

May 2020



EUREKA BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

REMEMBER GOD IS
IN CONTROL.
Rest knowing you don't
have to be.

julielefebure.com



Sunday Sermon

Continue to join us on
facebook live on
Sunday mornings at
10:00am

Mother's Day

Sunday,
May 10



Wednesday Devotionals

Emailed by Pastor
Seth on
Wednesdays



A Note from Pastor Seth

Difficult times often show peoples true colors. What Scripture teaches is that trials produce growth in believers (James 1:2-4). The growth that comes through these trials prepares believers to face more trials. Those future trials produce growth too, but they also reveal the growth that has already been produced in a person. This Covid-19 epidemic has been very revealing. Truly, many people's character has been shown through this and much character has been lacking. Most of our world is tiptoeing between fear and panic while foolish thinking abounds. It is my belief that the media has done more harm than good during this time while our leaders in government have done no better. Why are people so afraid? Why are errant decisions being made by our leaders in government that makes people scratch their head? The answer is very clear. Most people are putting their trust in the wrong places with the belief that man is going to dig us out of this crisis.

We have seen this problem in our own state. Our governor in Wisconsin extended our lockdown till May 26th. Now what I want to say right from the outset is that we should pray for our governor and all leaders. They need our prayers during this time that they would lead well and exercise wisdom. In fact, Scripture commands us to pray for our leaders, and not just believing ones (1 Timothy 2:1-2). If we only criticize our governor without praying for him we are sinning. However, I am going to point out something that is very telling from what our governor said that influenced him to extend the lockdown and thereby not allow us to gather. What he said is, "we are going to rely on the science and public health experts to guide us through this challenge." Now I agree to an extent with our governor. We should listen to what the medical professionals are saying. But what this crisis has shown is how wrong medical professionals can be, and much of the planning is based off of their projections, which have been consistently faulty. Let me emphasize that everyone is very grateful

that the previous models were wrong, as there have been far fewer deaths than expected. However, one should ask the question how much should we trust the advice of those who have been wrong more than they have been right during this time? This Covid-19 crisis in some ways has been a lesson of learning who to put your trust in and who not to put your trust in.

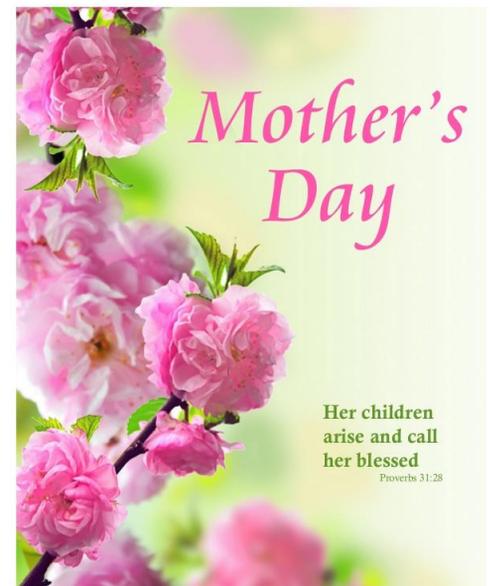
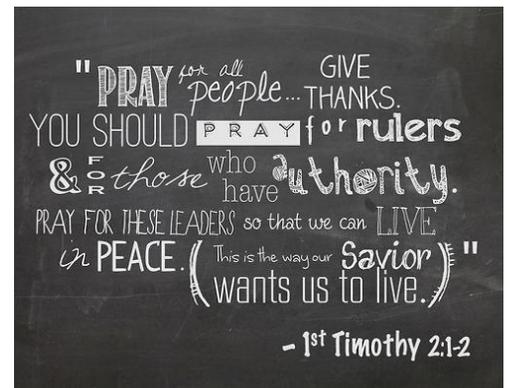
We have been let down and our society has suffered as a result, and we have experienced this through preventing us from gathering together (even though I am grateful for what God has done in our church from afar). As your pastor I would love to gather together very soon. If it were up to me we would start worshiping together again by the beginning of May since we know the virus is not as serious as once thought. Let me be clear. I think it is still wise to encourage those most at risk to stay home, but I think it is unwise to say we should all stay home. Now I am not going to defy what the leadership of our state has said. We are told in Scripture to submit to our leaders (even if they are wrong), and to be faithful to the Lord, this we must do (Romans 13:1-7). But I thought it was telling that our governor (and multitudes more in leadership) has his trust in the wrong places and what happens is that humans in leadership will let you down. Science does help some, as we can learn about the virus and hopefully a vaccine will be ready to go down the road, but we should not say that the medical leadership and our politicians who are listening to their advice (Democrat and Republican) have navigated this period well, and in many cases the leadership has bordered on complete incompetence.

