

July 2023



EUREKA BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER



*One Nation
under God*

**Independence
Day**

July 4

VBS

July 10 - 13



**Quarterly Business
Meeting & Potluck**

July 16



A Note from Pastor Seth

Another summer is upon us and it is another opportunity to make the best use of your time during this season. As you well know, we treasure the summers in the North especially after the long winter we had where we had almost one hundred inches of snow! A few months ago we were stuck inside for the most part but now what a blessing it is to be able to spend time outside. But as we go through this season it is easy to waste it if you are not careful. God desires for you to make the best use of your time always, including the bright and warm days of summer (Ephesians 5:16). How does God want you to spend this time? I am going to discuss three ways: enjoying his creation, Christian fellowship, and evangelism.

During every season we see the beauty of God's creation, but in my estimation summer presents opportunities to enjoy his creation more than any other time. The Bible says that God's "invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made" (Romans 1:20). Everything in creation points to him somehow. I love the hymn, "This Is My Father's World." In it there is a line that says, "In the rustling grass I hear Him pass. He speaks to me everywhere." Indeed, God does speak to you everywhere. When you hear the birds chirping in the morning, God speaks. When you hear the coyotes yip and howl, God speaks. When you hear the sound of the soothing lake, God speaks. When you hear the wind howling, God speaks. When you see the sunrise and sunset, God speaks. When you see a deer prance through the field, God speaks.

When you see the greenness of the grass and the blueness of the water, God speaks. When you see the sparkling water from the sun, God speaks. When you see the rapid current of the river, God speaks. When you see the power of thunder and lightning, God speaks. When you see the stars at night, God speaks. Summer is the best time to experience God in creation because of the warm temperatures and the abundance of sunlight. As you spend frequent time outside be vigilant to experience God's goodness, majesty, and beauty in his creation. To be outside without thinking of Him is to squander our summer.

Summer also presents a wonderful opportunity to spend time with other Christians. The Bible tells you not to neglect to meet together but always to look for opportunities to encourage one another (Hebrews 10:24-25). It is a given that we are to do this on Sunday mornings and through Bible studies, but you should also seek fellowship at informal times. Summer, more than any other time in the year, presents us with an opportunity to be active, and one way we should aim to be active is through spending time with other believers to encourage one another. During these times it is fine to talk about lots of topics, but do not miss the opportunity to have rich conversations about God and what He is doing in your lives. This is a great season to show hospitality to one another (Romans 12:13). It is a wonderful season for barbeques and lemonade on the deck. To go on walks and bike rides saying hello to your church family. Get to know someone you do not know that well. The summer will go by fast so do not miss this chance for deeper fellowship with fellow believers. Yes, you can do it anytime, but

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

summer especially presents a wonderful opportunity.

Finally, summer is a great time to get to know your neighbors, especially ones who do not have a relationship with Christ. We want to see our community come to faith in Christ. The summer presents a wonderful opportunity to get to know your neighbors and invest in them for eternity's sake. If you show the love of Christ to our unbelieving community and share that Jesus died and rose again so that they may live forever (John 3:16), then we are making a good use of our time this summer. As you think about how to spend your time remember to enjoy God's creation, enjoying fellowship with your church family at informal gatherings, and sharing the good news of Christ with your community. There is much pulling at you during the summer months. Be purposeful in everything and you will experience the blessing God has for you this summer.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Seth



Some of the people who have the most significant purpose to accomplish for the kingdom of God go through some of the **Heaviest** attacks. The pressure on you is proof of the purpose in you.

Missionreach

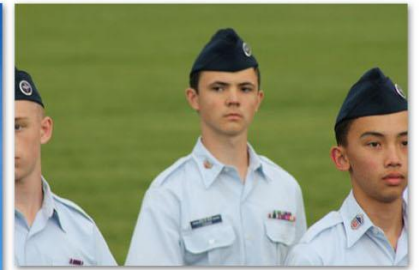
Tokar Family: Ukraine



–Our oldest boy, Dan, spent the last week at the at the Air Force Academy in Colorado where he graduated Civil Air Patrol encampment. Great job Dan! He is now a Cadet Staff Sergeant.

–Although we've been missing our home in Ukraine a lot this past year, it has been fun to watch three Tokars on the same baseball team this year!

