

November 2021



EUREKA BAPTIST CHURCH

NEWSLETTER



Give Thanks
to the Lord,
for he is **GOOD**;
his love endures
forever.

PS 107:1



Harvest Service

Sunday
November 7

*Potluck following

Youth Event

Saturday
November 20



Joint Thanksgiving Service

Wednesday
November 24
7:00pm – Taylors Falls



A Note from Pastor Seth

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 Atlantic Ocean and enter the New World in America. The Thanksgiving holiday became official in 1863 when President Abraham Lincoln set it aside as a day of gratitude to God for our many blessings in America. This is the history of this holiday. 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. But November is a good time to take a special focus on Thanksgiving.

The first area we should thank and praise God is for who he is and what he has done. 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 in mind 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. You have experienced his goodness toward you firsthand. The greatest work he performed is saving you when he sent his Son Jesus to die for your sins (John 3:16). We need to continually thank him for rescuing us from the dreadful position we were once in (Ephesians 2:1-3). 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 of 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 back 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 breathe, 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.

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

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 (1 Timothy 4:5). 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 looked after (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



Mission Missions: reach

Penney Family

One of the people we were delighted to see again during our brief visit to Senegal this summer was our long-time house helper, Angèle, who is a believer. She's also a single mom with two kids, the oldest of whom, Stephan, is now in high school and needs a computer to be able continue his studies. We did not know at that time that this was a serious need; we merely knew of Stephan's interest in computers.

As we settled back into our new home in Denver, we realized we had an old laptop we weren't using but just hadn't taken the time to dispose of in all our transition. It occurred to Esther that Stephan might like to have it, and we could send it back out to Senegal with Esther's parents at the end of the summer.

Once Esther's parents arrived back in Senegal in August, they wrote us with this report:

"This morning Angèle came to work. I gave her the computer and she practically cried. Yesterday she had prayed asking God what to do for Stephan, as he needed a computer, and with his father is not working, everything the children need now rests on her. She prayed and prayed yesterday when all this realization hit her. And this morning her prayers were answered; we both realized that the answer had come even before she had prayed—in the gift of your computer that you decided weeks ago to send her! She is incredulous and thankful to God AND to you!"

Isn't it cool how God uses us to answer the prayers of others even when we don't really know that's what's going on, and they live a continent away?

Rejoices:

Dan has received extremely positive feedback on his work as a liaison between Finance and WV missionaries.

We have joined a SS class at our new church and have felt very welcomed. We are making friends other than our immediate neighbors for the first time in two years.

Zack has begun to enjoy school (Wow!). Also, he has made huge strides in his confidence for driving, after just four lessons with Dad.



THANKSGIVING SERVICE
at Taylors Falls Baptist
Wednesday, November 24
7:00pm

661 West St. Taylors Falls, MN 55084

A graphic with the word "Welcome!" in a large, white, cursive font, surrounded by a burst of small white lines on a blue background.

NEW MEMBERS

Keith Johnson
Julie Johnson
Drew Lindo
Dave Twohy
Loni Twohy
John Hahn
Nancy Hahn
Mike Braund
Jordan Braund



Saturday
November 20
4:00pm

Youth Event
with
New Richmond
Youth Group

Just As I Am

By Lynn Dean

On September 22, 1871, an elderly British lady, 82 years young, was ushered into her heavenly reward. Earlier in her life, in 1835, her frustration at being an invalid left her feeling useless and questioning her very salvation. What she did next would echo through history.

As a young woman, Charlotte Elliot was not sure of her relationship with Christ, not sure of how to be saved, even though she had been raised a minister's daughter, and the probing question of a Swiss evangelist, "Are you at peace with God?", would not leave her mind. When she saw the evangelist a few weeks later, she mentioned that she could not shake his question. But, she protested, what could she possibly bring to God? When he replied that she need not bring anything but herself, she gladly accepted Christ.

Some twelve years later, in 1835, crippled by illness and constant fatigue, she felt saddened by her inability to help a local church's cause. Remembering her conversion, she took out pen and paper and wrote a poem to encourage others who felt perhaps they too had nothing to give. . .

