care system, which is mandatory to live in Croatia. The entry fee is about \$900/person so about \$5400 for our family. If you want to give a 1 time gift towards this, please specify it for STOUTS PROJECT - Croatia Health Insurance. Thank-you for your prayers and support for our family in Zadar!

Our mailing address is:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS AND SUPPORT FOR US!!!

Our mailing address is:

Brian and Debby Stout

Vatroslava Linsinskog 6

Zadar 23000

CROATIA

The Parable of the Donuts

There was a certain Professor of Religion named Dr. Christianson who taught at a small college in the Western United States. Dr. Christianson taught the required survey course in Christianity at this particular institution. Every student was required to take this course his or her freshman year regardless of his or her major.

Although Dr. Christianson tried hard to communicate the essence of the gospel in his class, he found that most of his students looked upon the course as nothing but required drudgery. Despite his best efforts, most students refused to take Christianity seriously.

This year, Dr. Christianson had a special student named Steve. Steve was only a freshman but was studying with the intent of going onto seminary for the ministry. Steve was popular, he was well liked, and he was an imposing physical specimen. He was now the starting center on the school football team and was the best student in the professor's class.

One day, Dr. Christianson asked Steve to stay after class so he could talk with him. "How many pushups can you do?"

Steve said, "I do about 200 every night."

"200? That's pretty good, Steve," Dr. Christianson said. "Do you think you could do 300?"

Steve replied, "I don't know...I've never done 300 at a time."

"Do you think you could?" again asked Dr. Christianson.

"Well, I can try," said Steve.

"Can you do 300 in sets of 10? I have a class project in mind, and I need you to do about 300 pushups in sets of ten for this to work. Can you do it? I need you to tell me you can do it," said the professor.

Steve said, "Well...I think I can...yeah, I can do it."

Dr. Christianson said, "Good! I need you to do this on Friday. Let me explain what I have in mind."

Friday came, and Steve got to class early and sat in the front of the room. When class started, the professor pulled out a big box of donuts. These weren't the normal kinds of donuts, they were the extra fancy BIG kind, with cream centers and frosting swirls. Everyone was pretty excited it was Friday, the last class of the day, and they were going to get an early start on the weekend with a party in Dr. Christianson's class.

Dr. Christianson went to the first girl in the first row and asked, "Cynthia, do you want to have one of these donuts?"

Cynthia said, "Yes."

Dr. Christianson then turned to Steve and asked, "Steve, would you do ten pushups so that Cynthia can have a donut?"

"Sure." Steve jumped down from his desk to do a quick ten. Then Steve again sat in his desk. Dr. Christianson put a donut on Cynthia's desk.

Dr. Christianson then went to Joe, the next person, and asked, "Joe, do you want a donut?"

Joe said, "Yes."

Dr. Christianson asked, "Steve would you do ten pushups so Joe can have a donut?" Steve did ten pushups, and Joe got a donut. And so it went, down the first aisle, Steve did ten pushups for every person before they got their donut, and down the second aisle, till Dr. Christianson came to Scott. Scott was on the basketball team and in as good condition as Steve. He was very popular and never lacking for female companionship. When the professor asked, "Scott do you want a donut?"

Scott's reply was, "Well, can I do my own pushups?"

Dr. Christianson said, "No, Steve has to do them."

Then Scott said, "Well, I don't want one then."

Dr. Christianson shrugged and then turned to Steve and asked, "Steve, would you do ten pushups so Scott can have a donut he doesn't want?" With perfect obedience, Steve started to do ten pushups.

Scott said, "HEY! I said I didn't want one!"

Dr. Christianson said, "Look, this is my classroom, my class, my desks, and these are my donuts. Just leave it on the desk if you don't want it." And he put a donut on Scott's desk.

Now by this time, Steve had begun to slow down a little. He just stayed on the floor between sets because it took too much effort to be getting up and down. You could start to see a little perspiration coming out around his brow. Dr. Christianson started down the third row. Now the students were beginning to get a little angry.

Dr. Christianson asked Jenny, "Jenny, do you want a donut?" Sternly, Jenny said, "No." Then Dr. Christianson asked Steve, "Steve, would you do ten more pushups so Jenny can have a donut that she doesn't want?" Steve did ten, and Jenny got a donut.