What they have shown us is something we should already know, you cannot put your trust in man, and how much more when the leadership is largely secular. They do not have the leadership of Solomon who received his great wisdom from the Lord (1 Kings 3:1-5). The only leaders we can trust; the only people we can trust are those who are led by the Lord. Only the Lord is fully trustworthy, as he fully understands everything and he always knows the right way to go,

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

and therefore all of our confidence should be in him and not in man. The Bible commands us to, "Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock" (Isaiah 26:4). As we trust in the Lord and not on faulty human understanding he will make our paths straight. (Proverbs 3:5-6). At the end of the day only the Lord knows what is going on and what is the right path, and if we do not seek wisdom from him, how can one expect to make consistently wise decisions? Leadership in our state, country, and the world has done some things right, but they have mostly missed the mark, and may we be reminded of this important lesson: only the Lord is ultimately trustworthy and may we wisely follow him all the days of our lives.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Seth



Mission Missions: reach

Penney Family: Senegal

COVID-19 in Senegal

In Senegal, President Macky Sall declared a nationwide state of emergency on March 23rd. The borders—land, air, and sea—are all closed, and even domestic flights have been suspended except for necessity and freight. In addition, an 8pm-to-6am curfew was declared. A few of our team who needed to leave the country for health reasons made it out on the last available flight to the US. Even ground travel between regions of the country must be pre-authorized. All this is being enforced by the national police. For those vehicles considered “essential”, drivers must wear masks and gloves, and the vehicles may transport only half the normal legal passenger limit. Movement within the towns and cities is allowed for basic needs. As in the US, all religious gatherings have been prohibited, a significant step for such a devout Muslim population, especially during a month that would normally include an annual religious pilgrimage.

As with the Ebola epidemic five years ago, Senegal’s quick and decisive response to this health crisis has been highly effective, already saving many lives. As of today’s Health Ministry report, Senegal has had only 195 cases, 55 of which have already recovered, 138 are being treated, and one was medevac’d to his home country for treatment. Only one has died so far. It’s also worth mentioning that a high percentage of these cases were “imported”, meaning they traveled in from other countries. But these were identified quickly, and all their contacts quarantined. As a result, Senegal has had a low percentage of in-country transference cases, and this has allowed them to keep the virus from spreading as quickly as it would have, and as quickly as it has in many other countries. They have done a fantastic job of “flattening the curve” so that their limited medical resources have not been overwhelmed.

In addition, one of the country’s premier medical laboratories—Institut Pasteur—has begun validation trials on a COVID-19 diagnostic test kit that can be administered at home and produce results in as little as 10 minutes, all for the cost of about \$1 per test! If that resource can be quickly mass-produced, Senegal is likely to dodge the worst of COVID-19.

The Senegalese evangelical church is also doing a good job of responding to this crisis. They called for a national day of prayer and organized prayer coverage for every hour of that day around the country. May this be an instance of Senegalese believers grabbing the opportunity to be salt and light in a dark time.

Our colleagues in Senegal report that they “feel safe and cared for” by both the Senegalese authorities and WorldVenture. Much of ministry is continuing despite all the restrictions.



COVID-19 in Wheaton

As are most of you all these days, we’re basically hunkered down in our home in Wheaton. Joel, Luke and Caleb all moved in with us mid-March after their spring break, which is when Wheaton College announced its closure for the rest of the academic year. This was a hard pill to swallow for our two seniors, who had been looking forward to their final quarter with their friends. Joel had even scheduled his course load to be light this quarter so as to take advantage of final weeks with friends. Now that is gone, and even commencement has been canceled, so no graduation celebration with friends. But as hard as that has been, we recognize how blessed we are, not only to have this extra time together as a family, but to be healthy and fully provided for by God and his people through this very challenging time.

