

THE GOOD NEWS

EUREKA UMC MISSION: TO KNOW, LOVE AND SERVE GOD

JULY 2024

Robert's Reflections

“Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.” Exodus 20:8-11 NIV

I remember as a child, we had an annual tradition we repeated every late summer. It always happened after the ads appeared on TV with adults pushing shopping carts and singing, “It’s the most wonderful time of the year!” No, it was not an early Christmas sale. When mother had finished purchasing our school supplies we would sit down at the kitchen table and write our names on everything. I imagine you had a similar tradition in your home as well. Writing your name on an item meant that it belonged to you. If it was lost or stolen, people would know who to return the item to. We wrote our name on almost everything from glue bottles to gym shorts.

This begs the question “Who’s name is on you?” Who do you belong to? A birth certificate gives our name and lets us know who our parents are. But who do you really belong to?

As a Christian, our obvious answer is that we belong to God. If so where do we find his claim on us? Where is His name written on us? It is written on our hearts. It is lived out in our actions.

One of those actions is how we treat the sabbath. Do you remember one day each week belongs to God? What do you do to spend that time with Him? That day of rest is even important for God as He rested one day in seven, and I know of no more difficult work than creating the universe.

If you are feeling tired or your life is out of balance, have you spent some quality time with your creator lately? If not, then it might be time to schedule some. I know I need to.

I’ll see you in church!

In Christ,
Pastor Bob

GROW IN FAITH

Sunday Sermon Series:

- 7/2/2023 Worship at Eureka Lake 10AM
7/9/2023 “*Thirsty Camels*”
 Scripture: Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67
7/16/2023 TBA—Guest Speaker
7/23/2023 TBA—Guest Speaker
7/30/2023—Joint Service RUMC 10AM
 “*Pictures of Heaven*”
 Scripture: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

“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 COMING BACK - SEASON 3!!!

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!

Starting August 21st—8 week series
Monday, 11:00 AM and Thursday, 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!



- Week 1 Homecoming
- Week 2 Two by Two
- Week 3 Physician, Heal Yourself
- Week 4 Clean, Part 1
- Week 5 Clean, Part 2
- Week 6 Intensity in Tent City
- Week 7 Ears to Hear
- Week 8 Sustenance

MISSION AND MINISTRY

July Mission Spotlight: SALVATION ARMY

The *Salvation Army*, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination. The programs and services and services they offer differ to meet the unique needs of the people in the communities they serve. They take a holistic approach to *Doing the Most Good* where there is the most need without discrimination, whether it be disaster relief, emergency assistance, substance abuse rehabilitation, or educational programs for children.

2023 Mission and Ministry Giving

January: Local - Heartline & Heart House
February: Conference - IGRC Camp Scholarship Fund
March: National - Joni & Friends
April: Local - Meals on Wheels
May: Conference - Mission Distribution Center
June: National - Love Packages
July: Local - Salvation Army
August: Conference - Leslie Bates Friendship House
September: National - UMCOR Disaster Relief
October: Local - ADDWC
November - DaySpring Native American UMC
December - Southside Mission



Option to give to Missions and Ministry at Eureka

Contributions can now be debited automatically from your checking or savings account or processed using your credit or debit card.

Make a donation online:

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z55X/home> or click the donation button on our website www.eurekailumc.org.

If you need assistance on getting this set-up, don't hesitate to reach out to Renee Hinnen.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Childrens Church

Calling all kids! Join Children's Church following Children's message. Would you like to help out with Children's Church? Kathy is looking for anyone who would like to fill in when she is not available. Lesson plans would already be arranged!

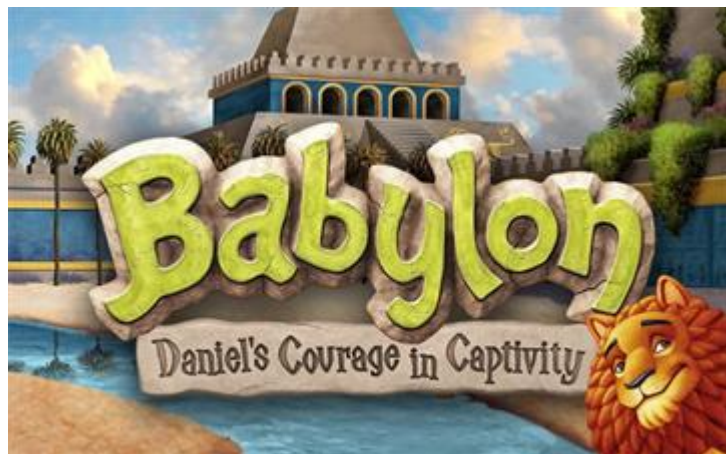
Nursery

We need Volunteers to sign up to cover the Nursery each Sunday. A TV has been installed in the Nursery so you won't miss the service! Please let Kathy or the office know if you are willing to help out. If we all took 1 Sunday a year, we'd have it covered! More hands make light work.

Youth Calendar

The Youth Group will not be meeting until the fall.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



August 1st through August 4th
6PM—8PM

Register on-line by clicking on the link on our website, on our Facebook page or by calling the office.