Monthly Events



Women's Bible Study
Saturday, February 6
9:00am



Men's Breakfast
Saturday, February 13
8:00am

By now, a growing sense of uneasiness filled the room. The students were beginning to say "No" and there were all these uneaten donuts on the desks. Steve also had to really put forth a lot of extra effort to get these pushups done for each donut. There began to be a small pool of sweat on the floor beneath his face. His arms and brow were beginning to get red because of the physical effort involved.

Dr. Christianson started down the fourth row. During his class, however, some students from other classes had wandered in and sat down on the steps along the radiators that ran down the sides of the room. When the professor realized this, he did a quick count and saw that now there were 34 students in the room.

He started to worry if Steve would be able to make it.

Dr. Christianson went on to the next person and the next and the next. Near the end of that row, Steve was really having a rough time. He was taking a lot more time to complete each set.

A few moments later, Jason, a recent transfer student, came to the room and was about to come in when all the students yelled in one voice, "NO! Don't come in! Stay out!" Jason didn't know what was going on.

Steve picked up his head and said, "No, let him come."

Professor Christianson said, "You realize that if Jason comes in you will have to do ten pushups for him?"

Steve said, "Yes, let him come in. Give him a donut."

Dr. Christianson said, "Okay, Steve, I'll let you get Jason's out of the way right now.

Jason, do you want a donut?" Jason, new to the room hardly knew what was going on.

"Yes," he said, "give me a donut."

"Steve, will you do ten pushups so that Jason can have a donut?" Steve did ten pushups very slowly and with great effort. Jason, bewildered, was handed a donut and sat down.

Dr. Christianson finished the fourth row then started on those visitors seated by the heaters. Steve's arms were now shaking with each pushup in a struggle to lift himself against the force of gravity. Sweat was profusely dropping off of his face and, by this time, there was no sound except his heavy breathing. There was not a dry eye in the room.

The very last two students in the room were two young women, both cheerleaders, and very popular. Dr. Christianson went to Linda, the second to last, and asked, "Linda, do you want a doughnut?"

Linda said, very sadly, "No, thank you."

Professor Christianson quietly asked, "Steve, would you do ten pushups so that Linda can have a donut she doesn't want?" Grunting from the effort, Steve did ten very slow pushups for Linda.

Then Dr. Christianson turned to the last girl, Susan. "Susan, do you want a donut?" Susan, with tears flowing down her face, began to cry. "Dr. Christianson, why can't I help him?"

Dr. Christianson, with tears of his own, said, "No, Steve has to do it alone. I have given him this task and he is in charge of seeing that everyone has an opportunity for a donut whether they want it or not.

When I decided to have a party this last day of class, I looked at my grade book. Steve is the only student with a perfect grade. Everyone else has failed a test, skipped class, or offered me inferior work.

Steve told me that when a player messes up in football practice, he must do pushups. I told Steve that none of you could come to my party unless he paid the price by doing your pushups. He and I made a deal for your sakes.

Steve, would you do ten pushups so Susan can have a donut?" As Steve very slowly finished his last pushup, with the understanding that he had accomplished all that was required of him, having done 350 pushups, his arms buckled beneath him and he fell to the floor.

Dr. Christianson turned to the room and said. "And so it was, that our Savior, Jesus Christ, on the cross, pled to the Father, 'into thy hands I commend my spirit.' With the understanding that He had done everything that was required of Him, he yielded up His life. And like some of those in this room, many of us leave the gift on the desk, uneaten."

Two students helped Steve up off the floor and to a seat, physically exhausted, but wearing a thin smile. "Well done, good and faithful servant," said the professor, adding, "Not all sermons are preached in words."

Turning to his class the professor said, "My wish is that you might understand and fully comprehend all the riches of grace and mercy that have been given to you through the sacrifice of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for us all, now and forever.

Whether or not we choose to accept His gift to us, the price has been paid. Wouldn't you be foolish and ungrateful to leave it laying on the desk?"

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

Church Announcements

- Women's Group is meeting on Friday mornings in February at 9:30am in the Matson Building. Please note that they will not be meeting on Friday, February 19th.

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

- Thank you to those that attended the Annual Meeting in January. We have much to be thankful for and we can be excited for the future!