Fortunately, Dan was able to complete visits to all 19 of our churches except one before the restrictions went into effect making such trips impossible.

Dan and Luke were even able to squeeze the purchase of Luke’s car before that became too difficult (as you’ll remember, Joel bought his car over Christmas break). So both grads have cars for that moment when they will need to begin commuting to work, or even if the work-from-home culture continues, they have transportation for living on their own.

And speaking of striking out on their own, both are engaged in the job hunt despite the impact on the coronavirus on the economy. And somewhat to our surprise, it’s still looking hopeful that they will be able to find good jobs by sometime this summer. We continue to pray to that end.





Above left: Shaila Johnson, Patsy Anderson, Jeremiah Johnson, John Chouinard enjoying the Sunday Sermon on facebook live. Not pictured, Shaun Anderson. Above Middle: Shaun Anderson, John Chouinard and Jeremiah Johnson work on a community garden. Above right: Abby Swanson and Hansi Stridde meet with the rest of the Leadership Team online.



Above: Mason and Jaxon Stridde enjoying the warm weather. Above Right: Stridde boys decorating their driveway with chalk. Right: Easter window art at the Stridde home.



Above: Stridde boys working on their schoolwork. Below: The Trick Family enjoying the Sunday Sermon. Pastor Seth is live on Sundays on the church facebook page.



Left: Johnny and Julianna Johnson dug a large hole. Below: And just when Shaila thought she was nailing this "mom thing," they later were playing Minecraft. Bottom Right: Shaila has been busy getting her family's cemetery flowers made up.





Above: Caroline and Annabelle Hall have colored a lot of beautiful art!



Above: Alethia and Isaiah Brickley. "Jesus is more important than princesses!" "Jesus is more important than food, too!"



Far Left: Sophie Lindo has spent a lot of time on the farm helping with calves.

Left: Lillie and Jacob Lindo enjoy playing outside.

Bottom Left: Jeff Lindo has no complaints about the kids being home from school. It means lots of extra help. Drew finishes cleaning the calf pens.

Below: Drew Lindo learning the important task of trapping gophers.



If you would like to update us on what you're doing with your time at home, we'd love to hear from you! Please send updates to Amber – j.a.lindo@hotmail.com

2020 Board Members

Deacons

Shaun Anderson
Gordon Trombley

Elder

Mark Brooks

Trustees

Randy Clark
Shaun Anderson

Deaconess

Barbara Trombley
Amber Lindo
Hansi Stridde
Abby Swanson

Secretary

Amber Lindo

Treasurers

Hansi Stridde
Abby Swanson

Church Announcements

-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

Please continue to watch emails and mailings with updates about Church events. As you know, plans change daily.

Wednesday devotionals are being emailed by Pastor Seth and mailed to those without email access. If you are not receiving the devotionals, please contact Amber.

Continue to join us online through our church facebook page until we get notice that we can worship together at the church building.

The Leadership Team has meetings online on a regular basis to continue to the business and operations of the church.

Our Daily Bread booklets are outside the church doors. Please stop and pick one up!

Happy Anniversary:
Jeremiah & Shaila Johnson 5/20



We hope this message finds each of you well. These are strange times and indeed and we are all trying to navigate through this together. The Lord is making each of us stronger individually, and we as a church as we persevere through this trying time. We understand that some of you may have been impacted financially by the events surrounding Covid-19. We are sorry for that and we pray for the Lord to provide your needs. With that in mind, we encourage each of you to continue to give as you are able your tithes and offerings to the ministry of Eureka Baptist Church. It goes without saying that we cannot do what we do here without your generosity. That goes for normal times and times of crisis like we are in. Please mail your giving to our church address below:

2393 210th Avenue
St. Croix Falls, WI
54024

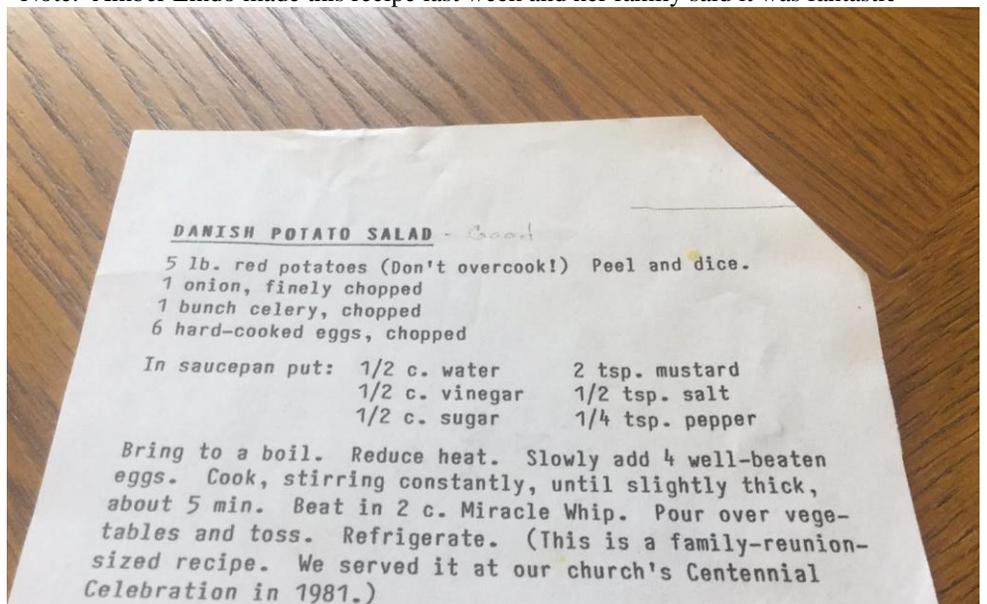
May the Lord take care of you and bless you physically and spiritually during this time.



Above: Pastor Seth Brickley preaches Sunday sermons live from church on Sundays at 10:00am. Audio recording can be found that afternoon on our webpage – www.eurekabapchurch.com

Below: Recipe shared by Barbara Trombley. This is a church recipe. It has been used for anniversary celebrations at Eureka Baptist Church since 1981.

Note: Amber Lindo made this recipe last week and her family said it was fantastic



THIS OLD CHURCH

By Barbara Trombley

When we look at old photos, we get a glimpse of a different time, a different world. In the picture below, the congregation of Eureka Baptist Church (then called the Danish Baptist Church) is posing in front of their first church building, the former Trap Rock School. It was located on County G, right where the road takes the sharp trap rock turn. It had been purchased for thirty dollars and twenty-five cents in 1890, and served as the church building until 1893.

The church was not the building; it was these folks, hearty souls that they are. Many were Danish immigrants, or children of. The church had organized in 1881 and met in a large vacant house before this log building was purchased.

Perhaps this picture was taken to commemorate the purchase. Maybe it was a bleak Easter Sunday. We can make assumptions and draw conclusions, but there is much we'll never know.

Linger a moment longer. Who catches your eye in the photograph?

Is it the little gal in the white, white pinafore? The tall man in the back row staring away from the camera? (Besides his height, his light jacket helps him to stand out.) Maybe the joker up on the roof?

They all have a story.

I can tell you a bit about a couple of people: On the right-hand side, the dapper gentleman with a little one in his arms is Alvin Matson's father.

And on the left-hand side, the tall man holding the hand of a tiny girl in a plaid dress is Nels Christ Nelson. Almost 75 years after this photo was taken, Nels Christ attended the wedding of Sandy and Randy Clark in 1964. Randy remembers him as being a very kind man. In his later years, Nels had a one-room house northeast of the church, just beyond the edge of the church property.

At the time, these folk probably didn't think they were anyone special, but they left behind a legacy of faith and faithfulness.

So can we.



CONGREGATION BY ONE OF FIRST MEETING PLACES



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