

THE GOOD NEWS

EUREKA UMC MISSION: TO KNOW, LOVE AND SERVE GOD

SEPTEMBER 2024

Robert's Reflections

*“Have nothing to do with godless myths and old wives’ tales; rather, train yourself to be godly.”
1 Timothy 4:7 NIV*

I recently read a statement that has stuck with me. “Olympic athletes don’t shatter world records on their first day.”

This little nugget reminds us how absurd it would be to expect an Olympic athlete to set a world record on their first day of training. Just the fact that they are an Olympic athlete tells us that this person has endured plenty of training and coaching. The saying I am more familiar with is “Rome wasn’t built in a day.”

Yet many people in our world are expecting to make it straight to heaven without building up their spiritual foundation for their life. Somehow many people believe that a personal relationship with God is not important in this life and it will automatically happen when we die. After all, God loves everyone and will save everyone when they die. Right?

Any good coach will tell their athlete in their training that they need to set their sight on the goal. What is it that you want to accomplish? Name it. Focus on attaining that goal. Without that goal, one does not know what it will take to achieve it.

This not only applies to sports, but it applies to all aspects of our life. Losing weight? The doctor will ask us what is our desired weight to achieve. Want to advance at work? What will one have to do to be considered for that promotion? Going on vacation? How much will you need to save to afford the vacation? Want to go to heaven? What are you doing to spend time with the one who can get you there?

Living the Christian life is not about obligation. It is about commitment. We share a goal with Jesus Christ to spend our eternities together in heaven with God. Are we committed to reaching our goal? Our chances of reaching that goal will increase the more we intentionally walk with God. I’ll see you in church!

In Christ,
Pastor Bob

GROW IN FAITH

Sunday Sermon Series:

9/3/2023 “Joseph: In The Darkest of Times, It is Still Okay to Dream! Genesis 40

9/10/2023 “Joseph: A Faithful Witness” Genesis 41:1-40

9/17/2023 “Joseph: A Dream Fulfilled” Genesis 41:41-43, 46-57

9/24/2023 “Joseph: What Comes Around” Genesis 42 - Service at Crouch’s Farm 10:00AM

“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 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!

Mondays at 11:00 AM and 6:00 PM

(note that we will have the same episode at both times on Mondays)

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 3 Physician, Heal Yourself 9/11/23

Week 4 Clean, Part 1 9/18/2023

Week 5 Clean, Part 2 9/25/2023

Week 6 Intensity in Tent City 10/2/2023

Week 7 Ears to Hear 10/9/2023

Week 8 Sustenance 10/16/2023

MISSION AND MINISTRY

SEPTEMBER MISSION UMCOR DISASTER RELIEF

UMCOR responds to disasters in the United States by working in partnership with annual conferences and local partners. When a disaster overwhelms a community's ability to recover on its own, UMCOR provides training, relief supplies, case management and supports long-term rebuilding efforts

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 - Lessie Bates Neighborhood House
September: National - UMCOR Disaster Relief
October: Local - ADDWC
November - DaySpring Native American UMC
December - Southside Mission

Missionary Support 2023

Alicia Wright—India

Connie Wieck—China

Priscilla Jaiah—Liberia

Jeff Spence—Taiwan

Davies Musigo—Kenya

Option to give to Missions and Ministry at Eureka UMC

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

9/10/2023 5:30PM—Parent/Youth Meeting—Fellowship Hall

JOINT WORSHIP

YOU'RE INVITED

Join us on Sunday, September 24th at 10:30 AM
Crouch's Farm 1931 County Road 800 N, Eureka

Joint Outdoor Worship Service followed by a wiener roast, hayrack ride and tour of the sheep barn. 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. Call Joy at (309) 360-1118

Hope to see you there!!



SENIOR FELLOWSHIP

9/28/2023—Join us at 11:30AM for Fellowship and lunch at The Farmstead in Roanoke, IL
Please call the church with your RSVP by 9/25 so we can make sure we have a table big enough for everyone.

