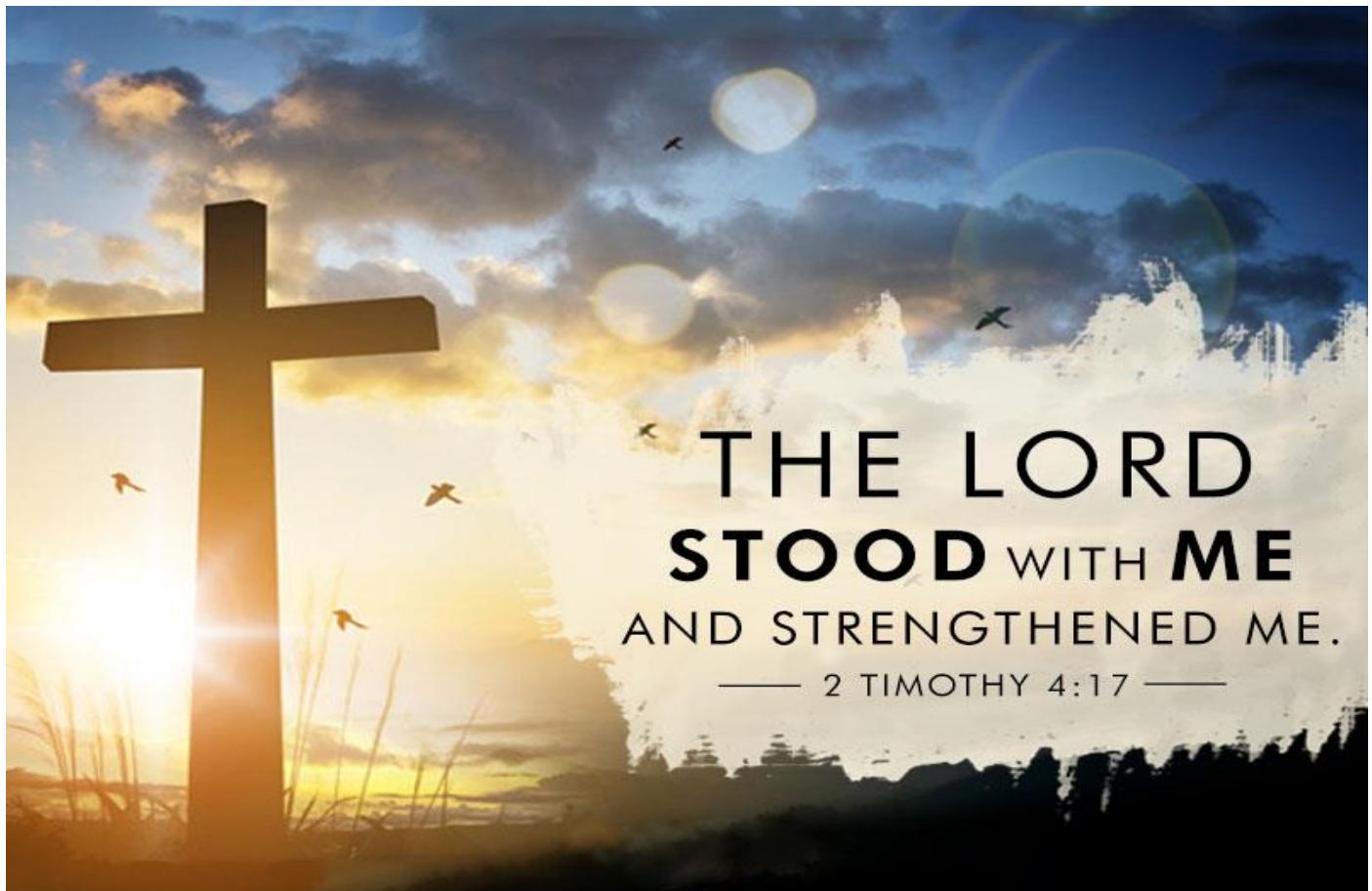


June 2020



EUREKA BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER



Leadership Team
Meeting

Sunday,
June 7

Happy
Father's Day

Sunday,
June 21



Welcome Back!

We are so excited to
join together again
at Eureka Baptist
Church!!



