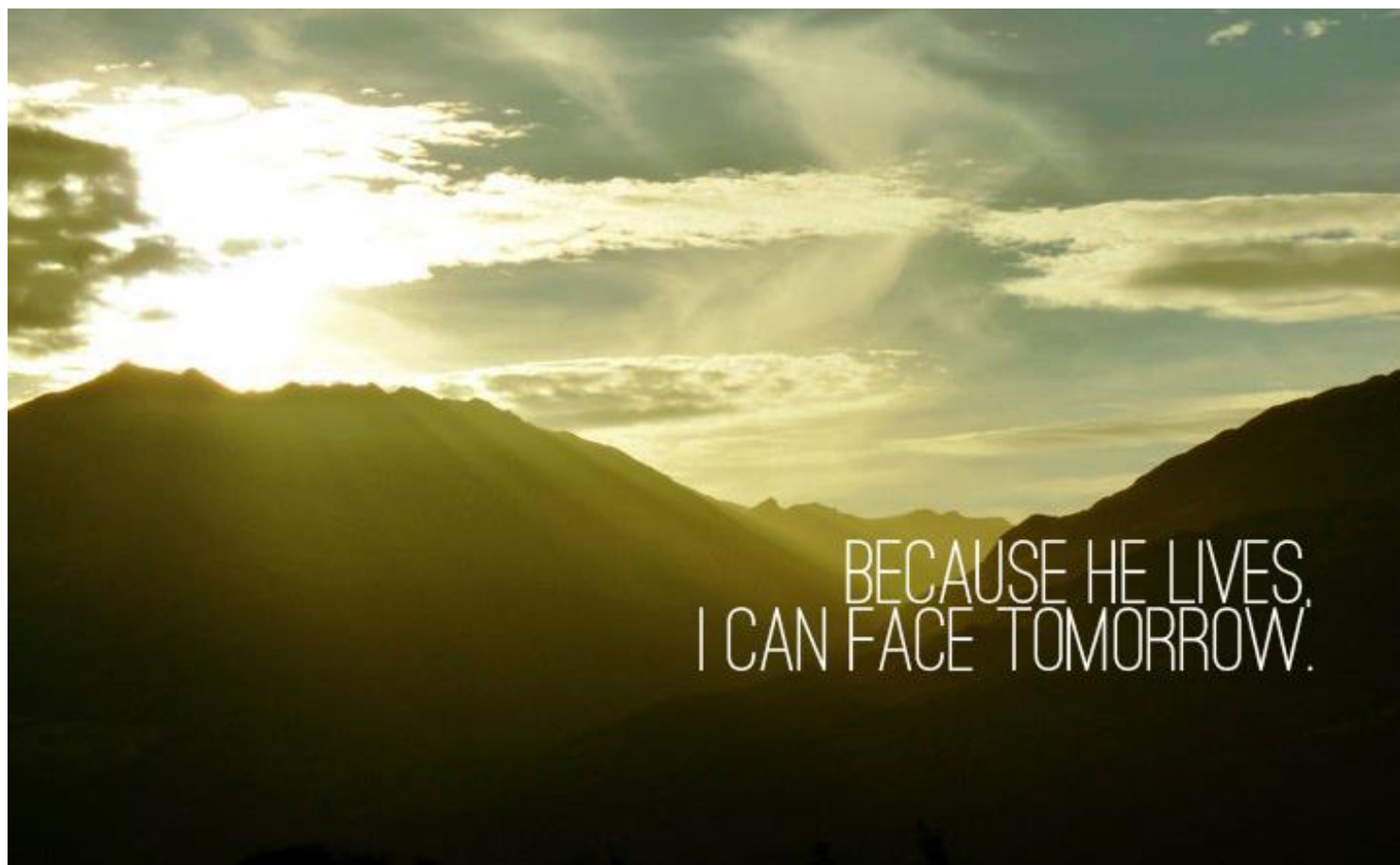


May 2021



EUREKA BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER



BECAUSE HE LIVES,
I CAN FACE TOMORROW.