–My wife's cousin, Yaroslav, was killed in action fighting for freedom in Ukraine. He was an only child. Please pray for his mother, Nadia, whose husband died earlier and now is without any children.



 **Joshua M. Tokar** 2h ·  

Just learned my wife's cousin Yaroslav was killed in action. I was just with his mother yesterday. She was concerned he hadn't been in contact for several days. Yaroslav was her only child. Please 🙏 for her. Вічна пам'ять 🇺🇦





On New Year's Eve, 1975, Billy Graham preached a message that reminded Americans of their spiritual heritage and explained the only hope for the nation's continued existence as a free people. Mr. Graham's message is as relevant today as it was more than 47 years ago.

The world is changing so rapidly that I hardly know it any more. The world is reeling and rocking from crisis to crisis. We are on the edge of a precipice.

When I hear talk of peace, I am reminded of what God said through Jeremiah to the false prophets of his day. God said they were shouting "Peace! Peace!" When there was no peace (see Jeremiah 6:14). The psalmist warned about dealing with those whose words are smoother than butter—those who say, "I am for peace; but when I speak, they are for war" (Psalm 120:7). Let's face it: There has never been so much talk of peace, nor such preparation for war, as there is today.

Many of our problems are getting worse with every passing day—the crime rate, drug addiction, massive debt, broken homes, abortion. I have a feeling that it is almost as if the American people are drugged and are oblivious to the perilous events happening at home and abroad.

What is wrong? America, possessing all the economic affluence for enjoying life, virtually leads the world in crime, narcotics abuse, pornography, immorality and debt.

We seem to be naive to what is happening in the real world. So we watch television and try to forget it all, hoping that it will go away. Or we take another highball and try to relax. The rest of the world watches our self-inflicted wounds with amazement.

Before we take a look at the future, we should look at the past and remind ourselves of the roots from which we sprang.

I do not see how anyone could study the history of America without recognizing religious influences that have helped mold this nation from the beginning. In no other nation's founding documents can we find so many declarations of allegiance to God. Time after time in our history there have been appeals to the "Supreme Judge" in seeking to build a new nation. This idea of freedom as a right of all men everywhere is unique among nations.

But where did it come from? Any search for its origin takes us back to "our fathers' God ... Author of liberty." It takes us to the creation of man, whom God made in His own likeness, free to roam and replenish the earth. Free to decide how or even whether he would serve his Creator. And man chose rebellion. Today, because of that choice by our first parents, we are alienated from God. Because of this alienation, we are a suffering planet, with the ultimate result of death for every generation.

This idea of freedom also takes us back to the Old Testament prophets, proclaiming in the face of kings and shouting from dungeons man's right to freedom under God. It takes us back to Moses, daring Pharaoh's wrath by demanding, "Let my people go" (Exodus 5:1) and later leading a great army of the former slaves into a new country where they could, at God's behest, "proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." Those words from Leviticus 25:10 (KJV) are inscribed on America's Liberty Bell in Philadelphia.

It takes us back to Jesus Christ who, standing in Nazareth, boldly declared His destiny—"to proclaim liberty to the captives and ... to set at liberty those who are oppressed" (Luke 4:18).

The idea of the free man in God has always been terrifying to tyrants, and that is why religious liberty is being curtailed in so many parts of the world today. Give people the Bible and freedom to proclaim its message, and they will soon be free.

The Declaration of Independence reflects the feelings of men to whom religious faith was all-important. There was not an atheist or an agnostic among the 56 who signed that Declaration, though some were deists. Before they strode forward to append their signatures, each bowed his head in prayer. The Declaration's giant step was being taken, they affirmed, "with a firm reliance upon the protection of Divine Providence."

Such expressions were no mere polite gestures to God. They were a firm commitment to the principle that God must be central to any plan of government. Because they signed that document, some of those men were captured and hanged. Some were stripped of their possessions. Some were jailed. I have to ask myself tonight, at another hour of crisis, do we have that kind of courage? How many people today would be willing to put their life on the line for freedom?

Monthly Events



Women's Bible Study
Summer Break
Will resume in early fall



Men's Breakfast
Saturday, July 8
8:00am



Marriage Bible Study
Canceled for July

Eleven years later, after the Revolution was won, men from 13 colonies assembled in Philadelphia, charged with creating one of the most revolutionary political documents of all time: the U.S. Constitution.

