Happy Valentine’s Day!

Wednesday
July 4
Independence Day

July 8 – July 12
5:30pm-7:30pm
Vacation Bible School

Sunday
July 15
Missionary Visit:
Tokars
Pot Luck to follow Morning Service

Sunday
July 22
After Morning Service

MISSIONARY Visit!
As we have gone through our sermon series in Genesis we have seen the ugly picture that Scripture paints about sin. Sin started at the beginning when Adam and Even sinned (Genesis 3). This sinful nature was spread to the entire human race (Romans 5:12). That is why we have seen the prevalence of sin in the human race during this sermon series. In Genesis we have seen a wide variety of sins. Each of them is very ugly in their own way. We have seen rebellion against authority (Genesis 3:6), murder (Genesis 4:8), extreme violence (Genesis 6:5), pride (Genesis 11:1-9), unbelief (Genesis 16:2), homosexuality (Genesis 19:5), fear (Genesis 19:19), and incest (Genesis 19:31-36). This certainly is not an exhaustive list, but what this shows us is that people’s sinful nature leads them to sin in a variety of ugly ways. Some people may ask why is the Bible often more like a rater R movie rather than a family friendly G film. God desires of you. The reason God details these sins to us is because he desires to show us how dark sin really is. We can relate to the sinners of Scripture because we sin as well. We commit some of the very same sins as they do (1 Corinthians 10:13). We not only commit sins in action but also in thought. I once heard a Christian leader say that if people knew our sinful thoughts we would be driven out of town. What the great sins of history and the great sins of our own lives should tell us is that we are a diseased people (Jeremiah 17:9). We need help. We primarily need help because our Creator is not like us. He is holy and could never sin. In fact, his perfections keep him from ever being able to sin. What a great and holy God does is he judges justly the unclean.

Our world often blindly wonders what is the problem with humanity. Why do humans do bad things and make messes of their lives? Why do so many people go down the wrong path when left unrestrained? The Bible tells us that the answer is sin (Romans 3:23). If our culture dares to use the word “sin” it is often psychologized. The sad thing is even pastors (some are true teachers and some are false) have contributed to this. Sin is seeing as a personal defeat, personal suffering and the person is seeing as a victim as he or she is overtaken by it. It is true that sin is a personal defeat and certainly suffering takes place. However, the Bible never describes the sinner as a victim. Rather, Scripture describes sinners as the offender. We have seen that Sodom and Gomorrah were known for their horrific sin. The Scripture says that “the men of Sodom were wicked, great sinners against the Lord” (Genesis 13:13). The sins of Sodom and the sins of our whole world are seen as directed against a holy God. This is frightening if you ponder this!

Two thousand years ago Jesus paid the just penalty for our sins when God’s just wrath was poured out on him (Romans 3:25). When Jesus hung on the cross our sins were placed on him and God’s justice was exhausted upon him (2 Corinthians 5:21). He paid the penalty for sins so that you never have to. What a beautiful reality this is! As we think about the ugliness of sin in Scripture and the darkness of sin in our own lives, we need to realize what a great gift Jesus is (Romans 3:24). Without him we would have no hope, but through his sacrifice at the cross we have the greatest hope. As the Scripture says, “we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ” (Romans 5:1). Let us praise the Lord for his amazing grace toward us whom he once considered enemies but now considers his friends (Romans 5:10; John 15:15)!

We all know deep down that we deserve to be punished for our sins (Romans 2:15). There is a holy God that rules the universe and there are sinful people that populate this world. What will a holy God do with us? What a holy God does is he judges every sin. Every sin committed in the history of the world will be paid for. There are two places where sin is paid: either in hell or at the cross of Jesus Christ (John 3:36). This is where the good news comes in. You do not have to pay for your sin if you find your refuge in Christ (John 3:16).
Ralph and Ellen Shepard, missionaries that Eureka Baptist Church financially support, visited and gave an update on June 24th. They gave a presentation of the work and progress that has been made in Guadalajara. Known as “the circle of silence,” the area is resistant to the Gospel. However, much praise can be given for those that do open their hearts. The Shepards focus on establishing “House Churches” for those that want to study the Bible, ask questions and worship together. There are many different groups within their network and they meet on a regular basis as a large group. Because the network has grown, the Shepard’s role has shifted to finding those that they recognize to be leaders. Prayer requests include training the leaders to launch more House Churches and for open hearts and open homes. A lunch was served after Morning Service. We thank them for visiting and updating us on all the wonderful work they are doing!
Monthly Events

Women’s Bible Study
Saturday, July 7th
9:00am

Men’s Breakfast
Saturday, July 14th
8:00am

Family Night
Thursday, July 12th
6:30pm

Tokar Family
Ukraine

The Tokars partner with the Ukrainian church to equip ministers of the Gospel from Ukraine and other former Soviet countries. Josh and Svitlana Tokar both came to know Christ at a young age. Josh was born and raised in a Christian home in Elk River, Minnesota, attending the local Baptist church since birth. He became a believer at age 12 and was baptized the following summer.