**Youth Group
Event**

Saturday
May 1
9:00am

Mother's Day

Sunday
May 9



Memorial Day

Monday
May 31



A Note from Pastor Seth

We live in a world where people are fascinated with greatness. People ask who is the greatest musician? Who is the greatest artist? Who is the greatest athlete? Who is the greatest inventor? Who is the greatest president? People are fascinated by greatness and we even have rankings as to who is the greatest. Historians rank presidents from the worst to the best. Usually when people talk about greatness what they have in mind is the level that one rose to in this world as one maximized his or her ability. In one sense greatness can be defined this way. I remember hearing a story about the environment when Boston Red Sox great Pedro Martinez pitched. When he pitched everyone was riveted; the hallways of the concourse were empty. No one was standing in line at the concession stand and no one was using the restroom. Everyone had to see this man pitch. In a similar fashion in the early 1970s there was a young runner from Oregon by the name of Steve Prefontaine. He died tragically at the age of twenty-four in a car crash but what he accomplished as a young runner was remarkable. He once held every American record from 2,000 to 10,000 meters. When people saw him run they said, "we have never seen anything like it." People know greatness when they see it. Greatness can be defined this way. When one sees another excel at something far beyond what is normal it is correct to call this greatness, but when the Bible talks about human greatness this is not the focus.

During Jesus' ministry the disciples were having a conversation about who was the greatest among them, and noticing that their understanding of

greatness was skewed Jesus took the opportunity to tell them about true greatness. As Mark 9:35-37 Jesus said, "If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all. And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them, 'whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me.'" The disciples understanding of greatness was one selfishly rising to heights beyond others. But Jesus makes it clear that it is not those motivated by selfish ambition that are the greatest. Rather, Jesus used the lowly child to show that in God's eyes it is those who are humble and live to serve others who are truly great. Great ones serve others when no one is looking and even help the downtrodden of the world. Those who humble themselves and live with a servant's heart are the ones who are great. But the ones who the world considers great are not in God's eyes. These are the people who want to be great for selfish reasons, stepping on others in the process to arrive at certain heights. But the great ones in God's eyes love Him with all their heart and this shows through the way one lives. Those who love God with all their heart take the focus off of self to love others. The great ones in God's sight do the hard, non-flashy, often unnoticed tasks that help others and bring glory to God.

As we think about this true understanding of greatness it is a good reminder that the Bible often defines things differently than the world does. It is noble to desire greatness, but only in the way God defines it. To pursue true greatness is a rare sight in a world engulfed in self-love.

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

The greatest example of greatness is Jesus Christ. The apostle Paul tells us to follow Jesus example when he wrote to, "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others...he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross" (Philippians 2:3-4, 8). It was also written in another place about Jesus, "though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich" (2 Corinthians 8:9). Jesus is the ultimate example of greatness. He was the greatest in mind and power, and that is a greatness that we cannot emulate. However, the greatness we can follow is one of reflecting his character. Christ humbled himself, thinking of others and we are to follow his example. In this way we will fulfill what Jesus said, "The greatest among you must be your servant" (Matthew 23:11).

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Seth



BIBLE CAMP – SUMMER 2021

Registration for Bible Camps are due soon. We are encouraging grades 1-12 to attend either Grindstone Lake Bible Camp located in Sandstone, MN, or Arrowhead Bible Camp, located in New Auburn, WI.

Please be on watch for scholarship opportunities from Eureka Baptist Church!

MissionReach

Penney Family

Progress on the Dakar Church

Imagine a five-story church building in a downtown section of the capital city of a Muslim country! That is precisely the 20-year-old dream that has been rising out of the ground in Dakar these days. We've given periodic updates on this before, but our Senegal colleagues, Steve and Laura Newkirk, recently reported that construction has reached the top floor (see pics, below).

Another cool story from this project is that the building's neighbors are commenting that it must be an important building, because of the quality of the work and materials going into its construction. Even the mayor was impressed and has asked for an audience with those behind this work.

Steve and Laura also report the following:

Someone has offered to help furnish and staff the library level.

The evangelical seminary has asked about using the classroom level.

The owner of the building immediately to the right (the yellowish building in the pictures) has provided free water for the construction when the city's pressure fails—which happens frequently. She said, "You have been good neighbors to me, offering me use of your land to build my building before you built." Already a good testimony is being laid.

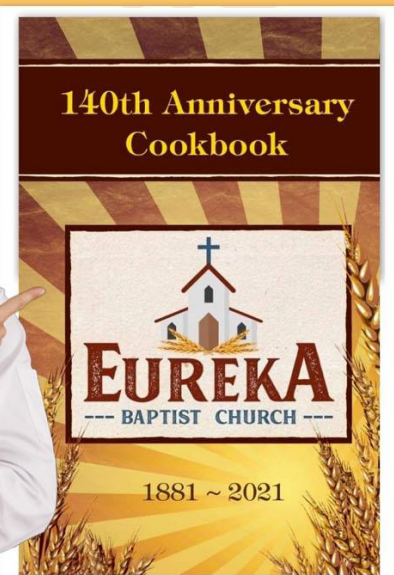
Of the \$500,000 cost for this land and building, only \$75,000 remains to be donated in order to complete it (a bit more will be needed for furnishing).

