



EUREKA BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER



True Love
IS JESUS



**TruthScript
Conference**

Are you registered for this event?

**Happy
Valentine's Day!**

February 14



**Youth Group
Walmart Event**

February 18

*More information coming soon



A Note from Pastor Seth

In this pastor's page I am going to aim to answer these three questions. Are Christians still to keep the Old Testament Sabbath? Why do we meet on Sunday's? Thirdly, how are Christians to view the Mosaic Law? Let us begin with the Sabbath question. In the Ten Commandments the Lord told the people of Israel to, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work" (Exodus 20:8-10). In Matthew 12:1-14 Jesus addressed the Sabbath head on. On the Sabbath his disciples were going through the grainfields for food to eat. What the Pharisees told Jesus is that his disciples were not following the Sabbath. But Jesus responded by saying that the priests in the Old Testament had to violate the Sabbath through the work they needed to perform that day. The Pharisees also thought that it was unlawful to heal on the Sabbath, but Jesus healed a man with a withered hand right before them. He then told them if one of their sheep fell into a pit the right thing to do was to pull the sheep out of the pit. What Jesus explained is that the Sabbath was meant to be a blessing for God's people. As Jesus said, "the Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath" (Mark 12:27). It was not meant to be oppressive like the Pharisees made it. It was to be one day out of the week where people rested from their hard work the other six days. God's people in the Old Testament were to work six days and rest on the seventh, which is Saturday, following God's pattern in creation (Genesis 1). Now the question is, does this commandment still apply to believers? The answer is yes and no. It is yes because to not rest one day out of seven is to go against God's design in creation. God made human bodies to function more efficiently if one rests a full day, so God's people are wise to rest one day out of the week. But are Christians required to observe the Sabbath on the seventh day, Saturday, like Israel of the Old Testament? The answer is no. Jesus gives no such command in the New Testament, nor do any other New Testament writers. When Jesus preaches the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5-7 one can see that the Ten Commandments is in mind as he gives instructions concerning godly living, but keeping the Sabbath is not addressed. The Sabbath, like other ceremonial laws, were given in the Old Testament as pictures that pointed to Christ. When Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets. I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them" (Matthew 5:17-20). What he meant is that every Old Testament prophecy in some way finds its fulfillment in him and the ceremonial laws pointed ahead to him. For example, the sacrificial system pointed ahead to his once for all sacrifice (Hebrews 9:12), the dietary laws pointed ahead to the spiritual reality that we need to be set apart from sin and pursue holy lives (1 Peter 1:16).

Finally, the Sabbath pointed ahead to the rest that we have in Jesus Christ (Hebrews 4:1). Jesus invited sinners to find rest from their effort to earn righteousness from one's own works when he said, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon

you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls" (Matthew 11:28-29). What the New Testament writers and Jesus are communicating is that the Israelite's observance of the Sabbath was temporary. It pointed ahead to Jesus' accomplishing our salvation at the cross and through his resurrection, and anyone who believes in him finds their eternal rest in him (Hebrews 9:12). So, there is no command for believers living after Christ's death and resurrection, to observe the Saturday Sabbath like ancient Israel.

So, why do we meet on Sunday? Two thousand years ago there was a shift. There was a new people of God, the church, that Jesus promised to build (Matthew 16:18). The church is made up mostly of Gentiles (Romans 11:25), that is; non-Jews. This new people of God are a spiritual body (1 Corinthians 12:13), not a nation, like the people of Israel. There is no instruction in the New Testament for this body of believers to observe the ceremonial laws of the Old Testament, such as offering sacrifices, observing dietary laws, and observing the feasts and the Sabbath. As I already mentioned, this all pointed ahead to Christ and was accomplished in Christ (Matthew 5:17-20). In the church era, the commands that believers are to keep are the moral laws. This is what Jesus focuses on in his ministry. In this shift of no longer observing the Mosaic Law, the church, after Christ's resurrection, started a new practice – meeting on Sunday's. This can be seen in the New Testament. In the book of Acts Luke wrote about people of God meeting on Sunday for worship, "On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul talked with them, intending to depart on the next day" (Acts 20:7). What we read here is that the breaking of bread, meaning the Lord's Supper, took place on the first day of the week. The seventh day of the week is Saturday, so the first day of the week is Sunday.