- If you are looking to join a church team, please see the bulletin board at the back of the church

- If you are interested in becoming a church member, please talk with Pastor Seth.

- If you would like to do a special for morning service, please talk with Lori Brooks.

-HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Betty Jensen and Julianna Johnson (both on 2/7)



We are updating our church congregation booklet!
To all that attend morning services, please email Lori Brooks with the following information: lorimarbrooks@hotmail.com
Family Photo
1. Names
2. Address
3. Phone
4. Email address
5. Birthdays
6. Anniversary Date
7. Other (occupations, interests, something you'd like to share so the congregation can know you better).

He Was Thinking Of Me

I've wondered what He was thinking of when the crowds came that day. And took Him from the garden and His disciples walked away.

What could have gone thru His mind as they nailed Him to the tree?

Oh, but now, now I know. He was thinking of me.

He was thinking of me all the way to Calvary. He had me on His mind all of the time so that I could be free. It's hard to understand; now I can see. He suffered and died so that I could have life. He was thinking of me.

As Jesus hung on the cross that day, a multitude gathered 'round. Each one He was dying to save, but He saw more than just that crowd.

For His mind went to the future, when He would hear my sinning plea. For He knew I, too, would need a Savior. Thank you God, for thinking of me.

Oh, Jesus has never failed me since I met Him that day. And His Spirit brings me comfort when life's trials come my way.

Through His blood I have forgiveness, and it flows eternally. He paid it all though the cost was great. Jesus paid that price for me.

Before U were thought of or time had begun,
God had stuck U in the name of His Son.
And each time U pray, you'll see it's true,
You can't spell out JesUs and not include U.

You're a pretty big part of His wonderful name,
For U, he was born; that's why He came.

And His great love for U is the reason that he died,
It even takes U to spell crUcified.

Isn't it thrilling and splendidly grand,
He rose from the dead with U in His plan.

The stones split away, the gold trUmpet blew,
and this word ressurection is spelled with a U.

When Jesus left the earth at His upward ascension,
He felt there was one thing He just had to mention.

"Go into the world and tell them it's true,
That I love them all-Just like I love U.

So many great people are spelled with a U,
Don't they have the right to know JesUs too?

It all depends now on what U will do,
He'd like them to know, but it all starts with U.

Will U pass it on?
JesUs Loves U!!!



The kids are enjoying a new rug in the Matson Building! The rug is used for reading and interaction time during Kid's Church on Sunday mornings.



4 Ways to Honor God On Valentine's Day

(and every day)

By Tara Ziegmont

1. Make a list of the ways He has shown His love for you. The book *An "I Love You" Prayer* is a perfect starter for this activity, whether you do it by yourself or with your kids. Go broad – see God's love for you through the bird singing outside your window or the kitty purring in your bed. See His love through the little arms hugging your neck and the heat in your home on a cold morning. Doing this with your kids would be especially sweet (at least it would be for me) because you could learn the good and perfect things they see in the world. You could simply make lists on notebook paper. Or you could make hearts and hang them on a piece of poster board. Or each member of your family could write their list on a separate piece of colored paper or on a large paper or poster with a different color marker (think pinks, purples, reds, and silver).

2. Do good in the world for Valentine's Day (and every day) because you're sharing God's love with those in need. Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to do it.. — Proverbs 3:27
Be His hands and share His love with someone else.

3. Read God's Word together. Better yet, copy from it and tuck them into places where strangers will find them. In my church, the youth group goes on ATLs. That's short for Ask the Lord. They begin by praying together. Then they get into a car and drive wherever they feel led. They stop wherever they feel led to stop, and they do something. Sometimes, they knock on a door and ask to pray with someone. Sometimes, they help people the do a task. I've even heard of them stopping strangers on the street and asking if they can pray with them. Do your own mini ATL by asking the Lord where you should leave your little love notes. Maybe one should go in between two boxes on a grocery store shelf, in the cover of a magazine in a waiting room, or on a public bulletin board. Let Him lead you to leave blessings for someone to find by divine appointment.

4. Love each other. Love is a verb. Love your loved ones. Call your parents and in-laws. Go out of your way to serve your children and celebrate them today. Do something special for your spouse. You don't have to go all out, but let your family see the love of Jesus reflected through you.

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. — John 13:34



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