Happy Valentine’s Day!

Wednesday, February 14th

Prayer Meeting
Sunday, November 3
6:30pm

Thanksgiving Day
Thursday, November 28

Wednesday Night Bible Study
Wednesday Evenings at 6:30pm
We are approaching one of the biggest holidays of the year at the end of this month. That of course is Thanksgiving. The first Thanksgiving ever celebrated took place between the Native Americans and the pilgrims at Plymouth Rock in the early 17th century. The Pilgrims marked this day as one of thanksgiving to God as he empowered them to cross the ocean and enter America. This holiday became official in 1863 when President Abraham Lincoln set it aside as a day of thanksgiving to God for our many blessings in America. So you can see historically that this day was set aside as one of gratitude toward God. In the present day if you ask people what are they most thankful for they will likely leave out the elephant (God) in the room. People may say their family, their job, or health, but typically the Giver of these gifts is left out. This thanksgiving I want to encourage us to approach gratitude in the right manner. In this article I am going to give us four areas where we should strive to thank God. This of course is not only for this month but also for every month out of the year.

The first area is praising and thanking God for who he is and what he has done for his people. The Lord is worthy of our praise because of his greatness and goodness. King David wrote, “Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised” (Psalm 145:3). Then he wrote in another place, “I give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness” (Psalm 138:2). The Lord is worthy of our praise because he is the greatest being there is. There is none greater than he. We should also thank him because we experience his goodness on a daily basis. As David wrote above, we should thank him for his goodness that we experience. God is good in his nature and in his deeds toward us (Psalm 34:8). Since God is good he always does good to us. Every circumstance that you face is ultimately for your good (Romans 8:28). In the narrow picture it may not seem that way, but God has the big picture and in his infinite wisdom he knows what he is doing with the details of your life (Psalm 139:16). As David once again wrote, “I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds” (Psalm 9:1). Everyone reading this who belongs to Jesus can tell of his great works in your life. The greatest work he performed is saving you (John 3:16). That is why we need to continually thank him for rescuing us from the dreadful position we were once in. The apostle Paul knew the glorious work that God performed in saving us. In gratitude he wrote, “giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins” (Colossians 1:12-14). We come into this world as enemies with a holy God (Romans 5:10). His grace in Christ is what delivers us from that hopeless state. Paul again explains, “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God” (Ephesians 2:8). The gift of salvation is the greatest gift we will ever receive. We should thank the Lord for rescuing us and bringing us into his eternal happiness (Matthew 25:21).

We should also thank the Lord for his earthly blessings. As we look at God's daily provision for us in the details of our earthly lives we have so much to be thankful for (Ephesians 5:20). In your present life, God cares for you (Matthew 6:25-34). We do not have to fear lack of rain or lack of sun (Matthew 5:45). We should thank him that we can live and eat and go on with our lives. In fact, Scripture tells us, “he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything (Acts 17:25). Jesus in his instruction of the vine and the branches tells us that, “apart from him we can do nothing” (15:5). That particular context is referring to spiritual growth, but like the verse mentions above it is true that physically we can do nothing apart from God. I met a man a few years ago who had Lou Gehrig's disease. This is a crippling disease that slowly takes away muscle strength to the point where people can no longer breath, leading to death. The gentlemen I was talking to was relying completely on God with his condition. What he told me was the Scriptures that teach we can do nothing apart from God was so real to him. He was so thankful when he was able to do the simplest tasks of life.

The fact that we can do anything in our lives is because of God. It is so easy to go through your life and not recognize the one who created you and sustains your life. How tragic it is if we do not thank him.

Furthermore, the clear teaching of Scripture is that everything God created is good (1 Timothy 4:4). So we should enjoy what he has given us. God wants us to enjoy everything that he has given, but our enjoyment must always be accompanied with a prayer of thanksgiving whether verbal or in thought. I try to thank God every day for my family, I am so blessed. I thank God for this church, I am blessed to be your pastor. What an honor and privilege. God is the one who put me in this situation so I give thanks to him. We are to be grateful for our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. Every sincere believer has been adopted into God's family (Romans 8:15-17). There is a closer bond between fellow believers than between believer and unbeliever who are biologically related. This close bond means we should give thanks for the body of Christ. The apostle Paul did this when he said he, "did not cease to give thanks for the churches that he himself goes to and to continually thank him for rescuing us from that hopeless state. Paul again explains, “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God” (Ephesians 1:16). May we follow his example.

My prayer is that this article will remind us to be in continual thanksgiving to the Lord in these four areas. Not just this month but every month. To thank him always for everything is God's will for us (1 Thessalonians 5:17). Our mission as a church is to grow in Christ together. One evidence of growth in holiness is to be thankful. People who live lives dominated by sin are ungrateful people, while those closely following the Lord realize that their life is a gift from him. May we be a church that continually gives thanks to our wonderful God.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Seth
Penney Family: Senegal

Home Assignment Really IS Ministry

Dan was a little nervous. His sermon was not specifically a missions sermon, and so not necessarily what the church might expect of a visiting missionary. How would our supporting church that asked him to come preach receive it? But he was confident that it was what God had given him to say.

To Dan’s relief, the response was not just positive, but overwhelmingly so. Dozens of people were talking about it after the first service, and telling those who hadn’t been there to make sure they heard it in the second.

The most encouraging reaction, though, came from one of the church leaders. After expressing his own encouragement from and appreciation for the message, he related that many of those whom he’d seen talking animatedly with Dan after the services were among the leadership of the church themselves. He felt this was very significant, because after a two-year pastoral search process that still has not yielded the desired results, even the leaders of the church had begun to feel discouragement. He said that Dan’s message had not just encouraged them, it had helped confirm their recently developed mission statement, and even helped them see how the new pastor they are still looking for could help carry that mission forward and vision-cast it for the people in the pews.