A Note from Pastor Seth

On May 17th for the first time since March 15th we were legally able to gather again. This Covid-19 crisis put us on the sidelines for that long. On that Sunday when I said the words, "Welcome to the gathering of Eureka Baptist Church", it never felt so good. We often take what we have for granted. There is an old saying that says, "you don't know what you have till it is gone." This is true. If we are honest, to a certain extent, all of us take the Sunday worship gathering for granted. May we never do that again. What a privilege it is to be able to meet on the Lord's Day (Acts 20:7) where we can, "stir one another up to love and good works" and "encourage one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near" (Hebrews 9:24-25). During this pastor's page I want to take the time to reflect on our two months apart. The Lord does not waste a crisis. He always uses it for the good of his people (Romans 8:28). It is hard to see it when you go through it but hindsight brings clarity.

When we heard that we could not have gatherings of any kind what we knew is that this was going to be a very unique time in the history of our church. Eureka Baptist has been around since 1881 and I am not sure this church has ever had an extended time where the congregation was unable to meet. In 2020 we experienced something that is unprecedented. What we must be thankful for is that we live in a time when we are able to stay connected through multiple forms of media. We have phone, texting, email, and the ability to live stream the sermons. For two months you were able in some sense to feel like you still went to church, as you watched through the web, and for the first time in your life you were able to eat breakfast while watching a sermon. The Lord kept the proclamation of the Word going even though we could not meet in person (2 Timothy 4:2). I trust that God has used this sermon series on the end times to speak to you. As I have written before, when I preached on March 8th I planned on continuing with Matthew the next Sunday. Then that week the virus started to take off and many big events were being cancelled. This is when I made the decision to divert from our original plan.

On March 22nd we started the sermon series on the end times. When we conclude this series it will have been three months. My hope and prayer is that this sermon series has given you anticipation for Christ's return and a homesickness to be with him forever. We truly live on the edge of eternity. At any moment we can step off the ledge and enter the realm where our forever fate will be sealed. At that point our earthly story will be over. May our life story be a good one, and if we live with constant expectancy of Christ's return and walk closely with him it will be. Then Christ will say to us, "Well done, good and faithful servant" (Matthew 25:21). So I hope this sermon series during this crisis has given you an urgency to walk with the Lord all the more closely. This life is fleeting and often painful (Psalm 90:10). My prayer is that we would live for the age to come by faith for that which is unseen (2 Corinthians 4:18). Those who live for the eternal will forever, "shine like the brightness of the sky above" (Daniel 12:3). It is my desire that we would live with this urgency together during our sojourn through this life (1 Peter 2:11) and I hope this sermon series has stoked that fire in your heart.

The Lord has also used this Covid-19 crisis for you to spend more time with family. The family unit is so important. It is God's desire that parents teach their children to follow him. The Lord told the Israelites to do this with their families. He said, "these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise" (Deuteronomy 6:6-7). There should be a pattern in each home where the Lord and his ways are talked about among parents and children. At the center of this should be the gospel that Jesus died and rose again for their sins. Parents should always pray that their children receive Christ as their Lord, Savior, and Treasure and that they follow him all the days of their life. Furthermore wives and husbands should minister to one another. The husband should care for his wife while the wife should respect her husband (Ephesians 5:22-33). They should grow together striving to bear the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). This is what God designed the family to

Eureka Baptist Church

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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

be. As you spent more time together during this covid-19 isolation my hope and prayer is that what the Lord did in your family during this time would go with you over the long haul.

Lastly, it is incredible how God used the Covid-19 period to advance the gospel. We had people follow us on Facebook Live who never would have seen our sermons otherwise. From the first week our Facebook page exploded with visitors. We had likes on our live stream and church page from people within our community and outside. People liked our page in places like Milwaukee, Chicago, and Cairo, Egypt. Yes, you heard that right, Cairo, Egypt! For the first time in history Cairo and the backwoods of Eureka Center were connected. The gospel has advanced in our church in far places and the Lord did this through this prolonged isolation. It reminds me of what the apostle Paul said while he was in prison, "the Word of God is not bound" (2 Timothy 2:9). We have seen this play out the past couple of months. Furthermore, some of you know that I do an encouraging word on secular radio one week a month. During the Covid-19 pandemic the radio station allowed 30-minute sermons to air on Sunday's. Several of my sermons from this series aired on 104.9. The company that owns this station and several other stations aired sermons from multiple pastors. Think about how remarkable this is. The Word of God has been proclaimed all through northern Wisconsin and Eastern Minnesota. One Christian worker at the radio station told me that they received several emails about how the sermons touched their lives and some even came to faith in Christ. Indeed, the Lord has used this Covid-19 crisis for good (Romans 8:28). We have seen this. As we reflect may we give praise to our wonderful God. In the midst of great hardship, he indeed has brought great good.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Seth

AND WE *know* THAT IN *all* THINGS
GOD WORKS FOR THE *good* OF
THOSE WHO *love* HIM, WHO HAVE BEEN *called*
ACCORDING TO *his purpose*.
ROMANS 8:28

MissioMissionsreach

Stout Family

We have some HARD NEWS to share. After about 14 years of serving with SEND in Macedonia, we believe God is leading us on and are taking a step of faith and planning to leave Macedonia. This is probably the hardest decision we have ever made. It hurts so much. Yet we sense God's peace and see His hand in this transition. We believe that God has other good works for us to do in this world for His glory (Ephesians 2:10).

