

#### **EUREKA BAPTIST CHURCH**

### NEWSLETTER











#### A Note from Pastor Seth

not say something about the upcoming election that takes place on November 3rd. I do this delicately because churches should always be careful about becoming too political. We do not want to be known as a hub for a particular party as some churches have over the years. That being said, Christians should vote and they should vote according to which candidates are more in line with biblical principles. The one issue that we highlight unapologetically at Eureka Baptist Church is the pro-life issue. This does not mean that other issues are not important, they are, and one party has a much more biblical platform than the other. But if we are going to talk about one issue let us talk briefly about the one that is head and shoulders above the rest. Every January on "Sanctity of Life Sunday" we discuss the pro-life cause that seeks to end abortion in America. Since 1973 about sixty million babies have been aborted. The Bible tells us that these babies in the womb are humans whose life began at conception (Psalm 139:13-14). To take their life violates the sixth commandment, "Thou shall not murder (Exodus 20:14). This is a grave injustice and we should make our voices heard. There are different ways we can get involved in fighting against this injustice. We can work with pro-life organizations like our local one, Tri-County Options for Women, to help guide women involved in crisis pregnancies to make the right choice with the baby. This organization not only seeks to save the baby but also to help care for the mother. All churches in our area should seek to link arms with this wonderful organization and I am glad that we do.

In this pastor's page I would be amiss if I did

The other way that Christians make their voice heard on the pro-life issue is through voting for pro-life candidates. In any election there are flawed candidates, and with the election on November 3rd we clearly see major flaws. We see character that is ungodly that we should not emulate ourselves. The Lord calls us to bear the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) and honestly what we see right now are two presidential candidates that do not bear the fruit of the Spirit.

However, our goal in voting should not be to vote for a man, but rather to vote for a platform,

and one party is pro-life while the other is not. If you have not done your research on this I encourage you to do so. We want to honor God with our vote. We want to stand for things that he stands for and oppose that which he opposes. Our Christian convictions are central to how we vote and the Bible calls us in, "whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus" (Colossians 3:17).

But what we must keep in mind is that no matter what the election results are the hope of the Christian is not in any politician or what political platform prevails. We could live in the most oppressive, godless country in the world and our hope would still hold firm. As the apostle Paul wrote, "For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38-39). But we should desire to have godly leaders and a godly government so that we can live our lives for God in a peaceful land. We are commanded in Scripture to pray for this very thing (1 Timothy 2:1-3). While this is ideal, in God's providence, it does not always work this way. Sometimes he has his people live in dark times.

Over the last century Chinese Christians have had a much different experience than American Christians. American Christians have been able to pursue a godly life in a peaceful land, while the Chinese have been oppressed. But God's work continues in even in times of persecution. When the apostle Paul was imprisoned for preaching the gospel he saw the gospel advance. He wrote to the church in Philippi, " I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ" (Philippians 1:12-13). He wrote in another place as he was imprisoned that, "the word of God is not bound" (2 Timothy 1:9). Chinese Christians have seen this over the last one hundred years. Now the question American Christians should be asking as we look at the landscape of our country is this, will this now be our experience?

#### **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

Now we should not desire this. Nor should we pray for this, but we should vote for leaders who will govern in such a way where we can worship God freely in a peaceful land. God may be gracious to hear our prayers and honor our efforts as we vote. But if he does not, may we not feel despair. We have a king who rules every governing authority (Romans 13:1). He reigns in heaven at God's right hand and one day he will come to earth and reign forever (Isaiah 9:6-7; Daniel 2:38). Therefore our hope should not be in the election result on November 3rd. We must accept wherever his providence leads knowing that, "for those who love God all things work together for good" (Romans 8:28).

> Grace and Peace, Pastor Seth

For You formed my inward parts;
You covered me in my mother's womb.
I will praise You, for I am
fearfully and wonderfully made;
I farvelous are Your works,
And that my soul knows very well.

Psalm 139:13-14



## MissioMissionsreach

#### **Stout Family: Croatia**

Thank-you for your prayers this past Friday, as we traveled about 15 hours from Skopje, Macedonia, to Zadar, Croatia! God gave us favor through the Serbian and Croatian borders, the negative COVID tests helped us in entering Croatia!

It was hard to say Farewell to our friends and team in Macedonia, but we have great peace and excitement for this new chapter in Zadar! The air is so clean here and Brian is already breathing more free with the sea air - Praise the Lord!

Zadar is in need of the Gospel with only 2 small Evangelical churches of about 50-60 people each, in the city of a population of around 75,000 people. We are the only missionaries of any agency that are in this city. There is a great need!

Thanks for your prayers and ongoing support as we continue to serve with SEND International in church planting, evangelism, prayer ministry, hospitality, and of course Learning the Croatian Language, which starts tomorrow!

Here are a few pictures of our family being welcomed to our new team in Croatia and the yellow house where we live on the top 2 floors, which is about a 5 minute walk to the sea, 1 minute walk to the forest park, and 7 minute walk to Zadar Baptist Church where we will be serving at.

