

May 2024

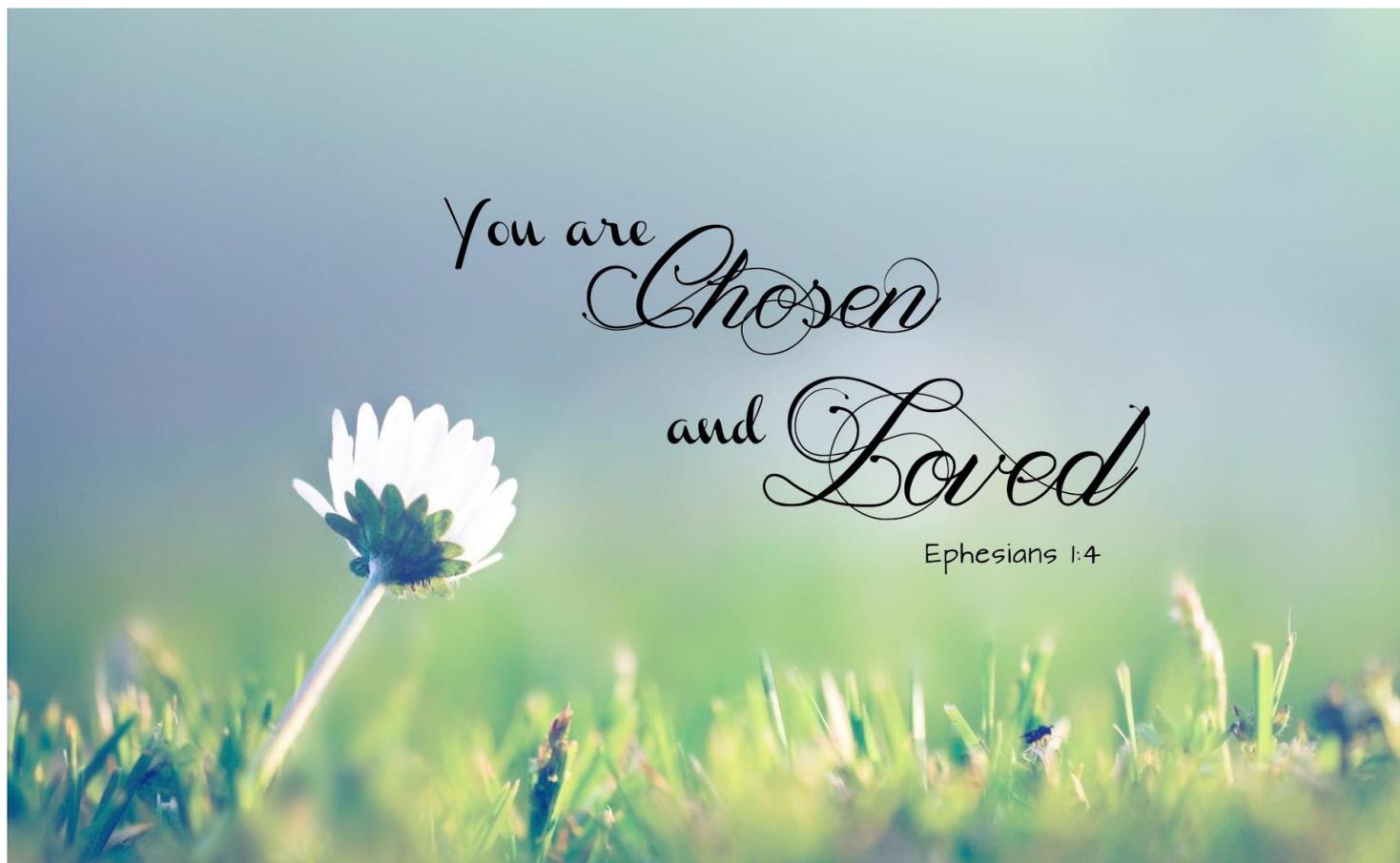


EUREKA BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

You are
Chosen
and
Loved

Ephesians 1:4



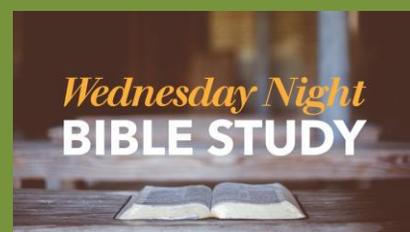
**BE NOT
CONFORMED**
A Eureka Baptist/ Truth Script Conference