"Just As I Am, without one plea,
But that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee,
Oh, Lamb of God, I come..."

Her poem was published, and she was inundated with requests for it. She was gladdened to discover later that some copies were being sold to raise money for the very cause she felt helpless to assist!

After her death, thousands of letters were found in her home, written by people whose lives had been transformed by her words. Her song has been translated into hundreds of languages, published in more than 1600 hymnals, and has reached billions around the world, and continues to bring people to Christ even today.

Sixty years later, on this date, in 1931, a 31-year-old man riding in the sidecar of his brother's motorcycle in England finally came to the end of his internal struggle against whether Christ was indeed the Son of God. He finally knew in his soul that indeed Jesus was just who He said He was! He realized that God calls us to Him "just as we are". When C.S. Lewis stepped out of the sidecar, he was a new man, saved by grace!

Ninety-nine years after Charlotte Elliott penned her words, and 3 years after Lewis' conversion, the 16-year-old son of a dairy farmer listened intently as he heard the message of salvation preached at a revival service in Charlotte, NC. When the song, "Just As I Am," was sung at the end, young Billy Graham went forward to accept Christ.

Twenty years later, Billy Graham had become a successful evangelist and was invited to speak at Cambridge University in England. His nervousness over the event nearly led him to cancel it. But he was introduced to a kind man named C.S. Lewis who encouraged him to disregard the critics who had spoken out against him, and to continue with the revival.

Rev. Graham went on to speak to an overflow crowd of 2,000 each night of the revival, and when he returned to England in 1989, he addressed a crowd of 80,000 at England's Wembley Stadium! As always, he closed the event with the same song that brought him to Christ, "Just As I Am."

Never think you have "nothing" to bring to Jesus! That is exactly what He wants you to bring... nothing! He wants you, just you, as you are! He can take frustration like Charlotte Elliot's, skepticism like Lewis', and nervousness like Billy Graham's, and reach the world through you!

"Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come."

Monthly Events



Women's Bible Study
Saturday, November 6
9:00am



Men's Breakfast
Saturday, November 13
8:00am



Marriage Bible Study
Monday, November 1



October twentieth was sunny, and I was glad I was free to walk through our woods, free to store up some beauty and warmth before the inevitable winter. Overhead, the leaves were golden and brown, and the fallen ones underfoot formed a crunchy mosaic. Contrary to my usual habit, at the fork in the trail, I elected to take the longer route home. That is why I happened to pass the clearing where a mass of dark and white feathers caught my eye.

It was an eagle, motionless, hanging tail-down with its breast inches from the ground, its gold and black eyes blazing. Out of my depth, I hurried home to fetch my husband. As we approached the place of the eagle, several crows, cawing loudly, circled overhead, and a hawk soared low.

“He’s trapped,” Gordy said. Looking closer, I saw that the eagle’s feet were pinned where two main limbs of the small red maple intertwined. Gordy grabbed the two trunks and spread them apart the best he could, and one of the eagle’s feet came free.

The other foot slipped further into the crack, and the more the eagle struggled to free himself, the further down it slipped.

I would have to assist in the rescue.

Gordy continued to spread the branches; the eagle, now revitalized by the release of one foot, beat his wings and squirmed; and I stepped up to do my part. The eagle’s talons were very sharp, its beak prominent, the one visible eye, fierce.

When I touched its leg, the eagle jerked his head toward me. I involuntarily let go and moved backward.

“Try again,” said Gordy.

There’s no one else, I thought. I can do this.

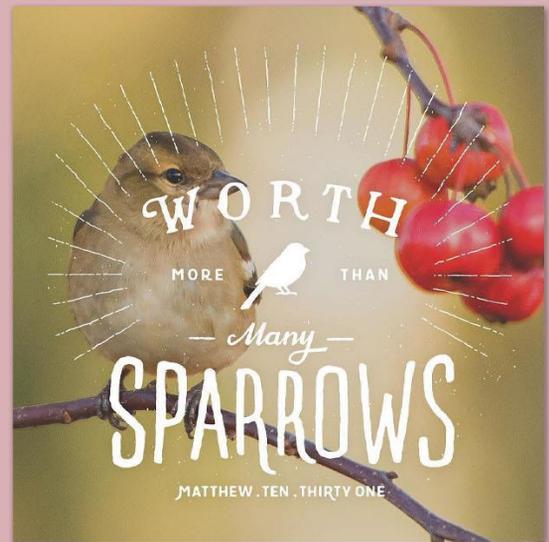
“Protect me, Lord,” I prayed and grabbed the leg again. Trying to ignore the flailing wings and cruel beak beside me, I coaxed the dry yellow foot up to the gap Gordy was creating between the tree limbs.