We also learn that the people of God met on Sunday for worship in Paul's writings, "On the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up, as he may prosper, so that there will be no collecting when I come" (1 Corinthians 16:2). These saints gave to the work of the Lord on the day they met, Sunday. One might ask why did the early church start meeting on Sunday for their worship gatherings? The answer makes sense. Sunday was the day Christ was raised from the dead as the gospels record (Matthew 28:1; Mark 16:2; Luke 24:1; John 20:1). Scripture calls Sunday, "the Lord's day" (Revelation 1:10). So, we meet on Sunday in keeping with the practice of the church that started right when the church age started, right after Christ's resurrection and ascension. Now some churches do hold services on Saturday. These are churches that are large, which also have services on Sunday. But there are two Christian movements that believe the church is required to meet on Saturday. One is an unhealthy movement, The Seventh Day Adventists, which become legalistic about the church meeting on Saturday's, and rebuke those who meet on Sunday's, and the other movement is a modern one, the Hebrew Roots Movement. As we move to talk about the Hebrew Roots movement, we will address the third question. How are Christians to view the Mosaic Law?

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
Wed Night Bible Study: 6:30pm
Women's Friday Group: 9:30am

The modern Hebrew Roots movement believes that Christians are still under the Mosaic Law. What they say is that our salvation is in Christ, but we need to earn God's favor by being obedient to the Mosaic Law. So, salvation is no longer that you are saved by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, but you are saved through your own righteousness. But the New Testament condemns this. As the apostle Paul wrote, "For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin" (Romans 3:20). The Hebrew roots gospel is a remaking of the heresy that Paul addressed in the early church. It was the Judaizer heresy that taught once again that Christ plus adherence to the Mosaic Law earned favor with God. This is what Paul was addressing when he wrote, "I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed" (Galatians 1:6-8). As I have already alluded to in this article, the Old Testament laws were temporary, as they pointed ahead to Christ. In no way are Christians still under the Mosaic Law. But rather, Christians since Christ came, are under the New Covenant. A covenant that started through Christ's death on the cross. As Jesus said at the Lord's Supper, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood" (Luke 22:20). The author of Hebrews says that the New Covenant makes the Old Covenant (the Mosaic Law) null and void (Hebrews 8:13). What he does is explain that the Old Testament predicted this. The replacement of the Old Covenant with the New Covenant was predicted in Jeremiah 31 and Ezekiel 36.

The big difference between the Old and New Covenants is that all of Israel was under the Old Covenant. This means that unbelieving Israelites were still expected to keep the law externally, but the New Covenant is different. It predicted the time when as people believed in the Messiah Jesus, for the forgiveness of sins, the Holy Spirit would enter their hearts. So, anyone who believes in Christ not only belongs to the church, but is also under the blessing of the New Covenant where one's heart is truly transformed as one is able to obey God's moral law through the power of the Holy Spirit (Ezekiel 36:27). So how should Christians view the Mosaic Law? It has been replaced, and it has been replaced with an eternal covenant (Hebrews 13:20) where people's hearts are truly transformed as the Holy Spirit indwells one's heart. The Church has experienced the sweetness of this covenant first and one day when Israel believes in their Messiah (Zechariah 12:10; Romans 11:26) they too will experience the New Covenant promised to those who believe in the crucified and risen Christ. But there is an effort in our days to go back to the temporary plan that God had for the people of Israel, but how inferior that is to the lasting blessing that the ancient Scriptures pointed ahead to. It is vital to recognize these efforts that misunderstand the Old Testament, returning one to a burdensome false religion condemned by the apostles in the First Century. Instead, we are to rest in Christ and live in the freedom that we enjoy as his followers.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Seth

MissionMissionsreach

Tokar Family: Ukraine

A Christmas 2023 Update: This Christmas will be our first in the USA in more than 10 years. Our hearts are still hurting as the brutal war against Ukraine continues. We are praying that this will be the last Christmas Ukrainians spend under constant threat of missile and drone attacks and that this war would end in a victory for the Ukrainian people in 2024.

While we enjoy our first Christmas in over ten years with the Tokar family in Minnesota, Ukrainian soldiers will be spending their second Christmas in the muddy, rat-infested trenches of the eastern warfront. Many have been fighting non-stop since the war began nearly 2 years ago with only one 10-day leave per year. Pray for these soldiers, the faithful chaplains that minister to them, and the many families that are not whole this Christmas as a result of the war.

