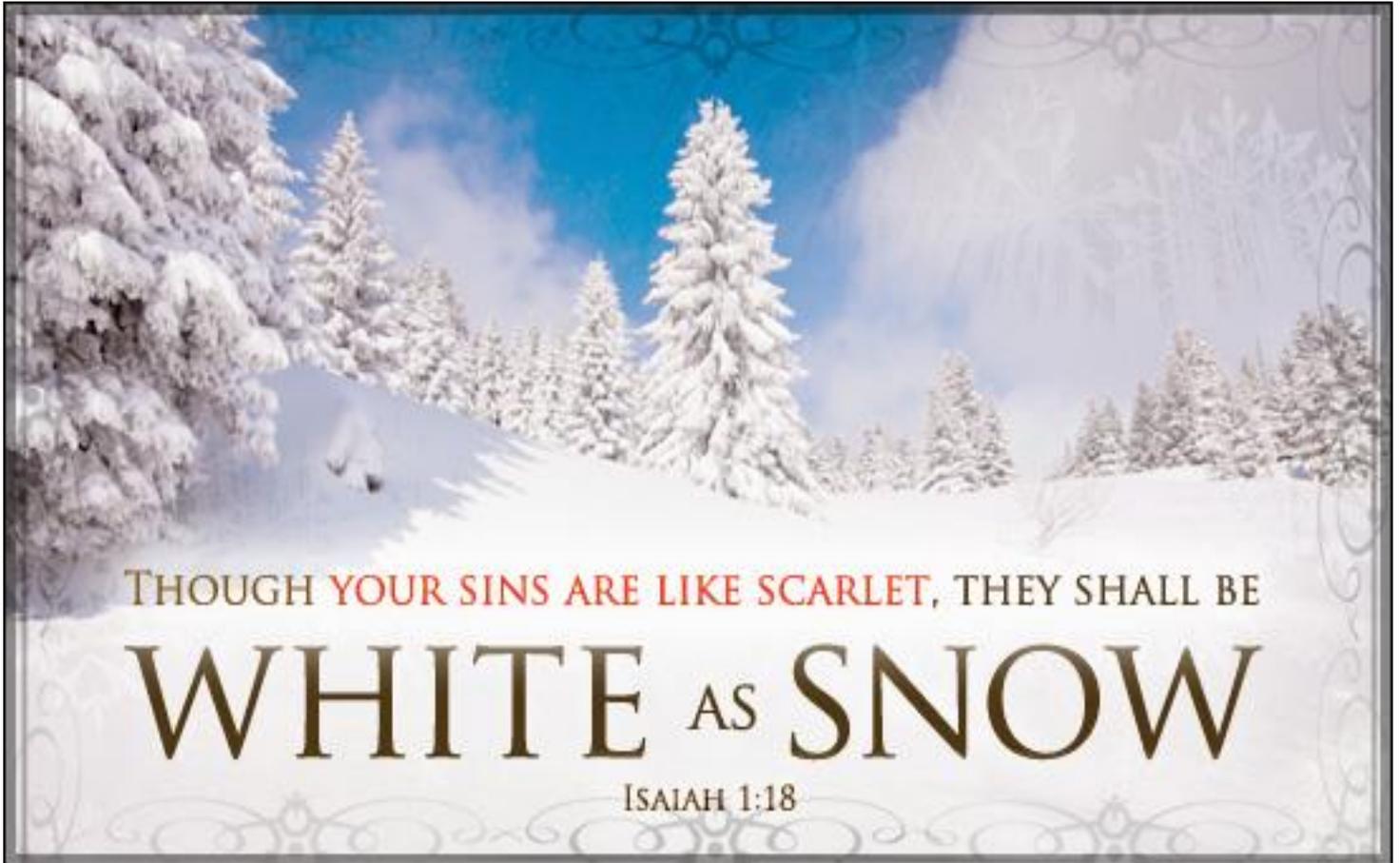


January 2020



EUREKA BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER



Happy New Year!