GREETER MINISTRY

9/3/2023 Pete & Sylvia Micca
9/10/2023 Paul & Norma Attig
9/17/2023 Ken & Edie Jackson
9/24/2023 Lynn & Renee Hinnen

2023 CHARGE CONFERENCE



Rev. Mike Crawford, the District Superintendent of the new North District has set the 2023 Charge Conference schedule. Roanoke and Eureka United Methodist Churches will have their Charge Conference at

Peoria First United Methodist Church
116 NE Perry Avenue
Peoria, IL
Sunday, November 5, 2023 at 1:30pm

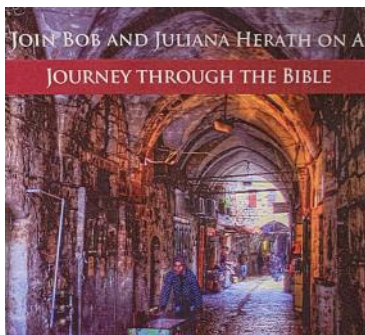
YOU'RE INVITED TO A PARTY



YOU ARE INVITED
TO AN 80TH BIRTHDAY OPEN HOUSE FOR

GARY ROBENSTEIN
Sunday, September 17th 12noon-4pm
Fellowship Hall
No gifts are requested

2024 HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE



There's still time if you're interested in going!

ISRAEL TRIP MEETING
Sunday, 9/10/2023 3PM
Conference Room #1

Anyone planning to join Pastor Bob and Juliana as we travel to Israel in February is invited to join us for our first monthly meeting as we begin to make preparations for our trip. Those enrolled on the trip and anyone else who is interested in learning more about Israel is welcome to attend.

PASTOR BOB'S CHEMO SCHEDULE

Pastor Bob's next trip to Iowa City for Chemo treatments will be September 20, 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.

EUMC HISTORY CORNER

In the last newsletter we left off in 1883 when the present building was erected but there are several pastors listed who served prior to that date, as well as a few more pieces of information during their tenure. Here are the names of those that we have on record from 1864-1883.

1864-1865 Rev. Thomas Cotton
1865-1867 Rev. E.P. Hall
1867-1868 Rev. Thomas C. Workman
1868-1869 Rev. Pierce, Rev. H.C. Hobbs and Dr. J.H. McNutt
1869-1872 Rev. W.E. Williamson
1872-1873 Rev. Thomas C. Workman
1873-1874 Rev. A.A. Hopkins and Rev. W.C. Stephens

1874-1875 Rev. A.C. Price
1875-1877 Rev. J.L. Ferris
1877-1878 Rev. Eli McClish
1878-1879 Rev. C.H. St. John
1879-1880 Rev. C.H. Brace
1880-1883 Rev. Con Haney

In its first decades, the church was served by traveling “circuit riders”, preachers who also served churches in Roanoke, Metamora, Harmony, Low Point and Secor at various times. As a general rule, preachers served an appointment for only one year; sometimes however, the Eureka church would see a change of two or even three preachers in one year as noted in 1868-1869 and 1873-1874.

Things didn’t always go smooth back in the early years, there were confrontations and believe it or not sin occurring even back then. Here is a look back into an event that occurred that involved Rev. Thomas C. Workman who was our pastor from 1867-1868 and again from 1872-1873.

According to the “*Souvenir History of Woodford County*”, published for the 1991 Woodford County Sesquicentennial, on page 17, the following story was told about a tragedy in Eureka.

One incident happened in the village of Eureka in 1873. This was a murder in which a woman killed another woman. The alleged murderess was the wife of Rev. Workman of the Methodist Episcopal Church. From information gathered, it seems this Rev. Workman had conceived a passion for one of his parishioners, a Mrs. Hedges. Evidently, they were sending letters to each other unbeknownst to their spouses. It was the discovery of this correspondence that infuriated Mrs. Workman, the preachers’ wife. This resulted in a severe altercation between the preacher and his wife. Mrs. Workman dictated a letter to her husband which was for Mrs. Hedges. In the letter a request was made for the return of all the letters which had been sent to Mrs. Hedges. She set out in person with the letter for the delivery to Mrs. Hedges.