Church
Conference

May 4-5

Mother's Day

May 12



Wednesday Night
Bible Study

6:30pm on Wednesdays



A Note from Pastor Seth

Anyone paying attention over the last six years has seen that mainstream evangelicalism in America has drifted to the Left. It may have already been in that place, but this became clear when the Woke movement took over American society like a Tsunami in 2018. The sad reality is that most well-known evangelical institutions went right along with this push from the political and theological Left. Those who understand how the Christian Left operates understand that they use certain verses frequently to advance their leftward agenda. One verse commonly heard is Matthew 7:1, "Do not judge, lest you be judged." Frankly, many on the Left don't know the Bible well, but they know this verse, and they of course interpret it out of context. They try to make the verse say that it is wrong to tell someone to refrain from sinning. To do so is judgmental and unloving, but the Bible clearly says that people are to repent and turn from one's sins (Acts 2:38). But evil people use Matthew 7:1 to push their own agenda.

There is another place in the gospel of Matthew that sinister people use for their own gain as they accuse others and that is Matthew 18:15-20. There have been many examples of this across the evangelical landscape where corrupt leaders of Christian institutions and churches have weaponized Matthew 18 against someone exposing their compromise. The effort here is to take the blame off the guilty and put the blame on the one shining the light on the sinful actions. I remember a number of years ago hearing about a pastor who had a sinful past and this sinful past was brought to light. A woman he was involved with years before spoke out publicly to reveal his adultery. All this disqualified pastor could say was, "She didn't follow Matthew 18."

Matthew 18 has been especially used by the Woke leadership of evangelicalism to accuse those that have exposed their liberal drift. One Christian denomination said this to one of their pastor's who exposed their compromise: "It was our conclusion that had this pastor spoken to these individuals within the denominational leadership before publishing his book, he would have better understood them and would have reached different conclusions, correct conclusions and a better book." What this denominational leadership is saying is that if this pastor had just come and talked to them, then he wouldn't have written about them in such a negative light. Everything would have been resolved. But it must be understood that this evangelical denomination was pushing public materials to the pastors and church members within the movement. This pastor who spoke out against the denominational leadership correctly was concerned with the Woke content pastors and members were receiving so he responded publicly addressing his concerns. This pastor exposing their error desired to raise awareness

to bring the leadership to repentance and to warn pastors and church members not to be influenced by the false teaching that had been pushed through conferences, articles written, and books recommended. The charge that this pastor would have better understood them had he gone to them and would have reached different conclusions is a false one. He saw the unbiblical content they were sending out and of course could understand them, and secondly how would he reach a different conclusion unless they changed their position?

Then this corrupt denominational leadership continued their accusations against this pastor exposing their compromise. They said, "His publication both in writing and video, violate the principle of Matthew 18 and instead employs a misreading of Galatians 2 bringing about published slanderous and accusatory words against the denominational leaders." But this pastor never made baseless charges against the leaders. The evidence was there and hoped it would lead them to repentance. To say that this pastor violated Matthew 18 is once again a false charge that is often used by progressive evangelicals. Matthew 18 addresses a local church context where one individual sins against another and the individual sinned against is supposed to go to that individual. A parallel passage to this is 1 Corinthians 5 where the apostle Paul instructs the church in Corinth to discipline an unrepentant church member as one, a few, and then the church confronts him. Furthermore, in general, if there is a conflict between individuals the conflict should be resolved between two parties before others are brought in. But the situation where a pastor or anyone else exposes public corruption among Christian leadership, Matthew 18 doesn't apply.

When an individual or Christian organization produces public materials, a public response is what is appropriate. In Galatians 2:11-14 Paul confronts Peter because Peter would not be seen with the Gentiles when the Judaizers were present but Paul tells Peter that he was out of step with the gospel, and he tells him in front of everyone present because he desired for everyone to know for their benefit that his error was unacceptable. Furthermore, when Jesus addressed the Jewish leadership in Matthew 23 and throughout the gospels, he didn't practice Matthew 18, he addressed the public errors to the masses calling them not to follow their leadership that leads one away from the Lord. To respond publicly to public errors is not only common sense but it is the biblical pattern. This abuse of Matthew 18 in the modern day is nothing new. Charles Spurgeon faced this very charge during the Downgrade Controversy. The magazine that Spurgeon published, *The Sword and The Trowel*, frequently mentioned the liberal drift of the Baptist Union. The Baptist Union leadership was angry that Spurgeon

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

was bringing these errors to light. Instead of listening to Spurgeon and being brought to repentance they weaponized Matthew 18 against him. They said he should have gone to these individuals in order to resolve his concerns. But Spurgeon understood the biblical pattern, that public errors deserve a public response. Had Spurgeon gone to all these men they would have come up with a new charge, continuing to accuse him of being divisive and a disturber of the peace. But the bottom line is that the Baptist Union in that day and evangelical denominations in our day are comfortable in compromise, and they get threatened when true biblical shepherds expose their compromise.