Wednesday,
January 1

**Prayer
Meeting**

Sunday,
January 5
6:30pm



**Pot Luck &
Annual Meeting**

Sunday,
January 19



A Note from Pastor Seth

This year marks the forty-seventh anniversary of the Roe Vs. Wade ruling in the Supreme Court in January 1973. The tragic impact of this ruling cannot be overstated. During that time almost fifty-seven million pre-born babies have had their lives ended. In this article I want to explain why it is important and right that we fight for these pre-born babies, and to encourage mothers in a crisis pregnancy that there is a much better path to take. What we must understand is that a great injustice is happening under our noses, and most of us pay little to no attention. In order to understand this big issue correctly we need to understand everything from God's perspective since his standard is the only one that matters. God is the Creator of the universe and he gives life to every thing on the earth (Genesis 1; Acts 17:25). What the Bible teaches is that humanity is a unique creation of God. There are many living things: land animals, birds, fish, and even angels. However, there is one creation that is greater than all, and that is the human race. The Bible tells us why this creation is superior to the others. Out of everything in creation only humanity is created in God's image (Genesis 1:26-27). What this generally means is that humanity reflects God more than any other creature. In fact, when God came to the earth two thousand years ago he became a man (John 1:14). It is interesting that God the Son did not become an angel. We can see the special place that humanity holds.

Early on in the Bible certain laws were given by God. To keep these laws is to please him and to violate them is to rebel against his perfect moral order and bring guilt upon oneself. In the Ten Commandments one of those Laws is, "You shall not murder" (Exodus 20:13). To murder is to take the life of an innocent human. As we know in Wisconsin it is okay under certain circumstances to take the life of an animal (Genesis 9:3). People love hunting and it is ethical to do so and enjoy the food to eat.

However, it is never okay to take the life of a human under any circumstance. The reason that everyone should oppose abortion is because it is murder. The Bible makes it clear that life starts at conception. King David made this clear from a statement he made in Psalm 139. He wrote, "You formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139:13-14). David identified himself as a person, as God was forming him in the womb. Secondly, in another Psalm David acknowledged that from conception he was a sinner (Psalm 51:5). One can only be a sinner if he or she is first a person. Furthermore, in the gospel of Luke when Elizabeth was pregnant with John the Baptist, the text says that John "leaped in her womb" when Mary, the mother of Jesus, entered their presence (Luke 1:41). Only a person can have emotions, and John had the emotion of joy in his mother's womb. These are clear examples from Scripture that a child is a person from conception.

Now it is hard to find someone who is going to argue that we should not protect the weak, but in the case of pre-born babies we have the weakest and most vulnerable of all. And yet, people think it is okay to end the life of this little one in the womb? According to Scripture it is wrong and a great injustice. It is sad that we live in a country that makes it legal to end the life of a human baby in the womb. What we must understand is that this is not a gray issue, but is indeed black and white. It may be legal to have an abortion in America (and other places in the world), but that does not make it okay. The right for an abortion may be in line with current the Law of the Land, but it is against the only Law that matters, the Law of God. The sad reality of this is that women have been let down by the Supreme Court and Lawmakers. They have been told that it is within your right to have an abortion. What they are doing in the process is misleading young women and leading them into sin, giving them a guilty conscience that stays with them.

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

Thankfully there is forgiveness in Christ (1 Peter 3:18), but to put the mother in a position of guilt can be prevented.

There are much better options that will lead mother and child down a much better path. I am delighted to be on the board of Options for Women Tri County located in Osceola, Wisconsin. As many of you know, our own Karen Mickelson is the director. This organization exists to help women involved in crisis pregnancies. Many women considering an abortion do not know where to turn but this organization can help. It is our desire that more churches know about this organization and are active in pointing women who need help to it. If you know someone living in Polk, Burnett, or St. Croix Counties who finds herself in a crisis pregnancy please pass on this organization to her. The focus of this organization is not merely to help the baby, but also to provide compassionate care for the mother. To follow God's path brings blessing to the one who follows (Deuteronomy 28:1-2). As the Giver of life God views life as enormously precious, and we must all do what we can to value and protect life, especially for the ones who are most vulnerable.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Seth

The Word
became flesh and made
His dwelling among us.
We have seen
His glory, the
glory of the One and Only,
who came from the **Father,**
full of grace and truth.
~ John 1:14

Mission Missions reach

Miron Family

Hello everybody! It has been quite a while since we've issued any updates, as we have been waiting to hear back from Ireland. Well we finally have an update on our visa application, and the disappointing news trend continues - We were refused again, with a truly creative suite of reasons for their denial. The two WorldVenture families headed to Ireland with us were refused their visas this week as well.