As many of you know, Brian and some of our kids have asthma, and with the high pollution levels here, it has been hard to cope. We have talked to different doctors that have advised Brian that we should move, as it is not sustainable to keep living in Skopje, as his lungs are being damaged by the toxic air, especially in the winter months.

We want to keep serving with SEND International and keep doing missions overseas if this is the Lord's will. There is an open door in Croatia, Europe, where SEND also serves, and we have been invited to consider this option.

Croatia is a country along the sea, with cleaner air, and has a young SEND team. Our family is hoping and tentatively planning to do a Vision Trip to Croatia in May/June whenever the borders open up and see if God is leading us to serve with SEND there. Please pray for God's confirmation if this is His will, as we breathe the air, check out SEND's ministry, and want His Shalom Peace.

In the meantime, we want to finish strong in Macedonia, with the hope of moving in August/September, as God opens doors to Croatia or somewhere else in the world that HE has for us.

Thanks for your prayers for us in Macedonia and even now in this transition time. We are still planning on staying with SEND and your giving to SEND will allow us to stay serving wherever the LORD leads us, so there is no change in how you give at this point. Thank-you for your continued support and prayers for us as we trust the Lord for what is next in our lives as we follow HIM.

If you have any questions or thoughts, please let us know. We especially need your PRAYERS during this time, as we grieve letting go of Macedonia, yet trust God for what He has next for us!

Thanks for your prayers and support!



Would you please take 5 minutes now to pray for...

1. The Macedonia borders would open up so that we can take a vision trip to Croatia. It sounds like the borders in Croatia are opening up.
2. Crystal clear direction about the possibility of living in Zagreb the capital city of Croatia vs. living along the sea by Zadar, Split or Rijeka.
3. Joy who is in Zagreb and can return to Macedonia sometime after May 24, for God's timing and for Joy's future.
4. We can finish strong in Macedonia, having healthy "goodbyes" to our dear Macedonian friends and our SEND team here.
5. Pray for H. our Tvo leader who has COVID 19 and is in the hospital
6. Brian as he prepares a Gospel message to share online on May 24th for Word of Hope Church and for many others in Macedonia
7. The possible purchase of a house/building that we found for the Word of Hope Church
8. Our kids to finish up homeschool here in May and for God to prepare our kid's hearts for this move and for new friends
9. Debby as she starts sorting things out in our house to keep or give away
10. Pray that we would ENJOYJESUS every day through this transition and do the good works that God has for us for today



WORKDAY



Monthly Events



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



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



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

Elders

Mark Brooks

Trustees

Randy Clark
Shaun Anderson

Deaconess

Barbara Trombley
Amber Lindo
Hansi Stridde
Abby Swanson

Secretary

Amber Lindo

Treasurers

Hansi Stridde
Abby Swanson



Congratulations to Church Elder Mark Brooks. He is recording a country gospel CD!



Looking Up

Looking up at the night sky, I realize the stars have this social distancing thing down pat.

They are trillions of miles apart.

Space is, after all, mostly just that.

Space.

I hunt through the visible stars, seeking my favorite star.
It is not the largest.
It isn't the brightest or the most dazzling.
But it is constant.
It remains fixed in the night sky.
It is the North Star.

With all of the confusion and trouble in the world, it is good to stand and look up and realize that our God is like the North Star.

He never changes.
He is our fixed point.

