

# THE GOOD NEWS

EUREKA UMC MISSION: TO KNOW, LOVE AND SERVE GOD

SEPTEMBER 2022

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## A Pastor's Perspective: How Long?

*"He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'"*

Luke 23:43 NRSV

I am a student of history. I love hearing the stories of those who have gone before us as they helped to forge who we are today. Many of our forbears sacrificed greatly to accomplish what they did and leave a better world for their future generations.

I also love to learn from the mistakes that they made, and ponder how I would have acted differently, or maybe even the same, as they lived their lives.

As I write, today is the 83<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the day the Germans invaded Poland. Hitler's blitzkrieg started a World War that would touch the lives of the majority of earth's inhabitants. In Poland alone, several million Polish citizens would be killed. The gas chambers of the concentration camps would run constantly trying to eliminate an entire race of people from the face of the earth. Hitler's actions were atrocious to say the least.

Now I am not trying to make light of the heinous acts of Germany. But today it was announced that the Polish government would file to seek an additional \$1.3 trillion dollars in reparations from the German government for the carnage Germany imposed on Poland during the second World War. This is in addition to the reparations of 1953 when the Polish government had previously said it was satisfied with the reparations.

I see this same situation play out in many other cases through history where one group holds something over the heads of another group for as long as they possibly can. There is great power found in such situations. But I ask myself, where does forgiveness enter into the equation?

Jesus offers us many different things in life. Love, compassion, and eternal life are just a few. But one thing he also gives us is the power to forgive. To forgive is to offer grace. It is the first step in rebuilding trust. Forgiveness is necessary in some cases to heal a relationship. In others, it is necessary to move on from a relationship.

On the cross, Jesus was crucified with two criminals. The criminals were not able to perform any acts of contrition. Only one asked forgiveness. I would imagine he was scared of the situation in which he found himself, and yet Jesus offered him the power of forgiveness. "Today, you will be with me in paradise," he said. Jesus changed that man's world by forgiving him.

We hear very little of forgiveness in the world today. Just think of how this world would change if we, the church, would offer the power of forgiveness to a hurting world.

I'll see you in church!

In Christ,  
Pastor Bob

# GROW IN FAITH

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## Sunday Sermon Series:

September 4, 2022 (Labor Day Sunday/Communion) Scripture: Jeremiah 18:1-11  
Sermon: In the Master's Hands

September 11, 2022 Scriptures: Philippians 4:6-7 and 1 John 5:14  
Sermon: A Conversation with God We will observe a moment of silence remembering the attacks on September 11, 2001

September 18, 2022 Scriptures: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 and James 5:16  
Sermon: Spiritual Gifts: The Power of Prayer

September 25, 2022 Worship at the Farm Scriptures: Luke 15:2-7 and John 10:3-4  
Sermon: The Sound of the Shepherd's Voice

"Happy Sunday! If you are happy today, share this joy with the Lord, if you are sad, find strength in God, and remember that He is always in your heart." – Unknown



## ***THE CHOSEN DVD SERIES!***

*The Chosen* is a series about the life of Jesus, bringing the Old and New Testament to life in a fresh way.

Each week, the same DVD will be shown at both times so if you miss one, you can catch the next!

**Monday, 11:00 AM and Wednesday, 6:00 PM**

Please consider joining us for the DVD series which will run for 8 weeks. You do not have to attend each session but once you see one, you won't want to miss!

### SCHEDULE

Week 5 "The Wedding Gift" (56:28)  
Week 6 "Indescribable Compassion" (51:55)  
Week 7 "Invitations" (37:10)  
Week 8 "I Am He" (60:01)

The 2<sup>nd</sup> series start date will be decided by the group that is attending after we finish the first one

Week 9 "Thunder" (60:01)  
Week 10 "I Saw You" (52:37)  
Week 11 "Matthew 4:24" (38:25)  
Week 12 "Perfect Opportunity" (58:41)  
Week 13 "Spirit" (47:44)  
Week 14 "Unlawful" (44:34)  
Week 15 "Reckoning" (42:58)  
Week 16 "Beyond Mountain" (59:07)