Tens of thousands of Ukrainians have been killed this year and for many, like Sveta's aunt Nadia, who lost her husband to cancer a few years ago, and this year in June lost her only unmarried and childless son on the frontlines, this is going to be a very lonely Christmas. Many of you experiencing loss this Christmas can relate, and our condolences go out to you and your families as you mourn. May the Prince of Peace, who himself experienced enormous loss with great weeping, be a real and present comfort to you.

Even in the midst of great sadness and turmoil in our lives, we do not despair. Christmas is a reminder that, even in a world full of darkness, at just the right time, God intervened and sent His salvation in the most unexpected of ways. We also have reason to hope this Christmas. Emmanuel is come!

O come, Thou Day-Spring, come and cheer,
Our Spirits by Thine Advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.



This Christmas, we are grateful that through your support we can continue to serve the Ukrainian people. WorldVenture's Ukraine Relief Fund continues to support humanitarian outreach efforts in cities across the country and we continue to minister to those who are hurting through moral injury and trauma care.

We are also nearing completion of our feature-length film project that we hope will change perceptions and and raise new awareness of the needs of Ukrainian people experiencing the brutality of war. This film is so powerful and I can't wait for you to see it when we release it in the first half of next year. Please pray for the success of this project as we submit it to large film festivals in January and organize impact campaigns. We are hoping to see this film widely distributed in 2024.



49ERS QUARTERBACK BROCK PURDY: 'JESUS CHRIST CAME DOWN, DIED FOR MY SINS AND ROSE AGAIN'

The San Francisco 49ers beat the Lions in the NFC Championship game on January 28th. They will head to Super Bowl LVIII which is scheduled for Feb. 11 at Allegiant Stadium in Paradise, Nevada to face the Kansas City Chiefs.

49ers quarterback, Brock Purdy, has experienced quite the comeback during his two years in the NFL.

Purdy was drafted by the 49ers as the very last pick in the 2022 NFL Draft – earning him the title “Mr. Irrelevant.”

To say the least, Purdy’s professional football career wasn’t off to a great start. He began his rookie season as the 49ers third-string quarterback behind Trey Lance and Jimmy Garoppolo.

But after both Lance and Garoppolo were injured during the 2022 season, Purdy took over as the Niners’ starting quarterback. He proceeded to win all five of the regular season games he started, before helping his team win a division title and appear at the NFC Championship Game.

His talent no longer under-noticed, Purdy began the 2023 NFL season as the team’s starting quarterback; he’s led the Niners to a solid 13-5 winning record and a repeat division title. Now, he and his team have a shot at appearing in the Super Bowl.

Purdy’s success – even more remarkable considering how he started his NFL career – has earned him a more respectable nickname: “Mr. Relevant.”

Some may wonder what’s caused Purdy to make such a comeback? Was it extra training? A change in mindset? Pure luck?

If you ask Purdy, it’s not what has made a difference, but Who. For Purdy, Jesus Christ has helped him get to this level.

“This is who God has called me to be. I believe that Jesus Christ did come down and died for my sins and rose again,” Purdy said in a recent interview. “And He’s living and sitting beside God on the throne.”

“I believe that. It’s not just some story [or] fairy tale. It’s real,” Purdy said, adding, “... it allows me to stay levelheaded and real with life and I know what my purpose is. So that all has allowed me to play my game and allowed me to play football at this level.”

The 24-year-old quarterback has something that many people his age lack: perspective.

Purdy has had to earn his spot in the NFL through hard work and diligent practice – and he surely knows that what is given, can quickly be taken away.

But Purdy’s life is not set on the foundation of football, it’s set upon a firm foundation – faith in Jesus Christ.

In 1 Corinthians 15, the Apostle Paul wrote *“For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures,*

Events



Women’s Group
Saturday, February 3
8:00am



Men’s Breakfast
Saturday, February 10
8:00am



Weekly
4:30pm-6:00pm
Every Sunday



Bible Study
Wednesdays 6:30pm

and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me” (1 Cor. 15:3-8, ESV).

“So when I’m down 17 at half, honestly, I’m just thinking, alright God, You’ve taken me here. And win or lose, I’m gonna glorify You. And that’s my peace. That’s the joy. That’s the steadfastness. That’s where I get it from. And that’s the honest truth. So I lean into that. And sure enough, we were able to come back.” Purdy said.

Purdy openly expresses his Christian faith. His social media profiles reflect this, as does his public speaking. He introduces himself on his social media pages as “Believer in Christ” and “Follower of Christ.”