Corrupt leaders have no problem weaponizing Matthew 18 against those who threaten their position and status by exposing their disqualifying errors. Christians need to understand the true understanding of Matthew 18 and the situations where it truly applies. Christians also need to understand that deceitful people desire to abuse Scripture to advance their own agenda. In the case of Matthew 18, it is to take the blame off the individual or institution caught in compromise to instead point the finger at the one who brought the problems to light. It is a sly tactic, but sadly a tactic all too often used in our day. The example that I described in this article of a faithful pastor's experience as he exposed the error of his denominational leadership is what has happened in abundance over the last several years. Faithful pastors and Christians have experienced the weaponization of Matthew 18 and this should not be. Our prayer must be that the evangelical leadership weaponizing Matthew 18 will no longer participate in this deceit but come to repentance. But if repentance doesn't come, they should be seen for who they really are, a leadership not committed to Christ but committed to one's own agenda (1 Peter 5:2). When Matthew 18 is thrown around may Christians be discerning.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Seth



MissionReach

Stout Family: Croatia

Praise the Lord that we had a successful launch of Benjamin as he flew to Knoxville, Tennessee last Saturday! Then this past Monday, we experienced God's protection on Brian, as he was in a serious car accident in Zadar that totaled our car. Brian went by ambulance to the ER and had CT scans and x-rays. Praise God that he is ok and while in the hospital was able to witness to Nada and Spashan in the hospital. We are grateful for life. Pray for wisdom as we will need to buy another car, hopefully sooner than later.

This past weekend, our church had a great opportunity to share Christ together with CRU ministry in Croatia. We were about 50 people on the streets talking to people about Jesus and singing songs on the peninsula of Zadar! Pray for God to save His people!



Llapushi Family: Albania

From 27th of March until the 8th of April I was in Albania. I really had a blessed and fruitful time. The purpose of the trip was to meet with the pastors of our network to encourage and pray for them. To discuss & plan the outreach projects and activities we want to have during Summer 2024.

We as family will be in Albania all the summer of 2024 serving alongside our Churches in Albania and Kosovo. We are excited and looking forward to it!

After praying and discussing we all agree and decided:

The main focus for our network for summer 2024 is reaching out with the gospel to Muslim children in the neighborhoods where our churches are located. We are going to have 4 different VBS (vacation bible school) in four different churches this summer, two in Kosovo and two in Albania in partnership with teams that are coming from US.

All the pastors and their wives come from Muslim background, all of them heard about and trusted Jesus when they were children in children ministry and all of them are now serving full time in ministry.

Jesus said "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." Mathew 19:14.

Who is going to share with children about Jesus in Muslim homes? No one will! We believe that is our churches responsibility to share the love of Jesus also the Muslim children. That's why we are focusing in reaching the children. Jesus loves the children, and we do too. It is our heart to see the little children to comet to learn about Jesus, experience His love and trust Him.

PRAYER REQUEST!

