Happy Valentine’s Day!

Wednesday, February 14th

Bible Study
- Starts Sept 6
  - 6:30pm

Youth Group
- Meets weekly starting 9/17
  - 4:30pm-6:00pm

New Women’s Study
- Meets Sunday Evenings
  - Starting 9/17
  - 4:30pm-6:00pm

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FOR WE LIVE BY
faith,
NOT BY SIGHT.
- 2 CORINTHIANS 5:7 -
Keith Johnson and I had quite the day trip in the month of August. Keith and I both share a passion for history. This is why we went to the Railroad Memories Museum in Spooner, Wisc. Spooner holds a rich history on my father’s side of the family. Spooner is my Great Grandfather’s hometown and he worked at the railroad there. Now I never met him. He died in 1984 and I was born in 1986, so when we went to the railroad museum, I had no idea the window into the past that I would discover. As we walked into the museum there were two men sitting at the front desk. One man was the President of the museum, and I informed him that my Great Grandfather lived in Spooner and worked in the railroad. He asked me what his name was, and I blanked on his first name, so I said, “Brickley,” and he responded, “Bill Brickley.” I said, “yes, that’s him.” Where the conversation went from this point amazed me. He informed me that the people at the railroad called him, “Mr. Perfect.”

At this point I realized that this gentleman I was speaking with not only knew of my Great Grandfather but knew him personally. This is remarkable considering that he has been gone for thirty-nine years. This gentleman before me was in his mid-seventies so he would have known my Great Grandfather when he was in his twenties. What he said about him is that his fellow railroaders called him, “Mr. Perfect” because my Great Grandfather dressed nicely when he came to the railroad to work. His father was a conductor and my Great Grandfather an engineer. The conductor captured the train while the engineer drove it. This man informed me that my Great Grandfather was an engineer whom his father would have worked with from time to time and he was an engineer that was good at his job, while some other engineers were less than stellar. He also informed me that my Great Grandfather started there in 1929 at the age of twenty-three as a fireman (back when trains ran by steam engine), and over time he worked his way up to the position of engineer. He then showed me a picture of what he looked like. This was a neat experience because to my recollection I had never seen a picture of him before. He also showed me a newspaper article from 1976 when he retired that told the story about his railroading career that spanned forty-seven years.

Then this man continued to tell the story about the richness of this Railroad Station that few know about. At this location we learned that American Presidents came through. In the 1920s, while Calvin Coolidge was President, he passed through on his way to a home he built in northern Wisconsin on the Brule River. This home was a getaway from the business of the Presidency where he loved to fish. President Eisenhower later came to this same house to also getaway and fish. John F. Kennedy came through this Railroad Station. He used the restroom of a restaurant in town that today has a sign, “John Kennedy used this restroom.” But the most memorable event took place in 1948. That year President Harry Truman was running a campaign for President and was trailing in the polls to longtime New York Governor Thomas Dewey. To revive his campaign, Truman traveled by railroad across America giving speeches from the back of the train. One of the places he stopped was the Spooner, WI Railroad Station where thousands gathered to hear him. Truman in a historic come back ended up defeating Dewey. The famous picture that came from this election is Truman holding a Chicago paper that hastily declared Dewey the winner. The picture shows Truman smiling, holding up the paper that reads, “Dewey Defeats Truman.” It was his grassroots railroad campaign that propelled him to victory. One can see why Truman stopped at this location.

In the middle of the Twentieth Century, Spooner’s Railroad Station was a major one in the Midwest. Attached to the Station was a large restaurant and hotel. But sadly, it shut down in 1992 and all that remains is a museum with only half the buildings that were there from long ago, having been torn down decades before. The location where Truman gave his campaign speech is not even marked. All that remains is the rail with overgrown grass. As Keith and I experienced this once thriving Midwest Railroad Station, it reminded me that we all live in a snapshot of time. My Great Grandfather spent decades living and working in this place. The station was a centerpiece to the locals for employment and social life. People from all around the Midwest enjoyed the liveliness of the restaurant and hotel. Several American Presidents were also familiar with this popular transportation center, but all that liveliness has passed. This story is a reminder that we all live in a snapshot of time. As Scripture describes, “What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes” (James 4:14). Most people who lived through the glory years of the Railroad Station have passed. So too one day will we living now. This is why we need to heed the words of Scripture, “The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are far from those who pass through, common and famous alike – their time has passed. They have lived their lives and the Lord, “will repay each one according to his deeds” (Romans 2:6). For some it will be hearing the words, “Well done, good and faithful servant” (Matthew 25:21), while others will have wasted their lives away and receive the penalty due their sin (Philippians 3:19). As you are reading this, time remains to live your life for the Lord’s sake. How will you live in this snapshot of time that He has given you?