The eagle shuddered violently before spreading its wings and flying to a nearby tree where it perched on a low branch, collecting itself. It was free.

That beautiful bird had been in a position where it could not help itself and had more or less given up, when help “happened” to come by. As Jesus is recorded saying in the gospel of Matthew, “Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father’s care. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.” God will take care of us! He will provide a way even when we think we have run out of options.

And one final, stunning reminder: That evening, just before dark, an eagle flew into our yard and perched on a woodpile. Had it come to say thank you?

-Barbara Trombley



Weekly 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

2021 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

- **Thank you** to Bob Swanson & Kyle Swanson for the scenic hayride!
- The **fall church decorations** are beautiful! Thank you to Patsy Anderson, Shaila Johnson and Shawna Gearhart!
- Interested in helping with a **Church Team**? Sign up sheets are at church. We're always looking for more hands to help out!
- **Snow Shoveling** sign up is on the back bulletin board at church.
- **Church Cleaning** sign up sheet is also on the back bulletin board at church.
- Christmas will be here soon! If you would like to do a **special during the month of December**, please talk with Pastor Seth.
- **Marriage Bible Study** is Monday, November 1 at 6:30pm
- Join us for **Wednesday Evening Bible Studies** at 6:30pm in the Matson Building!
- Join us for a **Fellowship Hour** on November 7 9:00am in the Matson Building.
- HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** Nate Tomlinson 11/1, Drew Lindo 11/14, Caroline Hall 11/24



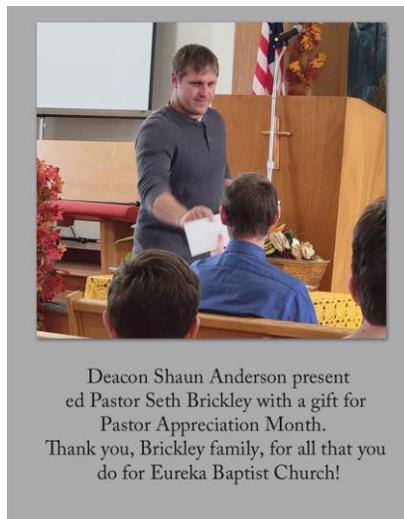
*Praise God,
FROM WHOM
All Blessings
FLOW*

Ana Trick was able to leave the hospital and go home the last week of October.

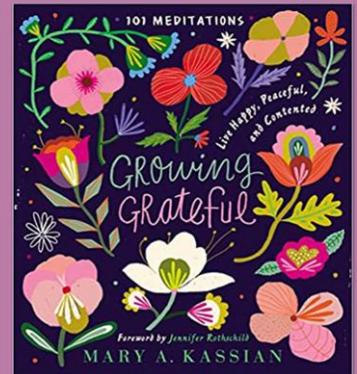
We are so thankful for all the progress that she has made!

Keep praying for her continued recovery.

She's pictured here with her sister, Sophie.



Deacon Shaun Anderson presented Pastor Seth Brickley with a gift for Pastor Appreciation Month. Thank you, Brickley family, for all that you do for Eureka Baptist Church!



"Growing Grateful" will be the theme of the Friday Ladies' Group in November. We will consider solid, biblical reasons to offer up gratitude to God.

Join us Friday mornings at 9:30 if you can!



If you're interested in being baptized, we will be having indoor baptisms on Sunday, December 12 at Taylors Falls Baptist Church after morning service. Please talk with Pastor Seth or Mark Brooks if you have any questions or would like to join others in being baptized on that day.



Thank you

Thank you to Shaun Anderson, his crew, and everyone that had a part in the Parsonage project. It looks wonderful and we are so very blessed!







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