God's blessings from Zadar, Croatia!







#### Shepard Family: Guadalajara

Mexico has been hard hit by COVID, although our state has been one of those better off. Having said that, our state of Jalisco is presently being hit fairly hard. Our governor stated that if the hospital bed occupancy hit 50%, or there were 400 cases of COVID per one million people, he would "hit the panic button", meaning 14 days of total forced shutdown. Fortunately, we are nowhere near either of those two statistics.

Admittedly, this situation has been a bit fatiguing. Only in the last few weeks have we made any forays out and about. And not being able to be with people face to face takes a toll. On several occasions we have had people over in our "mask-free zone"- our backyard where we can safely socially distance, while still being physically together. It is a joy to do that.

Meanwhile, our weekly Zoom gatherings for house church have taken a hit with COVID and summer travels. We are down to perhaps 50% of what we would normally expect when coming together physically. A trip through the book of Ephesians has been a great blessing to us in this last while, and we come away each time feeling encouraged. Last week Armando, 56 years old, was overcome with emotion as he said what stood out for him was the blood of Jesus, which was the price for purchasing our lives. What a blessing to be with God's people in God's Word!

Last week a young man was shot to death in his car two blocks from our house. By our count, there have been 5 violent deaths in our immediate vicinity in the last 3-4 years, plus another man shot who survived, and each of these cases drug related from what we have heard. God has been faithful to protect us, and we feel secure in that. We do not feel in danger.

We are aware that God would have his people shining as lights in the darkness. We had just looked at Ephesians 2:8-10 with our house church community, where we see that we are not saved through good works. We followed that up by talking about the importance and values of doing good as God laid it out. The very next day Betty, who is in her fifties and is a brand new believer in our community, pointed out that her reading in the Daily Bread fit in with that perfectly: "In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16) So very cool! We continue to pray and seek ways to build the relationship with our neighbors, seeking to do good, and asking God to manifest himself in our lives before the eyes of our neighbors. We are praying for a time to come when we can specifically invite them to a study of God's Word with us, and Ralph would like to do that in Revelation. Would you please pray with us towards this end.

I know, I know, you've already asked Him a million times, I see those eyes rolling.

But today, ask Him a million and one.

Yes.

Ask Him AGAIN.

Ask Him again for that child to come home.

That marriage to be healed.

That mountain to move.

Ask Him again for that friendship to mend.

That work to begin.

That end-of-tunnel light to appear.

Ask Him again for the one who needs rescue, the one who needs healing, the one who needs new direction, new guidance, new focus.

Even if that 'one' is you.

Ask Him again for what you need.

For what you want.

For joy in the sorrow.

Help in the struggle.

A sip of living-water in the heat of your schedule...and the time to just sit at the well, amen?

Ask Him again.

Ask Him again to provide springs in your land; and while you're at it, give thanks for that land, no matter how dry it is now, knowing He's given it to you with good purpose.

Ask Him again.

Ask Him again to dig up the soil and plant the seeds.

Ask Him again to stir up and settle, make and remake, pour out His peace that passes all understanding, because frankly; you could use a befty dose about now

Yes.

And Amen.

Ask Him again for all that seems lost and all that seems nowhere even near the city of possible...and ask Him believing He can.

Yes.

Ask Him again.

Not because you don't think He heard you the first million times, but because you are realizing the longer you {truly} live, that persistence is a pretty strong faith-builder; not to mention how close it keeps you to Him for whom all things are possible and nothing is too hard, and because faith-based strength to persevere and closeness with your Creator is what you REALLY need.

Whew. Yes. Absolutely.

Ask Him again.

With fresh eyes and a renewed spirit and a passionate resolve that He can, and if it's His Will...He will.

And if it's not, you will keep on asking.

You will keep on seeking.

You will keep on believing.

Because persistent faith is where it's at.

It fastens it's gaze on hope.

The hope that is always three steps {Father, Son, Holy Spirit} ahead, providing the perfect focal point.

Yes.

And it never disappoints.

Amen.

So today; bow low, look up, and ask Him AGAIN.



#### **Monthly Events**



Women's Bible Study Saturday, November 7 9:00am



Men's Breakfast Saturday, November 14 8:00am



An estimated crowd of 50,000+ gathered on the National Mall in Washington on Saturday, September 26, to pray for the country at a time of deep national divisions.

"I think that things change when you pray," said Sofia Swiger, 16, standing with her father on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. "It makes a big difference to come together as Christians and agree together to pray for our country."

Led by evangelist Franklin Graham, the son of the late Billy Graham and the president and CEO of Samaritan's Purse, the Prayer March 2020 was attended by Christian and political leaders.

The march stepped off from the Lincoln Memorial and ended at the U.S. Capitol. Participants were asked to stop and pray at seven different locations down the National Mall with a specific prayer focus assigned to each stop.

Many churches and schools brought busloads of people to the event, including Liberty University, a private Christian university in Lynchburg, Virginia.