God is literally building his church in Dakar, Senegal! Pray for the success of this important venture—most importantly, its spiritual success.



Above – Men's Retreat in April. Not pictured, Ray Chupp.

Right – The 140th Anniversary Celebration Cookbooks will be here soon! Once they are delivered, we will be selling them. Please let friends and family know! Lots of wonderful recipes are included!



CRAIG'S COMING HOME STORY

2020 - 63 YEARS



Craig Forsberg



Mike, Steve, Larry, Hartley Sr., Doug, Paul, Scott, Craig

Because we forget

I grew up with five older brothers in the baby boomer era. I was the last born, which made me the baby of the family. I was referred to as the baby and still am called that even though I am 63. I don't mind- it keeps me humble. It was a great time to grow up, for which I am very thankful. I was raised as a Lutheran, where I was taught that to get to heaven being good was very important (because when I die my good works would outweigh my bad works and they the good works will be tipped in my favor and I would get to go to heaven). I believed that until the age of 12. Two of my older brothers had been taught something new and were talking about being saved. Those two brothers made it their mission to get all of us saved. One day, my brother Larry cornered me in our basement near the very warm furnace. As my back felt the heat of the furnace he said to me, "Craig, If you don't receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, you are headed for Hell," which scared me a lot and rightly so. I left the basement and, for about a month, I thought about it until one night I gave my life to Jesus as my Savior and Lord. I didn't have a huge experience like some people did, but I noticed changes in my desires. I was less judgmental and more loving. I began to have a real hunger to read God's word. I realized that what I was taught, at the Lutheran church we attended, was not a true biblical teaching of the Bible. Chapters three through five in Galatians teaches us that salvation is by faith alone, not the adding of any works or traditions or any other authority. It is by faith alone that I am saved, not by works. Ephesians 2:8-9 tells us that when one adds to faith, it nullifies what Christ did on the cross. I started going to Edina Baptist Church in 9th grade. I got really involved in the youth group where I was also encouraged to go into the ministry. The only option for me was The Moody Bible Institute in Chicago where tuition was paid by the alumnus. All I had to pay was room and board. The year was 1977. There were some theological issues that really bothered me and after my junior year I began to slightly doubt God's wisdom and fairness. It was at this point that my doubts and downward slide kept increasing: more and more ideas kept causing me to doubt God. Over time, I went from doubting to a skeptic, to an agnostic to a full blown atheist- a slide I never expected nor wanted. I think God had other plans for me. He wanted something other than me continuing along that path. His patience with me is something I don't ever want to forget.

About ten years ago, I went into a small medical facility for some blood work. The doctor asked, "Do you want us to do a complete blood work up?" I flippantly said, "Sure." After about three months and a bone marrow biopsy, they determined that I had a somewhat rare blood cancer called Multiple Myeloma. I pridefully thought, "I can beat this!" For eight years, I lived with this cancer without symptoms. Finally, at that time, symptoms showed up. Eventually, while I was still being treated for my Myeloma symptoms, I needed to have one of my kidneys removed because it, too, was cancerous. About six months after that, I was told that I had stage four metastatic kidney cancer. It had spread to my lungs and my brain. It was at this point that God got my full attention. I am so grateful He did. God has used these two cancers to finally break me of my pride and self-sufficiency, which He did. I have never been closer to Him in all my life. Having these two cancers is the best thing that has ever happened to me. Now, every night and every morning, I tell Jesus that I love Him, and that as my Lord whatever He wants me to say or do, I will do. Until I'm dead, which may not be so far off, I am going to trust Him and Him alone. I strongly encourage you to give your life to Him as Savior and Lord. The most important question you can ask yourself is, "Where will I spend eternity? Heaven or Hell?" It is well worth a very thorough investigation. The stakes are extremely high. Only considering what the Bible says about it is paramount. My story is really a story of God's grace and patience: He gets all glory.

**HE WAS A LISTENER • ENGAGING • COMMUNICATOR • LOVING • HARDWORKER
INVENTOR • CREATIVE • FORGIVER • COMPLETE JOY BEING AROUND HIM**

Monthly Events



Women's Bible Study
Saturday, May 1
9:00am



Men's Breakfast
Saturday, May 15
8:00am



Marriage Bible Study
Monday, May 10
6:30pm

GOD IS BIGGER THAN YOU THINK

From Revelation 4-5

WHAT SIDE ARE YOU ON?

The virus is part of the curse. So is wars, so is addictions, so is abortions, you don't have to teach a child to misbehave.

It's plain to see it inside us.

The world's No. 1 problem is **MORAL**. 79% of all males from 16 years old watch porn on a regular basis. No wonder we are losing our minds and true love.

Rome's fall was moral.