When the Constitution was submitted for ratification, the people demanded a Bill of Rights that would settle certain fundamental freedoms once and for all. They were implied in the Constitution, but the people wanted them in black and white. In the Amendments making up the Bill of Rights, where was religion? First. In the top place!

The final wording was: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." It was not government renouncing religious faith; it was government protecting our religious faith by forever removing religious rights from tampering by any public authority. Here we have a guarantee that America would never have a civil religion. But we would have freedom of religion, not freedom from religion, as some have mistakenly interpreted this Amendment.

We may be a vastly different people today than we were 200 years ago. Our society is far more complex, more pluralistic. But of this we can be sure: God has not changed. His laws have not changed. He is still a God of love and mercy. But He is also a God of righteousness and judgment. Any individual or nation that ignores His moral and spiritual laws will ultimately face His judgment.

I believe that every problem facing us as Americans is basically a spiritual problem. Crime is a spiritual problem. Inflation is a spiritual problem. Corruption is a spiritual problem. Social injustice is a spiritual problem. The lack of will even to defend our freedoms is a spiritual problem.

The Lord, speaking through the prophet Isaiah, said, "I was sought by those who did not ask for Me; I was found by those who did not seek Me. I said, 'Here I am, here I am,' to a nation that was not called by My name. I have stretched out My hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, according to their own thoughts; a people who provoke Me to anger continually to My face ... When I spoke, you did not hear, but did evil before My eyes" (Isaiah 65:1-3, 12).

And judgment came!

The great question before us today is: Will this nation survive as a free society? In a time similar to ours, when only a minority were true believers, Isaiah said, "Unless the Lord of hosts had left to us a very small remnant, we would have become like Sodom, we would have been made like Gomorrah" (Isaiah 1:9).

God is warning us that judgment is going to fall upon us unless we as a nation repent and turn to Him. In pleading with ancient Israel, God said, "'Come now, and let us reason together,' says the Lord, 'though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool. If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword'; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken" (Isaiah 1:18-20).

Will America turn to God at this late hour, or will America continue on the broad road that leads to destruction? You may ask, "What can I as an individual do?"

First, recognize that God loves you. The Bible says that He is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

Second, be honest before God. Admit that you have broken His laws and chosen to go your own way instead of His way. Be willing to let Him change your life.

Third, receive Jesus Christ into your heart as Savior and Lord.

Fourth, be a living example by your good works. Pray for those in authority. Be a good citizen. Help the poor. Help the distressed and oppressed of the world.

Fifth, get involved in the political process. I would challenge every deeply committed American who is qualified to think about running for political office. I do not believe that we as Christians should withdraw. We need men and women of integrity and Christian commitment who will run for political office. If you will do these things, you could have a part in helping America be the kind of country you want for your children and grandchildren.

America is too young to die. But unless we wake up and accept the challenge handed to us by our forefathers, we will die, like countries and civilizations of the past.



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

2023 Board Members

Deacons

Shaun Anderson
Gordon Trombley

Elders

Mark Brooks
Keith Johnson

Trustees

Eric McKinley
Shaun Anderson

Deaconess

Barbara Trombley
Lori Brooks
Hansi Fox
Abby Swanson

Secretary

Amber Lindo

Treasurers

Hansi Fox
Abby Swanson

Church Announcements

- There will be a **Quarterly Business Meeting** and potluck on Sunday, July 16 after morning service. The church will provide Chicken Pasta Salad. Please bring a side or dessert to share. We will be voting on two church positions: Youth/Associate Pastor & Deacon

- If you'd like to provide **cookies for VBS**, please have them in the church kitchen during the week of VBS.

- Pastor Seth is now a regular contributor on **truthscript.com** – Be sure to visit often to read all the great articles!

- We plan to have another **Baptism Service** after the church picnic on August 20th. Please talk with Pastor Seth if you're interested in being baptized and/or becoming a member.

- A reminder that we have a new system for **church reimbursements**. Please get a form at church or in the weekly emails.

- If you have any items to add to the **August Newsletter**, please have them to Amber by July 24th.

- **Wednesday Evening Bible Study** will resume on September 6th at 6:30pm.

- 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

- Parents: Please remind your kids that their little feet need to be **walking and not running**.