# MISSION AND MINISTRY

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## Mission Spotlight for 2022

January - Heartline and Heart House = \$150.00

February - Midwest Mission Distribution Center = \$ 300.00

March - Joni and Friends = \$ 650.00

April - Meals on Wheels = \$720.00

May - Our Conference, Our Kids = \$500.00

June - Love Packages = \$400.00

**July** - The Salvation Army = \$ 500.00

August - Evenglow Lodge = \$500.00

September - UMCOR US Disaster Response =

October - ADDWC =

November - Amity Bible Foundation =

December - St. Andrews Potato Project =

Missionary Support

Alicia Wright - India

Connie Wieck - China

Priscilla Jaiah - Liberia

Jeff Spence - Taiwan

September Mission Spotlight



**UMCOR US DISASTER RESPONSE, ADVANCE #901670**

## **Flooding in Kentucky**

In late July, Kentucky and other parts of Appalachia experienced devastating flooding resulting in the loss of life and property. UMCOR awarded solidarity grants to the Kentucky Annual Conference and the Central Appalachian Missionary Conference plus delivered nearly 3,000 cleaning and hygiene kits during the first week of the disaster. Supplies of non potable water and generators were also delivered then. In coordination with the conference disaster response coordinator, UMCOR-trained Early Response Teams (ERT) from multiple states are deploying to the affected areas.

## **Severe weather and tornadoes in Wisconsin, Michigan and South Carolina**

Severe weather and tornadoes touched down in many regions of the U.S. during the spring and summer months. UMCOR awarded solidarity grants to the above conferences in support of immediate response to the damage and to meet the needs of survivors.

## **Wildfires in New Mexico**

Beginning April 5 and continuing into May, multiple fires burned hundreds of thousands of acres in New Mexico. UMCOR awarded a solidarity grant to the New Mexico Annual Conference to support the needs of evacuees and coordinate debris removal and cleanup efforts.

## **Tornadoes in Florida**

On January 16, several rotations touched down and caused significant damage to residential and commercial properties, displacing roughly 300 people. UMCOR awarded an initial solidarity grant and is financially supporting the Florida Conference in a 2-year recovery project that will focus on home repair and case management.

# CHILDREN & YOUTH

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## Calling All Youth!

Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 11, 2022 at 5 p.m. Pastor Bob and Juliana have invited the youth of Eureka and Roanoke UMC's to the parsonage for a cookout. All food and drinks will be provided. Please bring your calendars and ideas as we map out what we want to do for the next school year! The Herath's live at 1024 Peppertree Ln, Eureka, IL Call Pastor Bob if you need directions or a ride (309)252-1136.



Thank you to everyone who donated time, money and supplies for our Back to School Teacher Appreciation Bags!  
60 bags were delivered to Eureka High School; all with your prayers and support!



# EUMC & RUMC FELLOWSHIP

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*Worship*  
**TOGETHER**

Eureka UMC

Roanoke UMC

Join us...

For an all Church

6th Annual Worship and Wiener Roast

at the Farm

Hosted by Dennis and Joy Crouch

Sunday, September 25

10:30 for Worship

11:30 for lunch

Hayrack rides and barn tours after lunch!

1931 County Road 800 N, Eureka

RSVP: Joy Crouch 309-360-1118

Hot dogs, buns, condiments, table service, and bottled water will be provided. Please bring a dish to share and lawn chairs.

Some tables and chairs will be provided

# SENIOR COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP

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**11:00 AM Thursday, September 22, 2022**

Join us for entertainment by the Central Illinois Banjo Club at \*Eureka Lake Pavilion.  
Bring a sack lunch and your lawn chair and get ready for some Pickin' and Grinnin'!