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Seth
Miron Family: Ireland

Dia Dhuit Dear Partners!

That's hello in Irish (pronounced Jee-uh-gwitch), which literally means 'God to you'. Our summer newsletter comes with an important update for the work you have been so faithfully partnering with us in. It's time to put on your praying pants because we have a launch date for the Oranmore Church Plant!

It's crazy to think that it was about 7 years ago that God began to stir our hearts towards Ireland, and not long into that journey He gave us the specific call to come as church planters. It was a call we were quite reluctant to embrace, but here we are on the eve of seeing a new church started in Ireland - Oranmore Community Church.

Over the Spring and Summer, our community group has been having monthly worship gatherings in Oranmore as we've continued to pray for God to confirm the launch of our church. Our 6th and final of such services will be September 2nd, after which we will be looking to begin our weekly Sunday morning services.

October 22nd is our official launch date for the church. This will be the first gospel-preaching church in our village of Oranmore, as well as the only one in the many surrounding villages as well. It is humbling, and terrifying and very exciting. It hasn't happened the way we thought it would, nor with the people we thought we would be doing it with. But, the One who called us is faithful.

The path to seeing Oranmore Community Church planted hasn't been without its challenges so far. As we wrote last time, one of the reasons our group felt it was time to plant was because our community group numbers had grown so much. Since then, 3 of our adults and their 10 kids have had to drop out of the plant. Not exactly the numbers trend we were praying for.

On the week of our very first service we had to begin walking through a tremendously difficult relational issue with one of our members. It has been deeply trying for both Sarah and I, and for other members of our group. The importance of prayer, love for one another and the fight for unity has become all the more clear in the process.

But it is the encouragements of what God is up to that has us excited for this next season. At our last worship gathering, one woman came that shared with us that she has been praying for a local church here in Oranmore for the last 16 years! Then just this week, two other women contacted us that live in Oranmore and are excited to join us for our next gathering.

Only God knows the people He will reach with the gospel through this local church. Which is precisely the most encouraging part, He already knows them! "And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice." (John 10:16)

We have opened a special fund within WorldVenture that allows folks to give towards some of the immediate start-up costs of getting the church going. Whatever is given to this fund, we can use directly for the needs of setting up the church. This includes immediate needs like sound equipment and signs that we will need as we gather in the hotel conference room.

But this also includes foreseeable needs as well for when we step into a new space (chairs, projector, and various other set up costs). There are also some spaces in Oranmore that could possibly work as a church building for us, but the rent is too high at the moment and they would need some work done on them. Having some money set aside in the fund would open up some possibilities for us as we look at potential buildings.

Giving to this fund is pretty straightforward. On WorldVenture's website, you just designate your giving to the project number 6445-905. If any of you are in a position where you are able to financially partner with us in this way, it would greatly bless our church!

I had the tremendous joy of baptizing Joe this summer. Joe is the Irish lad that I had the privilege of discipling last year. Joe's new faith in Jesus and his on-going growth has been such an encouragement to us. He now often leads the services in Furbo and regularly leads the worship as well.
Events

Women’s Bible Study
Summer Break
Will resume in October

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

Youth Group - Starting 9/17
4:30pm-6:00pm
Every Sunday

Bible Study starts 9/6
6:30pm
Congratulations to Lori Webb, Jason Webb, Levi Tomlinson, Sierra Braund, and Brandon Ervin.
2 Corinthians 5:17Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.
The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