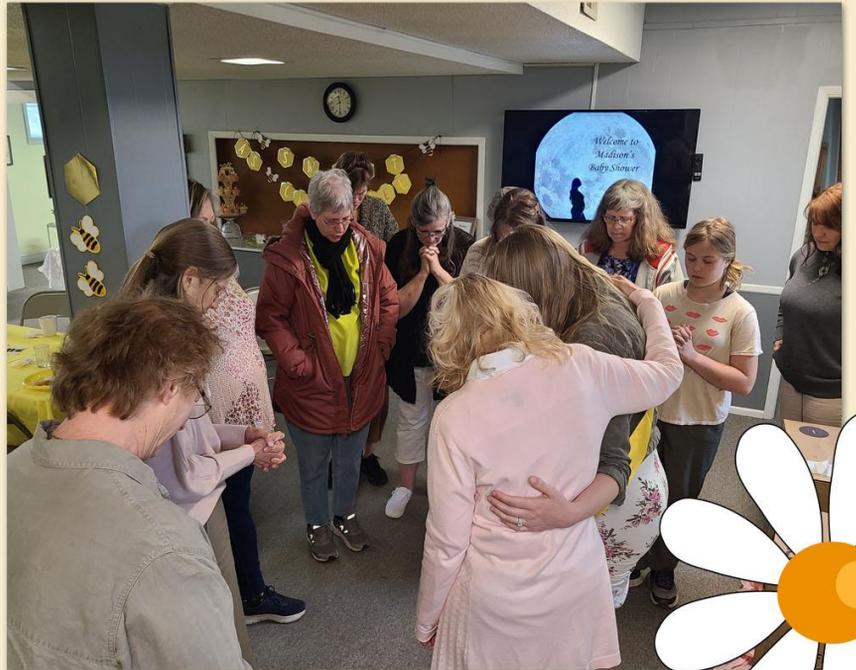
Pray for the teams that are coming from the US to help us with VBS, for Gods protection and provision.

Pray that God will provide the \$4000 for the VBS and the \$1200 for Brother Agim.

Pray for our churches as we prepare for the children outreach.



 **JORGENSEN
BABY SHOWER**



Events



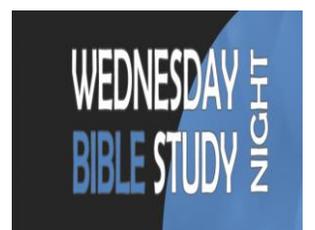
Women's Group
Not Meeting in May



Men's Breakfast
Saturday, May 11
8:00am



Weekly
4:30pm-6:00pm
Every Sunday
*Not meeting 5/5 or 5/13



Bible Study
Wednesdays 6:30pm



Ralph & Ellen Shepard: The Shepard family joined us on April 7th for Sunday School and Morning Service. They are visiting many churches that have partnered with them for the last 40 years.



Options on 8 Pregnancy Resource Center unveiled their new Medical Program on Friday, April 12th. Now, in addition to material, spiritual, educational, and emotional support for pregnant and new moms, the center offers ultrasound imaging and STD/STI testing. Maria Schmidt, new Nurse Manager, is fully trained and eager to meet clients.



After the ribbon cutting on April 12th, Michelle Shaefer, Director; Kirk Anderson, Mayor of St. Croix Falls; and Joe Studincka, Grand Knight from the Somerset Knights of Columbus Council shared words of encouragement.

Much thanks to Eureka Baptist Church for your ongoing prayers and support of this ministry.



The Moms Group

Options on 8 offers a FREE group for new moms and babies, birth to 12 months. Meet other new moms, ask questions, share advice, laugh, cry, and talk about life with a new baby.

Starting in May, they will meet the first and third THURSDAYS of the month @ 10:30am

Options on 8:
2048 Highway 8, St. Croix Falls

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

2024 Board Members

Deacons

Shaun Anderson
Jason Taylor

Elders

Mark Brooks
Keith Johnson

Associate/Youth Pastor

Doug Schmidt

Trustees

Eric McKinley
Shaun Anderson

Deaconess

Barbara Trombly
Lori Brooks
Hansi Fox
Abby Swanson

Secretary

Amber Lindo

Treasurers

Hansi Fox
Abby Swanson

Church Announcements

- The **Conference Committee** has been very busy planning the *Be Not Conformed* conference. Thank you to everyone that has helped!
 - **Wednesday Night Bible Study** will pause during the summer months. The last meet will be May 29 and will start up again at the beginning of September.
 - Thank you to the **Kitchen Team** for preparing food for the Quarterly Business Meeting!
 - There will not be **Sunday evening events** on May 5 or May 13th.
 - **Church Teams** – please remember to keep your team financial sheets updated.
 - 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.
 - **Women's Friday Fellowship** will not meet on May 3rd.
 - The **church yard** is soft this time of year. Please do not park on the Parsonage yard or the Church yard.
 - **Women's Group** will not meet in May.
 - There will be a **Fellowship Fun Night** on Wednesday, June 12. More information to come.
 - We will have our **Church Picnic & Baptisms** after morning service on June 23rd. If interested in being baptized, please talk with Pastor Seth.
 - Planting season for **farmers** will begin soon! Please be praying for their safety.
- HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** Levi Swanson 5/4, Jadon Taylor 5/9, Dan Meyers 5/11, Mick Ward 5/11, Sam Leggitt 5/17, Jason Taylor 5/29 **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY:** Doug & Lisa Olson 5/10
-Send birthday/anniversary information to Amber – jeffamberlindo@gmail.com

Thank You

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE ON THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE



Isaiah 66:13

"As a mother comforts her child,
so I will comfort you."