PLEASE HELP SPREAD THE
WORD

NEED VOLUNTEERS!!!

Daniel did more than survive a den of hungry lions! Join Daniel—torn from his home and forced into the king's service. Imagine the pressure of learning a new language and culture...and the shock of discovering your best friends have been tossed into a fiery furnace. Explore exotic sights and smells in a Babylonian bazaar! Kids and adults will find that they're not much different from Daniel and his friends, who kept their faith in a faithless culture.

July 2nd 10AM



Worship on Sunday, July 2nd will be held at Eureka Lake upper park at the band stand. Bring your lawn chair and enjoy a service provided by the Ministerial Association of Eureka.



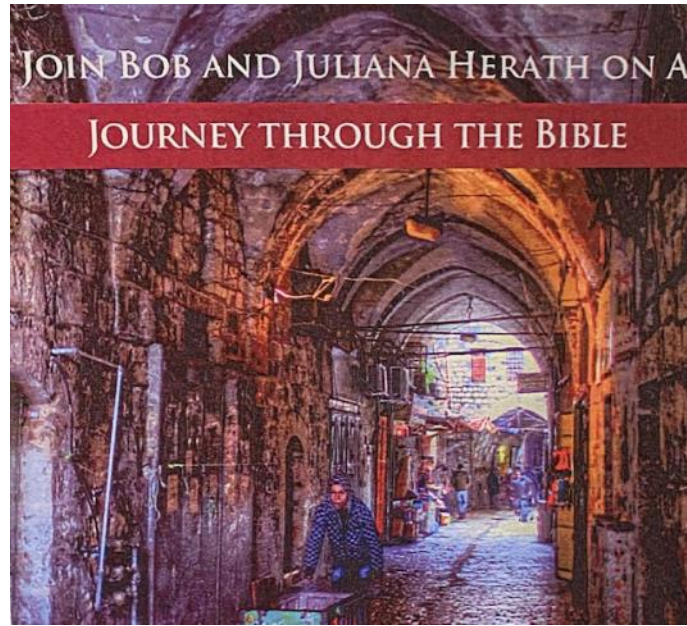
Join us for the 4th of July Parade!



Thanks to Gary & Judy Robenstein & Kathy Bunting, we will again put a float in the 4th of July Parade. We need people to ride on the float and candy to throw at the parade.

Contact Judy or Kathy if you or any of your family will show up to ride and bring any candy donations to the church before July 3rd. We request no chocolate candy!

2024 Holy Land Pilgrimage



If you haven't yet signed up to join Pastor Bob & Juliana to the Holy Land Pilgrimage February 20-March 1, 2024, there is still time!. A meeting will be held on August 13, 2023 at 3pm for those planning on going to get more information. The details of the trip are as follows:

- Date: February 20– March 1, 2024
- The trip is through Educational Opportunities.
- Will need a passport
- Flights will be out of Chicago and pricing is 3,798 per person.
- A few of the places visited will be: Bethlehem, Jericho, Herodium, Caesaria, Cana, Nazareth, Samaria, Jacob's Well, the Galilee, Jerusalem, Caesaria Philippi and many more.

Pastor Bob's Chemo Schedule

Pastor Bob's next trips to Iowa City for Chemo treatments will be July 14 and 19, 2023. He will be out of the office. Please keep Pastor and Juliana in your prayers as they travel to Iowa City, IA for treatments.

Pastor Bob's July Schedule

Pastor Bob & Juliana will be on vacation in July. Their vacation time in July is 14-27, 2023. Please call the church office if you need a pastor during these times.



Administrative Secretary

EUMC has an opening for Administrative Secretary. The Secretary serves the Pastor and assists in enabling the operational and functional needs for the church staff and members. The job skills include great interpersonal and relational skills; knowledge of essential office skills including Microsoft Office, Word, Excel and PowerPoint. Hours are 20 hours per week, Monday-Thursday 9A-2P. Interested parties should complete a Job Application available in the office and submit their resume to eumc61530@gmail.com



Join us on July 30, 2023 at RUMC for our 5th Sunday Joint Service at 10AM.



7/2 Worship at Eureka Lake
7/9 Donna Wettstein
7/16 Linda Anderson
7/23 Gary & Judy Robenstein
7/30 Joint Service at RUMC

GospelFest Ministries Concert

Shawn Degenhart and the GospelFest Singers & Choir invite you to the 25th Annual Summer-time GospelFest featuring special guests Allison Durham Speer, Ben Waites, and the Kramers! The concert will take place on July 14th at 7pm at Grace Presbyterian Church, 8607 IL-91, Peoria, IL. The doors open at 6:30pm. Free admission and a generous love offering will be received. We have 5 members of our choir who are participating this year, Gary & Judy Robenstein, Marilyn Kern, Linda Anderson & Leah Bown. Come out and support them!



Teacher Gift Bags

For the last several years, the Hospitality Team has organized gift bags for teachers of Unit District #140. We will be putting together 45 bags before school starts in August to present to the Eureka Middle School teachers from EUMC. Below are the items that we need. Please consider making a monetary donation or item donation for this worthwhile project.