What a gracious God we have. From nervousness that a message might not be well-received to confirmation that a simple sermon can help revive a lagging church by being a shot in the arm to its leaders! Another evidence of the power of God’s Word, no matter how simply presented.

Stout Family: Macedonia

Brian is flying to the states in 2 days, for Director's Council at SEND headquarters in Michigan, Nov 4-8. He will be flying in/out of MSP so he will be at Mound E Free Church on Nov 3 and 10, hope to see many of you there! Pray for the meetings at SEND!

Joy will be going to Croatia to study next semester, as after her birthday on Nov 26, she loses her visa and has 90 days to be in country. Her plan is to do Crown College online in Croatia next semester for 3 months.

Salvation of our friends - Goran and Ivana upstairs neighbors, Mishol and Ana new friends, Maria/Tatjana/Mimi - English students

Wisdom with our kid's homeschool, leading our family and SEND Macedonia Team

Macedonian Political Situation as Macedonia recently was rejected membership bids into the EU
Monthly Events

Women’s Bible Study
Saturday, November 2
9:00am

Men’s Breakfast
Saturday, November 9
8:00am

Prayer Meeting
First Sunday of the Month
6:30pm
Weekly Events

Sunday School
Sunday Mornings
9:00am

Morning Service
Sunday Mornings
10:00am

Kids Church
Sunday mornings during
Morning Service

Bible Study
Wednesday Evenings
6:30pm
It’s that time of year!
We will be collecting filled shoeboxes for OCC until Sunday, November 24th. They will be delivered on Monday, November 25th.

If you and your family would like to fill a shoe box or two, please see the suggestions below. There are two labels on the back of this notice for your convenience. Don’t forget to include $9.00 per box for shipping!

More information can be found at samaritanspurse.org.

A “WOW” item
Personal care items
Clothing & Accessories
Crafts & Activities
Toys
School Supplies
Personal Supplies

Do Not Include:
- Candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

Church Announcements

- Change your clocks! Fall back one hour on Sunday, November 3rd at 2:00am
- Team Meetings – the meeting schedule will be posted very soon. Please join a group if you’d like to help out.
- No Wednesday Night Bible Study on November 27th
- Friday Women’s Bible Study in Dresser will meet at 9:30am on 11/8 and 11/22
- Men’s Group will meet at 8:00am on 11/30
- Christmas Service will be on December 22nd

A great time was had by all at the bi-annual banquet for Options for Women TRI-COUNTY. It was held at the beautiful Lake Wapogasset Bible Camp overlooking the lake and the room was filled with supporters. Guests had the opportunity to bid on the silent auction, cake, and live auctions. Karen Mickelson shared about her abortion at age 17 and how God has used this event and others to prepare her for the role she plays today. She highlighted one of her favorite verses from Romans, chapter 5 verse 8: “But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” We depend on the generosity of our donors and you blessed us mightily that night with $15,000 in support. Thank you!

Happy Birthday!!
Rob Mickelson 11/8
Drew Lindo 11/14
Caroline Hall 11/24

Happy Anniversary!!
Randal & Kathy Trick 11/17

2019 Board Members

Deacons
Shaun Anderson
Gordon Trombley

Elders
Mark Brooks
Rob Mickelson

Trustees
Randy Clark
Shaun Anderson

Deaconess
Barbara Trombley
Amber Lindo
Hansi Stridde
Abby Swanson

Secretary
Amber Lindo

Treasurers
Hansi Stridde
Abby Swanson

SAVE THE DATE!
Community Carol Sing
Sunday, December 8th

Thank You LORD
This picture of Jesus kneeling alone in prayer hangs in the lower level of Eureka Baptist Church, and its story is part of the church’s history. As time goes on, the origin stories of certain items and customs often are modified or forgotten. Thankfully, the written word endures. This picture should be preserved as well.

During the River Road Ramble on September 28, 2019, while the warm smell of the egg coffee and the murmur of voices swirled about, Susan Matson shared some seventy-year-old events.

In 1948 twenty-eight year old Harold Salseth accepted the call as pastor of Eureka Baptist Church on the condition that he could attend the Northwestern Bible Institute in Minneapolis a few days each week in preparation for missionary work.

“It was during the time he was our pastor that he painted the picture of Jesus in the Garden,” Susan said.

Pastor Salseth’s painting is a copy of a famous painting by the German artist Heinrich Hofmann. The original oil painting, called "Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane," was completed in 1890, and it is displayed at the historic Riverside Church in New York City. It is based on Matthew 26:36-46, Mark 14:32-42, and Luke 22:39-46.

“Pastor Salseth also calmed the waters,” Susan added with a smile, explaining that the painting on the wall behind the pulpit, painted in the 1930s by V. Andreas, depicted a turbulent river until Harold modified it during his tenure. Before he left with his family for Africa in 1950, Harold painted baptism pictures for Baptist churches in Milltown, Taylors Falls, and Windom, Minnesota. He went on to use his talents in many ways throughout his lifetime.

SALSETH, HAROLD OLIVER August 26, 1920 to Dec. 17, 2008
Rev. Harold Salseth, 88, passed away at home in Spring Valley. He was born in Woodville, WI, to Ekard and Gladys Salseth. He graduated from Northwestern Seminary in Minneapolis in 1943, and completed graduate studies at Taylor University, IN, in 1948. On March 21, 1944, Harold married Joan Nelson of Lake Crystal, MN. They served seven years in church ministry and then over 37 years as missionaries in the Belgian Congo, often in turbulent times. Harold had many talents and executive abilities. He was known for his creative art work and writing. He had a great love for the Lord, his family, and friends.

The picture of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane at one time hung behind the pulpit.
Eureka Baptist Church
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