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
Church Announcements

- There are many events starting up in September, be sure to read through this newsletter and watch for more information in the weekly emails.
- Youth Group – please connect with Pastor Doug to let him know if you are able to attend the Skonewood event on September 9th.
- Options on 8: Banquet on October 8th. Please watch for more information if you’d like to purchase tickets for this event.
- Church Hayride will be on Saturday, October 7th. More information coming soon!
- Pastor Seth is now a regular contributor on truithscript.com – Be sure to visit often to read all the great articles!
- The start of the new school year is here! Please send us your child’s first day of school pics for the October Newsletter!
- If you have any items to add to the October Newsletter, please have them to Amber by September 25.
- 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. jeffamberlindo@gmail.com
- Wednesday Evening Bible Study will start back up on September 6th at 6:30pm.
- If you’d like to join a church team, please talk with Pastor Seth. An updated team list is on the weekly news blast.
- Church Teams will soon begin to work on 2024 budgets. Please be thinking about team purchases for 2024 so you can add them to your budget. The goal is to stay within budgets this year by planning ahead. More information coming.
- Thank you to those that have been cleaning the church and mowing the lawn! It is appreciated!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Lillie Lindo 9/16, Madison Jorgenson 9/17, Hansi Fox 9/28, Mandi Taylor 9/29
HAPPY ANNIVERSARY: David & Patsy Anderson 9/2, Kyle & Abby Swanson 9/3, Shaun & Rachael Anderson 9/14, Terry & Joan Lee 9/21
**CHURCH LIBRARY News**

**Featured Book**
*In Six Days*
why fifty scientists choose to believe in creation
By: John Ashton

In this book are the testimonies of fifty men and women holding doctorates in a wide range of scientific fields who have been convicted by the evidence to believe in a literal six-day creation. For example, meet:

- The geneticist who concludes that there must have been 150 billion forerunners of “modern man” in order for the natural selection required by evolution to have taken place in the development of man. The evidence for such vast numbers of “prehistoric man” is in dire shortage.

- The orthodontist who discovered that European museum fossils of ancient man have been tampered with to adhere to evolution theories.

- The geologist who studied under the late Stephen Jay Gould and literally cut the Bible to pieces before totally rejecting evolution.

All fifty of these scientists, through faith and scientific fact, have come to the conclusion that God’s Word is true and everything had its origin not so very long ago, in the beginning, In Six Days.

Julie Johnson
Eureka Baptist Church Librarian

**NEW YOUTH PASTOR AT EUREKA BAPTIST CHURCH**

Doug Schmidt has been hired as a Youth Pastor for Eureka Baptist Church. We are excited to see the youth of our church and community grow in their love for the Lord. The Youth Group already has events scheduled and will meet weekly starting in mid-September.

Doug was born and raised in Grantsburg, Wisconsin, where he and his family were active members of Grace Baptist Church. Doug attended Grantsburg High School and then Moody Bible Institute, where he had the opportunity to play basketball in France and Germany as part of a team missions trip. After graduating in 1996 with a youth pastor degree, he was introduced to Andrea, whom he later followed to Honduras to teach in a Christian school together for two years before returning home to marry in 2001. The couple settled in St. Croix Falls as caregivers for Mike Seversen, a local man whose police work had left him a quadriplegic. They lived with Mike until 2005, when their first son, Gideon, was born and they moved to Milltown. Beckett arrived to complete their family in 2007. Doug worked for Bernick’s in Dresser, Wisconsin, for eighteen years before taking a position as a corrections officer at the Polk County Jail in 2022. He has also served as a sports official in baseball, softball, football, and basketball games all over the area for the last two decades. Doug is a firm believer that we are in the Biblical Last Days, and he is passionate about the message that people need to know God and be ready for the Rapture. He is excited at how the Lord has opened up this opportunity to share with so many people and bring him back to the youth ministry calling that he felt as a young adult.

**YOUTH GROUP EUREKA --- BAPTIST CHURCH ---**

Saturday, September 9
4:30pm
Skonewood Christian Retreat
Help pick up some brush and then enjoy hotdogs and s’mores while getting to know each other.

Youth Group will start to meet weekly on Sunday, September 17
4:30pm-6:00pm
If you have any questions, please see Pastor Doug Schmidt.

**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY NIGHT**

Eureka Baptist Church
Wednesdays at 6:30pm

**MAMA BEAR Apologetics**

By Hillary Morgan Ferrer
Empowering your kids to challenge cultural lies
Place: Marion Building
Time: 5:30-6:00
Starting on September 17th

Join us!

Women can bring kids in Youth Group and join a study with Jan Markos.
This study has been an awesome resource for me as a Grandma to guide Grandkids and family members in the truth of God’s Word during these days. All women welcome!
Questions? Contact Jan at 715-229-2684.
Eureka Baptist Church
2393 210th Avenue
St. Croix Falls, WI  54024