In an interview with Sports Spectrum, he said, “My identity is in Jesus.” He aims to “witness and defend the Christian faith as best as I can.”

He shared a pivotal moment at Iowa State. Purdy asked God to forgive him for prioritizing football over his relationship with Christ. This experience solidified his identity and faith in Jesus.

“It was just a great reminder of where my identity is, where it lies...And it’s in Jesus. And I continue to lean on Him. Again, the next day I didn’t go out and throw for 500 yards and was this awesome quarterback, but it was just this peace that I had with Him knowing that, ‘Hey, no matter what I’m going to face moving forward during college football, God and Jesus are going to be my identity. And whatever I face, I won’t be shaken from it.’ I’ve got a great foundation in Him.” Purdy told the Sports Spectrum Podcast.

As followers of Christ, our true identity is found in Him. When we fully surrender to Jesus, He guides our lives, just like He did for Brock Purdy. Let us remain steadfast in our faith, trusting God in every challenge we face.

Congratulations to Purdy on the successful season, and good luck at the Super Bowl.

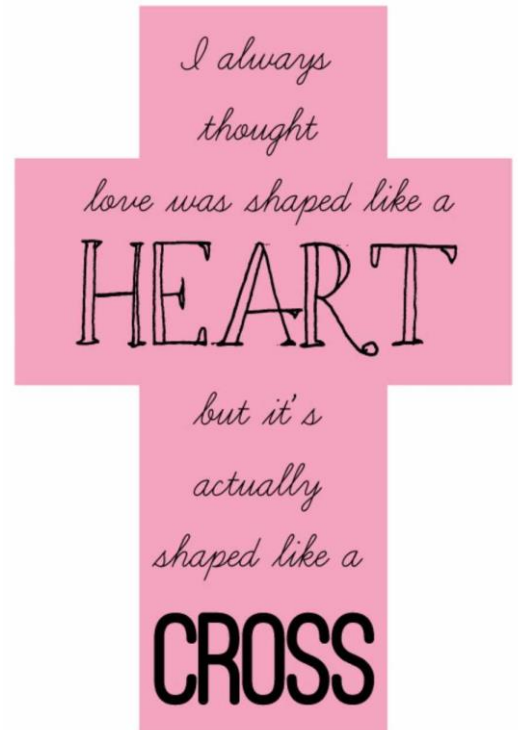
- Zachary Mettler & FaithPot Stories

**Women's Fellowship**
Women's Friday Fellowship meets at 9:30am in the Matson Building – join us!



Congratulations

Congratulations to Billie and Cole on their baby boy, Travis!



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

2024 Board Members

Deacons

Shaun Anderson
Jason Taylor

Elders

Mark Brooks
Keith Johnson

Associate/Youth Pastor

Doug Schmidt

Trustees

Eric McKinley
Shaun Anderson

Deaconess

Barbara Trombley
Lori Brooks
Hansi Fox
Abby Swanson

Secretary

Amber Lindo

Treasurers

Hansi Fox
Abby Swanson

Church Announcements

- **Church Teams** – make sure to be updating the Budget Binder with every purchase.
- **Youth Group** will continue to meet every Sunday in February. Please watch for more detailed information about the Walmart event on February 18th.
- Pastor Seth is now a regular contributor on truthscript.com – Be sure to visit often to read all the great articles!
- We have a new and improved **weekly email update system**. If you do not receive weekly updates and would like to, please let Amber know. jeffamberlindo@gmail.com
- **Wednesday Evening Bible Study** is meeting weekly at 6:30pm.
- There is a signup form at church for those that plan to attend the **TruthScript Conference** in May.
- All **Easter service** information and events will be posted soon. Easter falls on March 31st.
- A reminder **not to park** near the town fuel tank or in front of the salt shed.
- **Mama Bear Apologetics** study will continue to meet on Sundays at 4:30pm.
- If you'd like to help with planning the details of the **Conference**, please watch for announcements about the committee meeting schedule.
- Wendy Peterson will speak at the **Women's Group** gathering on Saturday, February 3 at 9:00am.
- **Thank you** to all the volunteers that watch the toddlers in the basement children's room during morning service.
- The **Children's Team** has already started planning 2024 VBS. If you'd like to help out for that event, please see someone on that team.
- As the temperatures rise, please make sure **not to park on the grass** – at the church or at the parsonage. The ground will get soft and you will get stuck.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Lucy Braund 2/6, Barb Trombley 2/9, Jeremiah Taylor 2/23

WALK FOR LIFE



Sanctity of Life Sunday is a day to reaffirm our commitment to the dignity of every human being and the sanctity of every human life.