Submitted by Barbara Trombley

Church Announcements

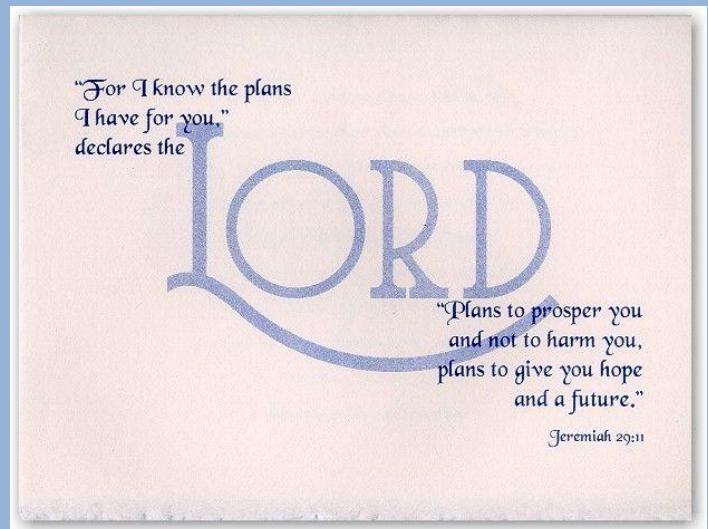
- Leadership Meeting on June 7th
- Lawn Care & Church Cleaning sign ups are on the back bulletin board
- Sunday Sermons will continue to be shown on facebook live until further notice

-HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Graham Anderson 6/2, Bob Swanson 6/12, Jeremiah Johnson 6/13, Rachel Hall 6/14, Kyle Swanson 6/22, Jonathan Johnson 6/24 Happy Anniversary to Pastor Seth and Brianna Brickley 6/28

Graduation Party for Jordan Braund

June 14th
1:00pm – 6:00pm

Big Rock Creek
1674 WI-87 St. Croix Falls, WI 54024



Cornelia Arnolda Johanna "Corrie" ten Boom (15 April 1892 – 15 April 1983) was a Dutch Christian watchmaker and later a writer who worked with her father, Casper ten Boom, her sister Betsie ten Boom and other family members to help many Jews escape the Nazis from the Holocaust during World War II by hiding them in her home. She believed her actions were following the will of God. They were caught, and she was arrested and sent to the Ravensbrück concentration camp. Her most famous book, *The Hiding Place*, is a biography that recounts the story of her family's efforts and how she found hope in God while she was imprisoned at the concentration camp.



Due to a clerical error during WW2, Corrie Ten Boom was released from Ravensbrück one week before all the women her age were killed. She began traveling and telling the story of her family and what she and Betsie had learned in the concentration camp. Eventually, after the war was over, she was able to obtain a home for former inmates to come and heal from their experiences. And she continued to travel tirelessly over the world and tell to anyone who would listen the story of what she had learned.

"It was in a church in Munich that I saw him, a balding heavy-set man in a gray overcoat, a brown felt hat clutched between his hands. People were filing out of the basement room where I had just spoken. It was 1947 and I had come from Holland to defeated Germany with the message that God forgives. ...

And that's when I saw him, working his way forward against the others. One moment I saw the overcoat and the brown hat; the next, a blue uniform and a visored cap with its skull and crossbones. It came back with a rush: the huge room with its harsh overhead lights, the pathetic pile of dresses and shoes in the center of the floor, the shame of walking naked past this man. I could see my sister's frail form ahead of me, ribs sharp beneath the parchment skin. Betsie, how thin you were!

Betsie and I had been arrested for concealing Jews in our home during the Nazi occupation of Holland; this man had been a guard at Ravensbrück concentration camp where we were sent.

"You mentioned Ravensbrück in your talk," he was saying. "I was a guard in there." No, he did not remember me.

"I had to do it — I knew that. The message that God forgives has a prior condition: that we forgive those who have injured us." "But since that time," he went on, "I have become a Christian. I know that God has forgiven me for the cruel things I did there, but I would like to hear it from your lips as well. Fraulein, ..." his hand came out, ... "will you forgive me?"

And I stood there — I whose sins had every day to be forgiven — and could not. Betsie had died in that place — could he erase her slow terrible death simply for the asking?

It could not have been many seconds that he stood there, hand held out, but to me it seemed hours as I wrestled with the most difficult thing I had ever had to do.

For I had to do it — I knew that. The message that God forgives has a prior condition: that we forgive those who have injured us. "If you do not forgive men their trespasses," Jesus says, "neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses." ...

And still I stood there with the coldness clutching my heart. But forgiveness is not an emotion — I knew that too. Forgiveness is an act of the will, and the will can function regardless of the temperature of the heart. "Jesus, help me!" I prayed silently. "I can lift my hand, I can do that much. You supply the feeling." And so woodenly, mechanically, I thrust my hand into the one stretched out to me. And as I did, an incredible thing took place. The current started in my shoulder, raced down my arm, sprang into our joined hands. And then this healing warmth seemed to flood my whole being, bringing tears to my eyes.

"I forgive you, brother!" I cried. "With all my heart!"

For a long moment we grasped each other's hands, the former guard and the former prisoner. I had never known God's love so intensely as I did then."



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