What's happened since our last update: As we mentioned in our last update, the chances of this getting approved were very slim. But, for a variety of reasons, it seemed right to give it one more chance. While Ireland was looking over our application, we were simultaneously looking into what other fields might be possible for us, if Ireland ended up saying no again. Like we described to you, our Plan B if our visas were refused was to go into Northern Ireland, a separate country from the Republic of Ireland, but still on the same Island. This seemed fitting for a number of reasons, but it would also allow us to pursue our immigration lawyer's advice of taking our visa decisions to court if we thought it had a chance of getting us into the Republic at some point. Over the past several weeks, WorldVenture, as well as ourselves, have been contacting all of the connections we have in Northern Ireland as we searched for the right context where we could serve in this capacity. As we pursued this, we did so asking God that He would make it abundantly clear if He was opening a door for us there. Much like Moses, we have no interest in going anywhere if God's not the one going ahead of us and with us. And he said to him, "If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people? Is it not in your going with us, so that we are distinct, I and your people, from every other people on the face of the earth?" (Exodus 33:15-16)

We unfortunately haven't seen such an opportunity open up in Northern Ireland. We did have one sponsor in NI that we felt comfortable pursuing, and then, the day after we got our refusal letter from Ireland, that potential sponsor informed us that they wouldn't have a way to invite us in for at least another year. As we and our WorldVenture team look at all of the facts of this difficult situation, we believe we have to conclude that God has effectively shut the door for us to Ireland. We do have the chance to appeal Ireland's decision on our visa, but there is very little hope of that changing. But we know of one Christian worker who has been granted access within the last 10 months, and he got it on his appeal for his second application. We will most likely send an appeal as a last "hail mary", but our focus now is on confirming where God has us going next.

What's next: Now we are in the midst of talking through several opportunities with WorldVenture that they have in the Europe, Middle East, and North Africa region. There is a lot to consider while we pursue these: what is the best fit for our gifts, where is the greatest missiological need, where are we most wanted, what contexts are best for our kids, what schooling is available for the kids, how easily can we get access into the country, how quickly can we get access into the country, what will be our immediate and long-term effectiveness there, and more. On top of that, we also have two other families in the same situation as us. One of which, the Morters, were the family that we were set to church plant with in Ireland. Throughout this process, God has given us a tremendous unity with the Morters, and we sense God's direction to pursue this next global context together.

Please trust me when I say, that we are striving as hard as we can to get this process in motion and confirmed as quickly as we can. Nobody wants God to get us onto the mission field faster than we do. We need your help now in prayer, as we look to narrow the opportunities down, and seek counsel on where we fit. Sarah and I leave in 2 weeks for a conference for WorldVenture's Europe, Middle East, and North Africa field, where we will have the opportunity to spend time with and pray with many of the workers and field leaders for the countries we are looking at.

What we are asking from you.

Prayer.

Please, pray with us now as we ask God for direction and confirmation.

Please pray that He would open a door to the Gospel for us, wherever He would have us.

Please pray for wisdom for us, our team, and whatever counsel we seek as we look for the right fit for us.

Please pray for perseverance, that we would be faithful in our time here.

Patience.

I am sorry that we even have to ask for it, because you have already been so patient with us. I know how disappointing all of this is for us, and I'm sure you would have rather seen this gone another way yourselves. Some of you even partnered with us because of our mutual connection to Ireland, and your love for the Irish people. I'm not sure what to say, other than we know how it feels. Our hearts were to the Irish. And this feels like a death.

I want to be able to give you a date when we'll know for sure where we are going, and when we're leaving. Because honestly, I feel like I need that date too. I want it to be yesterday. But no matter how hard we've tried to push things along, we haven't succeeded in changing God's timing. God has forced our hand into this season of waiting. So thank you for your patience with us so far, and for waiting along side of us. We couldn't ask for better partners.

On a personal note.

God doesn't waste anything. No matter the circumstance we find ourselves in, we are never simply going through it, God is always at work in it to produce something good in us and to make His name known. This is especially true of trials - our suffering is never wasted. This season has been one of the most trying times for Sarah and I, and God hasn't wasted it. He has been at work in both of us to reveal, convict, change, and grow us.

On top of that, suffering gives us the opportunity to boast in Jesus in ways we normally can't. It's one thing to say God is good when everything is going according to plan. But what about when nothing seems to be going according to plan? When you experience disappointment after disappointment? Or when you're at a complete loss for what God is doing, or when this season will ever come to an end? Then, praising Jesus tells a different story.

We don't worship Jesus because He gives us what we want, we worship Him because He is worthy of it. And oh is He worthy of it.

I will exalt you, my God the King; I will praise your name for ever and ever.

Every day I will praise you and extol your name for ever and ever.

Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom.

(Psalm 145:1-3)

We are so incredibly thankful for you all!