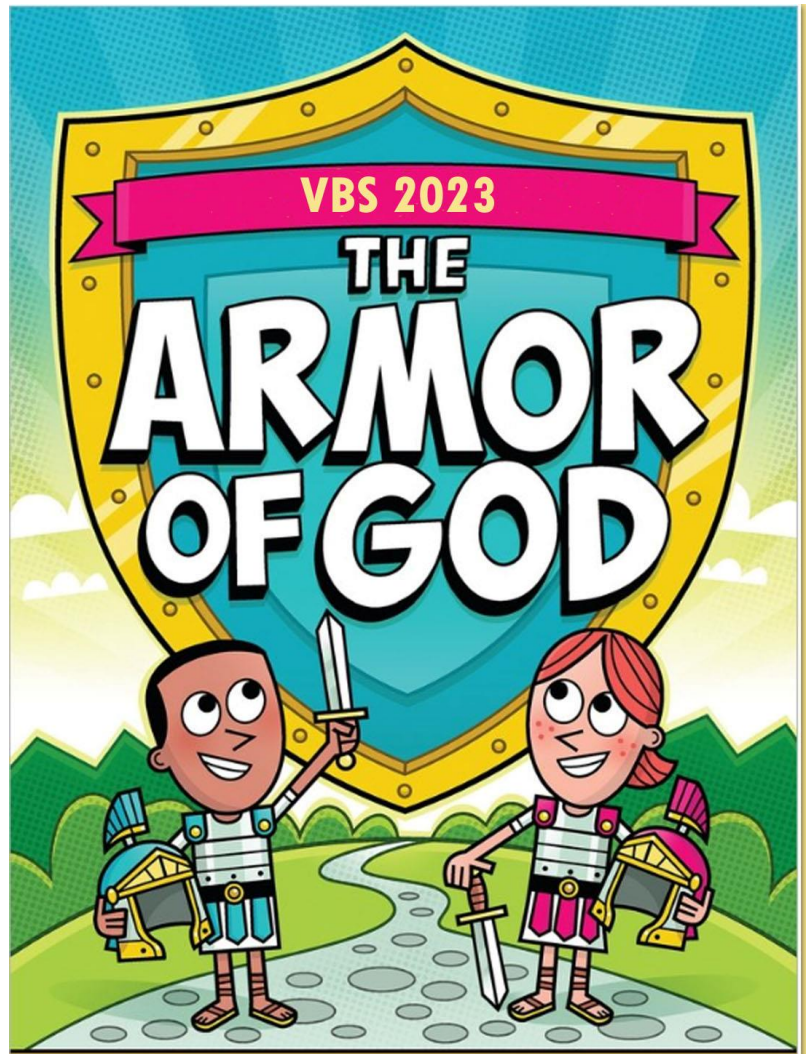
HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Susan Matson 7/3, Joey Tomlinson 7/8, Helen Leggitt 7/11, Derek Jorgenson 7/11, Jaxon Stridde 7/15, Mason Stridde 7/15, Cassie Johnson 7/16, Mollie Taylor 7/22, Elijah Tomlinson 7/24, Nick Fox 7/24

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Jeremy & Rachel Hall 7/23, Gordon & Barb Trombley 7/31



Above:
The Women's Choir

Below:
Mark Brooks & Brianna Brickley
singing for Memory Care.



Join us for VBS at
Eureka Baptist Church
July 10 - 13, 2023
6:00pm - 7:45pm
Ages 4-12

Questions? www.eurekabapchurch.com

Thank you to everyone that is helping out with VBS!



CHURCH LIBRARY *News*

Thank you to everyone who has donated books and videos to the library. Expanding our library for everyone to enjoy is our goal.

We have received several video series. The *Awesome Science* DVD series takes teens and adults on a field trip around the world to explore geologic and historical evidence which supports the Biblical record. The series is hosted by teenager, Noah Justice. Noah explores places like the Grand Canyon and Glacier Park.

Another DVD series from *Answers in Genesis* by Ken Ham is the *New Answers*. This pack contains all three of the New Answers DVDs, addressing 36 of the top questions from the New Answers Book. These extremely popular DVDs are perfect for young adults and anyone who wants truly succinct yet meaty answers to the questions our culture is asking.

Julie Johnson
Eureka Baptist Church Librarian



Work has started on all four of the church buildings due to roof damage from last summer's storm. Before the church roof was done, Eric McKinley removed the decommissioned chimney.



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