The vision of heaven, John said, "I looked and behold the door standing open in heaven. Immediately I was in the spirit. And I saw a throne and four living creatures, they do not cease to say "Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord God, the Almighty, who was and who is, and who is to come." They give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, to Him who lives forever and ever. And I saw between the throne, a lamb standing as if slain, and they sang a new song, "Worthy are you to take the book and break it's seals for you were slain and purchased for God with your blood, men from every tribe and nation. And I heard the voice of many angels saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing." And every created thing which is in heaven and on the earth, I heard them saying, "To him who sits on the throne and to the lamb, be blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever". And they fell down and Worshipped.



II Timothy 3: 1-5 (BBE)

(1) But be certain of this, that in the last days, times of trouble will come. (2) For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, uplifted in pride, given to bitter words, going against the authority of their fathers, never giving praise, having no religion, (3) without natural love, bitter haters, saying evil of others, violent and uncontrolled, hating all good, (4) false to their friends, acting without thought, lifted up in mind, loving pleasure more than God; (5) having a form of religion, but turning their backs on the power of it: go not with these types.

Jeremiah 9: 23-24

This is what the Lord says, "Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom, or the strong man boast of his strength, or the rich man boast of his riches, but let him who boasts boast about this, that he understands and knows me (on a personal level).

That I am the Lord who exercises kindness (love), justice, and righteousness on the Earth, for in these I delight, says the Lord! "Written 650 B.C."

Mark 8: 36

What shall it profit a man to gain the whole world, and lose his soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul.

Romans 10: 9-11

That if you confess with your mouth Jesus as your Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you shall be saved; For with the heart man believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. For the scripture says, "whoever believes in him will not be disappointed".

Ephesians 2:8 and 9

For by grace you have been saved, through faith- and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God- Not by works, so that no one can boast.

John 3: 16-21

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world or condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Hebrew 11: 6 (NLT)

(6) And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him in bible study. Meditation will raise you up above the curse.

GOOD SOURCES: CHECK OUT ON YOUTUBE

All on Youtube. Billy Graham classics, Pastor John MacArthur, Pastor Rick Warren, Saddleback Church - Ravi Zacharias (Apologist). Definition of apologist: a person who offers an argument in defense of something controversial. 1984 Movie best picture - [Chariots of Fire] Steve McQueen documentary - from start to finish, "An American Icon" with Mel Gibson, produced by Greg Laurie, Harvest Ministries. Put God First/Denzel Washington 514K Views

FINAL PRAYER

Dear Jesus,

I sense that I need to receive your grace and mercy and need forgiveness. I know my good deeds are not enough so I believe your death on the cross, burial and resurrection, the blood you shed, paid for my sin, to the Holy Heavenly Father and I need your presence and truth to lead me on the right path of trials and blessings. I love this free gift, so I surrender my heart to your heart. And I totally believe and accept you Jesus, My Father God and the Holy Spirit, to turn the lights on for my direction. I believe it all, I know I am saved.

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

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

- **Men's Breakfast** will be the third Saturday in May.
 - **Marriage Bible Study** – Monday, May 10 at 6:30pm
 - **Women's Group** is meeting Friday mornings at 9:30am in the Matson Building.
 - Thank you to **Hansi Stridde** for cleaning the church in April.
 - The **Cleaning Schedule** and **Mowing Schedule** is now posted. Please sign up if you are able to help out.
 - Mark your calendars! **140th Anniversary Celebration** is Sunday, June 13th!
 - We will start selling the **cookbooks** in May. Please watch for more information.
 - **Youth Group** will be making Communion bread on Saturday, May 1 at 9:00am in the church kitchen.
- HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** Jadon Taylor 5/9, Chase Talmadge 5/11, Dan Meyers 5/11, Mick Ward 5/11, Elijah Braund 5/13, Sam Leggitt 5/17, Jason Taylor 5/29
HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: Doug & Lisa Olson 5/10, Jeremiah & Shaila Johnson 5/20
- Church Cleaning Schedule:** May – Trombley Family, June – Brooks Family
Mowing Schedule: May – Jeremy Hall, June – Ray Chupp



In April, the Church Youth Group cleaned the road ditches along 210th Avenue. They managed to fill a lot of garage bags! They enjoyed Dairy Queen treats after the roads were clean. Thank you to everyone that came and helped. The drive to church is a pretty one!





**CHURCH
WORK DAY**



Thank you to everyone who gave us diapers!
What a blessing to have such a stash! We are
so lucky to have such a wonderful church
family who are always willing to help at a
moment's need. We truly are blessed to have
you all in our lives. - Kyle & Abby Swanson

**HAPPY
MOTHER'S
DAY**



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