Monthly Events



Women's Bible Study
Saturday, January 4
9:00am



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



Prayer Meeting
First Sunday of the Month
6:30pm



Weekly Events



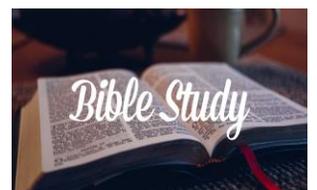
Sunday School
Sunday Mornings
9:00am



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

Church Announcements

-Women's Friday Morning Women's Group will meet at 9:30am at Joyful Morning Coffee House in Dresser on January 10 and January 24.

-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

-Thank you to Shaila Johnson and Patsy Anderson for decorating the church for Christmas. It was beautiful!

-A 2020 cleaning schedule will be posted soon. Please sign up!

-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, January 25 at 8:00am

-HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Elias Anderson (1/5) and Jeremy Hall (1/23)

What is the first thing that comes to mind when you hear the words "Memorize Scripture?"

Probably not: "FUN!"

But it can be.

If not fun exactly, at least: Satisfying. Rewarding. Precious.

How do we do it?

Word by word, verse by verse, day by day.

Pray first, asking God to help instill His Words into our hearts.

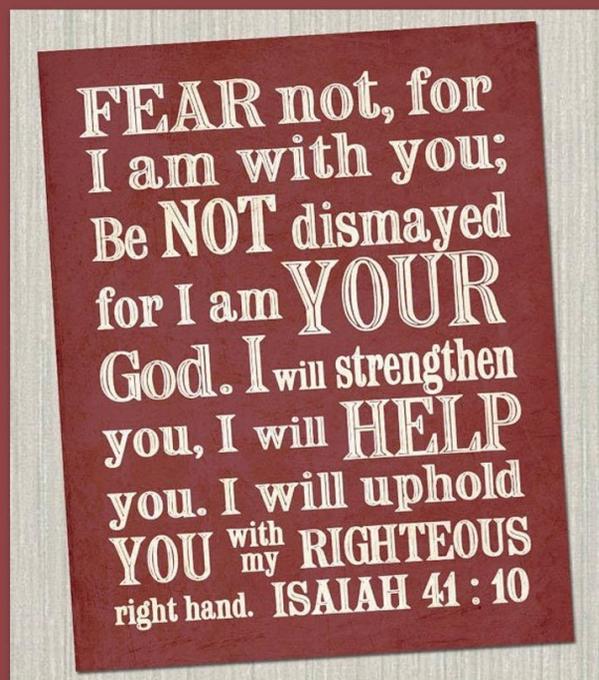
After that, we can start by reading the verse every morning for a week, not worrying about committing it to memory, but simply letting the words "dwell richly" (Colossians 3:16) within us.

We can read around the verse to get the context for it, and let the big ideas roll around in our minds as we go through the day. Memorizing will be easier after this time of preparation.

Different people have different methods for memorizing. Some write the verse on a card and stick it in a prominent spot. Some speak it into their phone and listen to themselves reciting the verse. Others put actions or melodies to the words. Some memorize with other family members, with benefits for all involved. Of course, we must heed the words of Deuteronomy 30:14, which reminds us: But the word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you may obey it.

The memory verse for January is Isaiah 41:10: Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.
What good Words for a new year!

No matter what 2020 may hold, we have the assurance of God's promises that He is with us and will strengthen us, help us, and uphold us with His righteous right hand.
Will you commit these words to memory this month?



Submitted by Barb Trombley



As I was walking across the church parking lot that Sunday morning of December 22nd, I had so many thoughts on my mind. As a Deacon of a small country church, I worried about the furnace running, the water running, everyone who is attending today going to be able to make into the church safely or is there going to be enough parking for everyone and where are the offering plates? With the remodel of the podium for the children's program, nothing is where it's supposed to be. But as I was walking from the far side of the parking lot, my 4 year old son grabbed my hand. As we walked into the church hand in hand with his mom and brother in toe we were greeted with such loving faces from our church family. Just like that, I knew God had this one covered, just like he has ever other Sunday or any other day of the week I put my worries aside and trusted in him. I prayed for that day and continue to be praying for days to come that the Lord will bless us with his Grace and his wisdom, so that we may use it for his Glory! I thank you Lord for such a loving church family and your Grace and wisdom!

Submitted by Shaun Anderson

Why go to Church? ~

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday. He wrote: "I've gone for 30 years now, and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons, but for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time. The preachers are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all".

This started a real controversy in the 'Letters to the Editor' column.

Much to the delight of the editor, it went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today.

Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

When you are DOWN to nothing, God is UP to something!

Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible, and receives the impossible!

Thank God for our physical and our spiritual nourishment!

IF YOU CANNOT SEE GOD IN ALL, YOU CANNOT SEE GOD AT ALL!

B. I. B. L. E. ---- Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth!



2019 Community Carol Sing





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