**Please RSVP number attending to EUMC Office - (309) 467-3026**

The Central Illinois Banjo Club are a group of music enthusiasts who love to get together to play music, and share our music with others. The Central IL Banjo Club began accidentally after Rich Richelieu was invited to attend the Morton Pumpkin Festival Seniors Citizens Gig. Within a couple of weeks, a meeting was called with a couple of the fellows to consider a banjo club. They sent out a questionnaire to all who attended the Pumpkin Festival gig to seek interest in a club. After Christmas and early in 1996, they had their first meetings. Soon the club got too big for a house, and they moved to a conference room at Kuhl & Company Insurance. After a couple of years there, they moved to the K of C Hall. Although there are many reasons for the club's growth; an important part of the culture has been that they have tried to expand and encourage other people to play the banjo. Fortunately the Club has given everyone, regardless of talent, the opportunity and a place to play. Once the prospective person attends one of the practices, they seem to be quickly hooked.

We welcome anyone to come join us!

\*In the event of inclement weather (either rain or heat), event will be held in the Fellowship Hall at EUMC.

An update on any change in location will be posted on EUMC Facebook page.

# BLESSINGS AND PRAYER

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## Birthday Celebrations

- 1 - Edie Jackson
- 14 - Michael Borzello
- 17 - Sylvia Micca
- 20 - Gary Robenstein
- 23 - Ken Jackson



## Anniversary Celebrations

- 9 - Andrew and Natasha Schertz
- 11 - Jim and Cheryl Kenegy
- 14 - Brian and Nancy Hoelscher
- 17 - Blaine and Shirley O'Marah



## Keeping you in Prayer

Pray for.....

the people of Ukraine

our Pastor and his wife

our Congregation

those in our community suffering with COVID and other illnesses

those who are grieving, hurting or lonely

the least, last and lost and those who do not yet know Jesus

those in service to God, country and our community

Pray that you feel God's Love and Grace for you



# SEPTEMBER MINISTRY CALENDAR

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- 1 - Heartline and Heart House Spaghetti Fundraiser Supper 3:30-6:30 or sold out, Crosspoint Church
- 4 - 9am Worship, 10am Fellowship time (bring/wear something job related in observance of Labor Day)
- 5 - closed in observance of Labor Day, *No Bible study this week*
- 6 - 1pm Community Prayer group
- 7 - 8:30am Ministerial mtg., 9:30-11:30am Food Pantry, *No Bible study this week*
- 11 - 9am Worship, 10am Fellowship time, 5pm Youth Cookout at the parsonage
- 12 - 11am Bible study - *The Chosen*
- 13 - 1pm Community Prayer group, 5pm SPRC, 6pm Church Council
- 14 - 9:30-11:30am Food Pantry, 6pm Bible study - *The Chosen*
- 18 - 9am Worship, 10am Fellowship time
- 19 - 11am Bible study - *The Chosen*
- \*20 - 1pm Community Prayer group
- \*21 - 9:30-11:30am Food Pantry, 6pm Bible study - *The Chosen*
- \*22 - 11am Senior Fellowship, Pickin' and Grinnin' with the CI Banjo Club at Eureka Lake Pavilion
- 25 - 10:30am Worship and Wiener Roast at the Crouch's Farm, RSVP to Joy Crouch @ 309-360-1118
- 26 - 11am Bible study - *The Chosen*
- 27 - 1pm Community Prayer group
- 28 - 9:30-11:30am Food Pantry, 6pm Bible study - *The Chosen*

\*Pastor Bob to be away for Continuing Education

Pastor Bob will be in Murfreesboro, TN on September 20 through the 24<sup>th</sup> for continuing education. He will be attending the New Room Conference which helps pastors reach new people in their communities. Please call the church office if you are in need of pastoral care while he is gone.

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Just for thought—the best vitamin for a Christian is B1!

## **From the Illinois Great Rivers Conference:**

Many people are weary of COVID, but this pandemic is not yet completed. As more people are vaccinated, as COVID continues to evolve, and as treatments continue to improve, this pandemic will become less severe. In the meantime, we need to fervently pray for our health care workers, our first responders, our public health leaders, our pastors, and all others fighting this pandemic. Please include those fighting COVID in your personal and congregational prayers each week, and join our churches in weekly prayer to end this pandemic.