Proverbs 31:25

"Strength and honor are her clothing;
she is confident about the future."

1 Corinthians 13:13

"Now faith, hope, and love remain,
these three things, and the greatest
of these is love."



Jeremiah 29:11

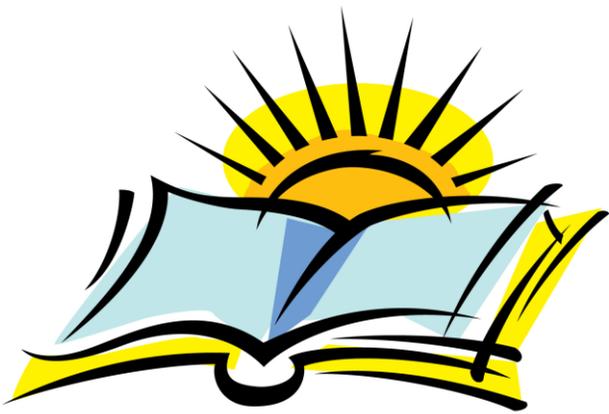
"I know I have the plans I have in mind for you,
declares the Lord; they are plans for peace, not
disaster, to give you a future filled with hope."

Proverbs 31:26

"Her mouth is full of wisdom;
kindly teaching is on her tongue."

Proverbs 22:6

"Train children in the way they should go;
when they grow old,
they won't depart from it."



CHURCH LIBRARY *News*

Please "check out" all our new library books for 2024

Adult Books:

- My Boy Ben by: David Wheaton
- Blood Red Church by: Jeff Kliewer
- Strong Enough: What it takes a church to thrive in a godless culture by: Jeff Kliewer
- Bible Prophecy Under Siege by: Ray Comfort
- Who Am I? Solving the identity puzzle by: Martyn Isles
- Valley of Vision: A collection of Puritan prayers and devotions by: Arthur Bennett
- Five Lies of our Anti-Christian Age by: Rosaria Butterfield

Children's Books:

- Adventures of the Northwoods – series books 1-7 by: Lois Walfrid Johnson
- Chronicles of Narnia – 7 book box set by: CS Lewis
- Imagination Station – book set 16-24 by: Marianne Hering and Paul McCusker
- Sugar Creek Gang – book set 1-6 by Paul Hutchens

All the above adult books are on the bookshelf marked new books. Please remember to sign the check out sheet on the end of the bookcase and then mark it when you return your book. Happy reading!

Julie Johnson
Eureka Baptist Church Librarian

Cookies & Canvas

SATURDAY, JUNE 1
3 PM TO 5 PM
\$10/ADULTS, \$5/CHILD
SPACE IS LIMITED
SIGN UP NOW!

WOMEN'S MINISTRY EVENT

Cookies & Canvas

20 spots available

The signup sheet will be posted in the church foyer.

Money can be given to Barb Trombley to reserve your spot.

Women's Friday Fellowship

**FRIDAY MORNINGS
@ 9:30AM**

The Abigail study will wrap up on May 24th. During the summer we will explore a wide range of topics. Each week will be a self-contained Bible Study. Come when you can and enjoy the fellowship.

BE NOT CONFORMED

A Eureka Baptist/ Truth Script Conference

May 4th-5th, 2024

Eureka Baptist Church - St. Croix Falls, WI



Seth Brickley
Pastor, Eureka Baptist Church



David Wheaton
The Christian Worldview, radio program



Jon Harris
Conversations That Matter podcast



Dr. Russell Fuller
Teacher | Semitician | Theologian



Jeff Kliewer
Pastor, Cornerstone Church



Spring 2024 Men's Retreat

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| <p>Wednesday May 1</p> <p>6:00pm Conference Committee: All Volunteers</p> <p>Final meeting before our conference...Are we ready?</p> | <p>Wednesday May 1</p> <p>6:30pm Prayer Meeting Church Wide</p> <p>Cover the Conference in prayer.</p> |
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Eureka Baptist Church
2393 210th Avenue
St. Croix Falls, WI 54024