While Christians use the day to pray and mourn for the preborn who have been lost, many are not aware the annual church event originated in the White House.

On the 10th anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision, President Ronald Reagan wrote an essay about abortion that was published in *The Human Life Review* and later issued as a book titled *“Abortion and the Conscience of the Nation,”* the only book ever published by a sitting U.S. president. The essay is one of the most forceful defenses of life and the strongest denunciations of abortion ever issued by an American president.

“The real question today is not when human life begins, but, What is the value of human life?” Reagan wrote. “The abortionist who reassembles the arms and legs of a tiny baby to make sure all its parts have been torn from its mother’s body can hardly doubt whether it is a human being. The real question for him and for all of us is whether that tiny human life has a God-given right to be protected by the law – the same right we have.”

“I have often said we need to join in prayer to bring protection to the unborn,” he added. “Prayer and action are needed to uphold the sanctity of human life. I believe it will not be possible to accomplish our work, the work of saving lives, ‘without being a soul of prayer.’”

-ERLC Staff





CHURCH LIBRARY News

Featured Book
Hidden Treasures in the Biblical Text
By: Chuck Missler

For the novice as well as the sophisticate, this book is full of surprises. It includes subtle discoveries lying just “beneath” the text -- hidden messages, encryptions, deliberate misspellings and other amendments to the text -- that present implications beyond the immediate context, demonstrating a skillful design that has its origin from outside our space and time.

Drawing upon over forty years of collecting, Chuck highlights in this book many of the precious nuggets that have become characteristic of his popular Bible studies around the world.

It is guaranteed to stimulate, provoke, and, hopefully, to disturb. It will confound the skeptic and encourage the believer. It is a “must read” for every thinking seeker of truth and serious inquirer of reality.

Julie Johnson
Eureka Baptist Church Librarian

2024 Budget & Budget Binder

Budget Book will be in a labeled binder kept by the copier.

Find your Team and include the information needed:

Eureka Baptist Church				
Tech Team				
2024 Approved Budget: \$4,000.00				
Members Qualified to Deduct from Budget				
Eric McKinley, Angela Snider, Hansi Fox				
Items Purchased	Cost	Initial	Date	Remaining
Batteries	\$50	EM	2/3	\$3,950.00
Bluetooth TVs	\$500	HF	5/7	\$3,450.00
Wiring	\$100	EM	5/7	\$3,350.00

Fill out the reimbursement receipt form and indicate the correct Team it involves. Submit to Hansi and she will bring a check (or pay the appropriate party) by the following Sunday.

Eureka Baptist Church
Reimbursement Form

Reimbursement payment to Eric McKinley

Please write down what the dollar amount is and what the purchase was for:

Wiring for Sanctuary TVs
\$100.00 - receipt attached

Circle what Ministry Team this payment falls under:

Administration & Office	Missions
Adult Ministry	Technology
Children's Ministry	Worship Ministry
Care & Compassion	Youth
Facilities	Pastor Books & Conferences
Kitchen	EBC Conference
Library	Church Staff

Signature of purchaser: Eric McKinley

Approved by: _____ Date: _____

Staple original receipt to this paper and submit to Hansi Fox for reimbursement.

The new Budget System and Reimbursement process was explained at the 2024 Annual Business Meeting.

A reminder to all teams:

The budget is for purchases that you think your team might need in 2024. Just because your budget is set at a certain amount does not mean that you need to spend that amount.

Plan ahead. Make notes on the back of the binder's budget sheet for 2025 plans. We will start looking at 2025 budget in early October. We know that setting up this new system was difficult for everyone. Thank you for sticking with it!

Jesus talked about the importance of making a budget while teaching his followers in Luke 14:28-30. He asked, "For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it—lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish?'"

Putting in the time and effort to make a plan and give every dollar you bring in a job before the year begins is a must if you want to manage money well and do it according to God's ways.

The Bible is clear about how that kind of discipline is 100% worth it in the end, even though it can be really hard at first. Hebrews 12:11 says, "For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it."

Welcome

New Members

Jeff Olson
Julie Olson
Lily Olson
Ned Souder
Connie Souder
Don Shaw

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