Mrs. Workman and Mrs. Hedges were seen about dark in controversial conversation. Mrs. Workman returned home with her face badly scratched. Her dress was muddy and in disorder, which she explained by saying she had fallen on the sidewalk in a dizzy fit. Mrs. Hedges was never seen alive again. She was found early the next morning with a bruise on her head, as if from the blow of a club and her throat cut. She was lying near where she and Mrs. Workman were seen the night before. This was the gist of the testimony before the Grand Jury with which they failed to indict Mrs. Workman.

After the incident, we know that Rev. Workman was no longer the pastor, but there is no further information on either him or his wife available. Elizabeth Ward Hedges is buried in the Old Methodist Cemetery. The date of her birth was 12-8-1833 and her death was 3-29-1873.

From 1873-1874, Rev. A.A. Hopkins and Rev. W.C. Stephens were the pastor.

In 1874, the Methodist Episcopal Church was united with Metamora for the second time. (It is unknown the date of the first unification). Low Point and Harmony were appointments on the charge. A.C. Price was the Pastor for 1874 and 1875. He preached each Sunday morning and evening in Eureka, at Low Point Sunday afternoons, and preached to the Metamora congregation on Friday nights—preaching many times to a congregation of from seven to fifteen persons. His salary was about \$600 a year.

1875 saw our membership grow to 125 members and Rev. Eli McClish was the Pastor.

We ended last month with the 1883 Streator District camp meeting Establishment. I found information that states the land at Maple Lawn which was used was purchased by Representatives of the Streator District of the Methodist Church from Ezekial and Emily Proctor for \$2,000. The camp offered meeting programs in a big tent, each annual session lasting several days. At times, there were as many as 50 tents for families from El Paso, Washington, Peoria, Minonk, Deer Creek and other cities.

We will begin next month with the history of 1885.

3RD & 4TH GRADE BIBLES

Sunday, September 17, 2023 Pastor will be presenting Bibles to our 3rd and 4th Graders during the service. If you have a student in those grades this year, please make sure they are in church that day for the presentation.

NEW AT CHURCH



WELCOME CENTER

Stop and visit our new Welcome Center and grab a cup of coffee.

We are looking for individuals willing to staff the Center on Sunday's. If you would be available to take a morning and greet people as they arrive, please contact the office.



AREA OFF OF SANCTUARY

With the addition of the Welcome Center, we needed to relocate the sofa and chairs. It is a nice spot to have some quiet time.

Feel free to use the area.

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. 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



YOUTH DIRECTOR

EUMC has an opening for a Youth Director. Interested parties should complete a Job Application available in the office and submit their resume to eumc61530@gmail.com

BLESSINGS AND PRAYER

Birthday Celebrations

Jason Collins	9/1	Sylvia Micca	9/17
Tyler Facker	9/1	Gary Robenstein	9/20
Edie Jackson	9/1	Ken Jackson	9/23
Renee Hinnen	9/2		
Mary Lehman	9/3		
Pete Hughes	9/4		
Devin Harrison	9/5		
Lola Dickey	9/11		
Michael Borzello	9/14		
Shelly Lehman	9/17		

Anniversary Celebrations

9/9/06	Andrew & Natasha Schertz
9/11/70	Jim & Cheryl Kenagy
9/14/96	Brian & Nancy Hoelscher

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



SEPTEMBER MISSION & MINISTRY CALENDAR



2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Pastor Bob's Schedule: Eureka - Monday and Wednesday 9 a.m. to 12 noon Roanoke - Tuesday and Thurs. 9:15am to 12 noon</p>					1	2
3 Communion	4 	5	6	7 6P Finance Mtg Conf #1	8	9
10 3P Holy Land Mtg Conf #1 530P Parent/Youth Meeting FH	11 11A Chosen 415-615P FH Theater Grp 6P Chosen	12 5P SPRC 6P Church Council 6-8P Scout Re- cruitment FH	13	14	15	16
17	18 11A Chosen 415-615P FH Theater Group 6P Chosen	19 4-5P Food Pantry Board Conf #1 5P Hospitality	20 Pastor Chemo IA	21 130-330 Diabetes Clinic Conf #1	22 4-9P FH reserved for EHS Class Reunion	23
24 1030AM Worship at the Crouch's Farm	25 11A Chosen 415-615P FH Theater Group 6P Chosen	26	27	28 11:30AM Sr. Fel- lowship—lunch at the Farmstead Roa- noke	29	30