Flavor packets for water

Any Candy

Packages treats (twinkies, ding dongs, etc)

Pencils/pens

Hand lotion (small)

Sharpies

Gum

Individual Chip Bags

Tea bags

Post it notes

Clorox wipes



In the next month, you will notice some changes as you enter the church. We will be installing a Welcome Center similar to the picture to the left where the couch and 2 chairs are currently located. The couch and chairs will move into the area where the Library is located and the Library will move into the office west of Pastor Bob's office (Rhodabel's room for those who have been here awhile).

The Hospitality Team will staff the Center each Sunday before church and coffee will be available.

A big thank you to Mary Lou Littlejohn for her help in the designing of the center.

CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATE

At the June Church Council meeting, once again we dealt with the issue of the Eureka United Methodist Church disaffiliating from the United Methodist denomination. Major areas considered in deciding how to proceed included the questionnaires and comments submitted by members and friends of the Church.

Also discussed was the economic impact and substantial estimated cost associated with disaffiliation. Lastly, was the uncertainty of the future as the General Conference of the United Methodist Church doesn't meet until 2024. The outcome of that conference, and the resulting effect on our local Church, cannot be known at this time.

After prayer, discussion, and careful consideration of the aforementioned items the Council voted to not disaffiliate at this time.

Gary Schoof, Church Council Chair



The US suffered 5,220 military fatalities of the conflict in Vietnam from 1964 to 1975. 240 men were awarded the Medal of Honor. The first man who died was in 1961. 5 men who died were only 16 years old and the oldest to lose his life was 62. As of 2017 there were still 1,611 Americans still unaccounted for from the Vietnam War.

The men who served in the conflict did not return home to a hero welcome. In March of 1982, the Vietnam Memorial was built in Washington DC which included the names of those who had given their lives for our freedom. The Vietnam Veteran Memorial Fund has a replica of that wall (3/4 the size) and the Eureka American Legion is bringing it to Eureka, IL July 12 – July 16, 2023. It will be located at Maple Lawn Retirement Center in the field at the juncture of Clinton Drive and Mission Way. The schedule for the Memorial is as follows:

7/11/2023 – The semi carrying the wall will be escorted to Eureka from Fairbury, IL by Eureka Police Department, Woodford County Sheriffs Department, and motorcycle riders. The semi will come onto Route 117 at Casey’s from the East and travel all the way to Mt. Zion Road. The expected time of arrival into Eureka is 1:30pm. Please line the streets and show your support to the individuals who are giving of their time to escort the semi full of names of our fallen veterans.

7/12/2023 - The Wall That Heals will be open at 2pm and it is open 24 hours a day until it closes on 7/16/2023.

7/13/2023 - Opening Ceremony 10AM at the site.

7/16/2023 - Closing Ceremony 1:45PM at the site.

We still need volunteers If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, visit the website at www.thewallthatheals-eureka.com or call Sue Knepp at (309) 657-9769.

BLESSINGS AND PRAYER

Birthday Celebrations

7/5 Juliana Herath
7/5 Al Hinnen
7/6 Jadon Bunting
7/10 Marilyn Bachman
7/16 Ryan Jackson
7/18 Dennis Crouch
7/21 Jack Brehmer
7/29 Andy Schertz
7/29 Emma Sylvester
7/30 Carol Alexander



Anniversary Celebrations

7/1 Dennis & Joy Crouch
7/5 Bob & Juliana Herath
7/9 Gary & Sue Knepp
7/26 Jordan & Kathy Bunting



Keeping you in Prayer

Pray for.....
the people of war torn countries
our Pastor and his wife
our Congregation
those in our community suffering with 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



JANUARY MISSION & MINISTRY CALENDAR



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 10AM Joint Service at RUMC	31 930-1230 FH Nitsch Theater Group	Pastor Bob's Schedule: Eureka - Monday and Wednesday 9 a.m. to 12 noon Roanoke - Tuesday and Thurs. 9:15am to 12 noon				1
2 10A Worship at Eureka Lake	3 930-1230 FH Nitsch Theater Group	4	5	6 6:30 Finance Conf#1	7	8
9	10 930-1230 FH Nitsch Theater Group	11 5PM SPRC 6PM Church Council	12	13 8-230p FH 4H Int'l	14 Pastor Vacation 730p GospelFest at Grace Pres Pastor Chemo	15 Pastor Vacation
16 Pastor Vacation	17 Pastor Vacation 930-1230 FH Nitsch Theater Group	18 Pastor Vacation	19 Pastor Vacation 630p Jordan Bunting on Napal trip FH Pastor Chemo	20 Pastor Vacation 130-330 Diabetes Clinic Conf#1 5:30 Trustees	21 Pastor Vacation	22 Pastor Vacation
23 Pastor Vacation 1030A Hospitality Meeting	24 Pastor Vacation 930-1230 FH Nitsch Theater Group	25 Pastor Vacation	26 Pastor Vacation	27 Pastor Vacation	28	29