Svitlana comes from rural central Ukraine. After the fall of the Soviet Union, her grandmother was the first in her family to repent. Svitlana and her mother started going to church with her grandmother, through which Svitlana became involved with Adventure Bible Camps held by a partnering church from Elk River. Through the witness of her grandmother and the camps, Svitlana accepted Christ at 16.

Josh became interested in missions at a young age and sensed God calling him to be a missionary when he was 18 and studying to be an airline pilot in Germany, when involvement in campus ministry opened his eyes to the needs of unreached people around the world. Svitlana was introduced to missions through Josh and is passionate about reaching the lost in her homeland.

The Tokars moved to Ukraine in 2013. They started out at Donetsk Christian University in the eastern part of the country but due to the war, which began in 2014, were forced to flee to Central Ukraine. They now partner with Ukrainian Evangelical Theological Seminary in Kyiv where Josh teaches English to students preparing to serve in ministry across the former Soviet world and beyond.

The Tokar Family will be visiting Eureka Baptist Church on Sunday, July 15th. A Pot Luck Lunch will be served after Morning Service.

Annex Update

Work continues the exterior of the Annex building. A new large window was added to the front of the building and the door was relocated to the side of the building. A new main entrance door has been added and the covered entry way has been opened. Thank you to Shaun Anderson for all the work you’ve been doing to the building!
Eureka Baptist Church
2018 Vacation Bible School
Sunday, July 8 – Thursday, July 12
5:30pm – 7:30pm
Ages 3-12
Supper Provided

Students will experience a camping theme where they hike, canoe, and fish — complete with tents, campfires, and wildlife. Through the Camp Moose on the Loose VBS lessons, kids will learn about the life of Christ as seen through the eyes of Peter and will discover the lasting forgiveness that only Christ can give.

*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins.* 1 John 1:9

Weekly Events

Adult Sunday School
Sunday Mornings
9:00am

Morning Service
Sunday Mornings
10:00am

Kids Church
Sunday mornings during
Morning Service
2018 Board Members

Deacons
Shaun Anderson
Gordon Trombley

Trustees
Randy Clark
Jeremiah Johnson
Shaun Anderson

Deaconess
Barbara Trombley
Amber Lindo
Hansi Stridde
Abby Swanson

Secretary
Amber Lindo

Treasurers
Hansi Stridde
Abby Swanson

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Church Announcements

VBS
Sunday, July 8 – Thursday, July 12
5:30pm-7:30pm
Ages 3-12

July Family Night
Join us the last night of VBS for a Church Family Night
July 12th – 6:30pm

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Church Business Meeting
Sunday, July 22nd
After Morning Service

Dear CB North Friends,

Eureka Baptist Church has a long history of faithfulness to the Lord. The church started in 1881 and I am pleased to report that the church is still going strong in 2018. I started as the Lead Pastor at Eureka Baptist in February 2017. The church is located in a beautiful area just a few miles east of the border of Minnesota. Our church is located approximately eight miles north of St. Croix Falls in an unincorporated town known as Eureka Center. The people of Eureka have a special love for the beautiful area that we live in. Our area has lakes, the St. Croix River, hills, valley, cliffs, and is heavily wooded. We also have an abundance of wildlife. It is not a rare occasion to spot a black bear walking through your yard. I was attracted to the church because I saw the potential. I saw a people who were hungry for God’s word and desired to trust the Lord’s guidance to build for the future.

Eureka Baptist has a good range of ages from babies all the way up to the elderly. We are blessed to have many who have called this church home for decades. We are also blessed to have those who just started coming in the past year. Since I started, people have found their way to Eureka because they wanted to be a part of a church that digs deep into God’s Word, fostering an environment that can lead to Christian maturity. By the grace of God, I have already seen people grow spiritually. We have many ways that people can take steps of growing in Christ-likeness. In addition to our Sunday morning service, we also put great value in small groups. We have Sunday school, Wednesday evening Bible study, and a men’s and women’s breakfast on Saturday morning. We also put a high premium on discipleship. I have started meeting with men who will be able to disciple other men, and women leaders have already started to disciple other women who will be able to do the same (2 Timothy 2:2). The adults in our church also see the importance of having a gospel-centered children’s ministry. It is our great desire that each of these children would have a relationship with Christ.