Caleb Hawthorn, 18, a freshman at Liberty, told The Daily Signal that he was one of about 2,200 of the university's students to drive more than three hours to Washington for Saturday's march.

Graham closed the march outside the U.S. Capitol by encouraging Americans to continue to pray for the nation

Here are specific ways you can pray for our nation, our families and all those in leadership at every level. Humbling ourselves in repentance and asking God to forgive our sins and heal our land.

Our military, police and other law enforcement, firefighters, and their families. Security and peace for the nation. Salvation of the lost. Renewed strength in our families. Frontline medical workers and solutions to the coronavirus pandemic. An end to abortion.

The president, the vice president and their families. All those who work in the White House and in the executive branch of our government.

Compassion and kindness toward one another. Respect and reconciliation between races. Healing in communities torn by violence and injustice.

Religious freedom. Boldness for churches to stand firm with the Word of God and to preach Jesus Christ in a troubled world.

Our Congress and other leaders at the national, state and local levels. The Supreme Court and judges across the nation.

#### **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

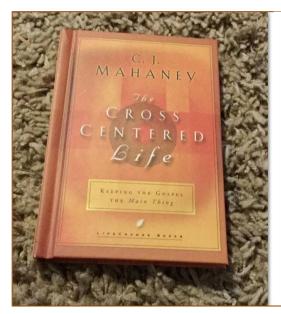
Treasurers

Hansi Stridde Abby Swanson

#### **Church Announcements**

- Join us for the Harvest Service Sunday, November 8th at 10:00am
- Wednesday Evening Bible Study is on Wednesday evenings in the Matson building at 6:30pm
- Women's Friday Group will continue to meet weekly at 9:30am in the Matson Building.
- Sunday Sermons will continue to be shown on facebook live until further notice.
- Leadership Meeting -
- **-HAPPY BIRTHDAY**: Randy Clark 10/1, Ana Trick 10/10, Roger Swanson 10/23, Lori Brooks 10/26, Alethia Brickley 10/28

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY:** Bob & Debi Swanson 10/3, Jeff & Amber Lindo 10/28



#### A Tiny Book

Although our church library has moved to the lower level of the building, it still contains precious volumes of truth. I picked up one such book recently; it caught my eye because of its compact size and its title.

In this little book the enormous difference between merely knowing the Gospel and making it central in your daily decisions is clearly and concisely laid out.

Read it and be reminded!

-Barbara Trombley

#### **Team Meetings**

Compassion and Care Team: 11/8/20

Missions Team: 11/15/20

Youth Support Team: 11/22/20

Children's Team: 11/29/20

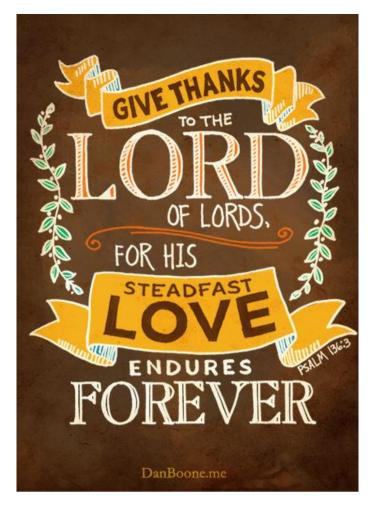


10 When Jesus heard this, He marveled and said to those who followed Him, "Truly, I tell you, with no one in Israel have I found such faith.

11 I tell you, many will come from east and west and recline at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 8:10-11 ESV







# Pray First Then Vote

Our country has always needed Christians to participate in electing our leaders. It makes us better. Being informed on which leaders promote life, family, free speech, free thought, religious freedom, livelihoods, safe and orderly communities, national security, educational choice, decency and morality, helps all citizens to flourish. But one thing to never forget is that an Administration is not just a President, there are thousands appointed by the President in the executive and judicial branches that touch our lives each and every day. Gifted and dedicated people are selected as Vice President, Secretary of State, HUD Secretary, HHS Secretary, Defense Secretary, Education Secretary, Treasury Secretary, Labor Secretary, Commerce Secretary, Attorney General, ambassadors, deputy secretaries, assistant deputy secretaries, communications directors, spokespersons, including hundreds of federal judges. So as you look through the lens of God's Word and vote, consider the vast reach of all the appointees and whether they reflect your values, beliefs and concerns. Unelected appointees impact our country and serve people around the world. Proverbs 15:22 says, "Without counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed."

- Franklin Graham

## Give thanks with a grateful heart

A teller at the drive-in window of a bank was having difficulty with the glaring sun. He lowered the shade. Behind the shade he could see customers as they drove up, but they could not see him. As one woman drove in, he punched a button. The money drawer opened just as the woman came to a stop. She put in her check, closed the drawer, and it withdrew. Seconds later the drawer rolled out again with her money in it. She took the money, and stared at the window. She could not see anyone. "I know you are completely automated," she said, "but I want to thank you anyway."

The Bible says of our response to God's goodness, "Give thanks to Him and praise His name" (Ps. 100:4).



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