Our mission at Eureka is “To grow together in Christ.” Included in our desire to grow is to be used by God to transfer people from darkness to light (Colossians 1:13-14). We are making it our objective to invite people regularly to church. As many of you know, sometimes people come, but many times they do not. Therefore, we are trying to be faithful, inviting people to our church where we know they will hear the gospel. Please pray that more would come, and would come to know Jesus as Lord, Savior, and Treasure.

One thing that I tell the church regularly is that I plan to be here for the long haul. I am not using this church as a stepping-stone to go to some “greener pasture.” As far as my wife and I are concerned, we see Eureka as a place where the grass is very green. We do not want to be anywhere else. The leadership at Eureka Baptist desires to have a healthy church. This means resembling what a New Testament church is supposed to look like. The goal of the New Testament church is for the pastor to “equip the saints for the work of ministry” so that we can minister to one another in order to move everyone toward maturity (Ephesians 4:11-16). At Eureka, our goal is to build a church full of rock-solid Christians who look like Christ and are ready to face any challenges that the life of faith throws at them, everything from a difficult diagnosis to facing persecution from the world (Matthew 7:24-25; 1 Peter 1:6-7; 4:12-15). We are excited for the days ahead to see what the Lord is going to accomplish through us. Jesus promised to build his church (Matthew 16:18), and he is doing that at Eureka Baptist.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Seth Bickley
Eureka Baptist Church, St Croix Falls, WI

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Pastor Seth was a guest writer for the June edition of The Central Connection; a monthly newsletter for CB North Central.

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GOD BLESS AMERICA
Happy Independence Day

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Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord
Psalm 33:12
Words About...Stillness

OUR WORLD IS BLANKETED BY SO MUCH NOISE—LOUD, HARSH AND UNSETTLING—THAT OUR SOULS ARE CHRONICALLY STRESSED.

Be still and know that I am God. (Psalm 46:10)

The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still. (Exodus 14:14)

For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from him. (Psalm 62:5)

There is time to be silent and a time to speak. Ecclesiastes 3:7

Silence, itself, is a form of communication rarely spoken in our noisy world. In silence, we speak to God, and in silence, God speaks to us. Yes, there is a time when words are needed, but Silence is required in order to Hear the wisdom of God, Appreciate the greatness of God, and Enjoy the presence of God.

~Gregory Sergent

SILENT and LISTEN are comprised of the same six letters.

In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength. (Psalm 30:5)

But the LORD is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before Him. (Habakkuk 2:20)

Delores Davison
April 28, 1934 - May 28, 2018

Delores Irene Davison died peacefully on May 28, 2018 in St. Croix Falls, WI at the age of 84.

Delores is survived by a sister, Eleanore (Norman) Barber; 13 nieces; 10 nephews; and assorted great and great-great nephews and nieces. She is preceded in death by her parents; 6 brothers, Henry, Kenneth, Wesley, Wallace, Rolland, and Melvin; 5 sister, Louise (Elmer) Swenson, Marie (Ray) Christensen, Lucille, Bernice (William) Grinnell, and Joanne, and by one nephew.

Delores was born on April 28, 1934 and was the youngest child of Charles “Floyd” Davison and Bertha Alice Voge. Delores was a devoted daughter and lived her entire life in or around St. Croix Falls. She worked part time at Ray’s Gas & Oil, and she was a long-time member of Eureka Baptist Church. She will be remembered for her beautiful cross-stitch and needlework as well as being a lover of card games and jigsaw puzzles which she enjoyed doing with family and friends.

The funeral for Deloris was held Friday, June 1st at Eureka Baptist Church.

Happy Birthday!!
Susan Matson 7/3, Derek Jorgenson 7/11, Jaxon Stridde 7/15, Mason Stridde 7/15, Shawna Musial 7/24

Happy Anniversary!!
Jeremy & Rachel Hall 7/23, Alvin & Susan Matson 7/24, Gordon & Barbara Trombley 7/31

Do we have your birthday and anniversary? We’d love to pray for you on your special day! Please email your information to Amber! J.a.lindo@hotmail.com
Eureka Baptist Church
2393 210th Avenue
St. Croix Falls, WI 54024