



Weekly Booster

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Barb Cunningham,

Craig Harris, Jeff Hiser

Sunday Praise Team

Terry Stafford, Linda Haldane,

Margaret Brady, Deb Finlay,

Jeff Hiser, Drew Morelock,

Pastor David



6 Scriptures on Evangelism

This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham. And so begins the book of Matthew. It's easy to gloss over the names in the long list that follows in Matthew 1. But what is the significance of the names? Why does Matthew include them and what do they tell us?

Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar, Perez the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram, Ram the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth, Obed the father of Jesse,

David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife, Solomon the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah,

Continued page 2.

Quote

“The difference between try and triumph is just a little umph!” Marvin Phillips

RemindersDecember 2nd

Men's Bible Study – 8:00 a.m.

December 3rd

First Sunday of Advent
Communion Sunday

December 6th

Bible Study – 11:00 a.m.
Praise Team - 5:00 p.m.
Choir – 5:30 p.m.
Bell Choir – 6:30 p.m.

December 7th

T.O.P.S.

December 10th

Caroling – 5:00 p.m.
Soup Supper to Follow

****Worship Assistant is needed for
November 26th & December**

**** Fellowship Volunteers needed
sign-up in Fellowship Hall**



**Two Volunteers Needed each Thursday
to Deliver Meals
Sign-Up Sheet is on the
Welcome Center Counter**

6 Scriptures- Continued from page 1.

*Abijah the father of Asa,
Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Jehoram,
Jehoram the father of Uzziah,
Uzziah the father of Jotham,
Jotham the father of Ahaz,
Ahaz the father of Hezekiah,
Hezekiah the father of Manasseh,
Manasseh the father of Amon,
Amon the father of Josiah,
and Josiah the father of Jeconiah and his brothers at the time of the
exile to Babylon.*

*After the exile to Babylon:
Jeconiah was the father of Shealtiel,
Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel,
Zerubbabel the father of Abihud,
Abihud the father of Eliakim,
Eliakim the father of Azor,
Azor the father of Zadok,
Zadok the father of Akim,
Akim the father of Elihud,
Elihud the father of Eleazar,
Eleazar the father of Matthan,
Matthan the father of Jacob,
and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, and Mary was
the mother of Jesus who is called the Messiah.*
We can't readily see hearts the way God does, and sometimes the
most surprising person is the one where the seed takes root and grows
vigorously. After sharing, think about the cultivation process. Seeds
need soil, water, and sun.

*Thus there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David,
fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile
to the Messiah.*

Matthew 1:1-17

**1. There are fourteen generations between the four major events
Matthew lists—Abraham, David, exile, and Jesus.**

Matthew isn't saying that there were fourteen generations between
each event. He is doing something more interesting.

Continued page 5.

Quote

“Work is the greatest thing in the world, so we should always save some of it for tomorrow.” Don Herold

Volunteers Needed



**LAST PERSON LEAVING
PLEASE TURN OUT LIGHTS
AND LOCK DOORS**

First United Methodist Church
**Please wear your
name tag on
Sunday mornings**

Church Office Hours

**** Children & Jr.-Sr. High
Sunday School – PK-6
during service, Jr/Sr High
at 10:30 a.m.**

****Choir – Wednesdays,
5:30 p.m. Sunday 8:30 a.m.
**Bell Choir –
Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.**

The front door to the church
will be unlocked during
office hours and closed only
for errands and lunch.

Monday
9:00-11:00
12:00-3:00
Tuesday
9:00-11:00
12:00-3:00
Wednesday
CLOSED
Thursday
9:00-11:00
12:00-3:00
Friday
9:00-11:00
12:00-3:00

Please continue to call in
advance if you need in the
church to make sure
someone is in the office. If
you reach the answering
machine please leave
your name, number, and
a brief message and your
call will be returned. Calls
after 2:00 p.m. may be
returned the next
business day.



After Jesus humbled
himself, what did God
bestow on him
according to the book of
Philippians?

- a) prosperity
- b) access to heaven
- c) name above every name
- d) a seal to make the demons fear him

Who was killed in his bed?

- a) Ahaz
- b) Manasseh
- c) Ish-Bosheth
- d) Rehoboam

What did the Lord do to the
little people brought home
according to Haggai?

- a) blessed it
- b) blew it away
- c) gave it to the strangers
- d) give it to the fatherless

**Check page 4 for answers from
the previous week.**



4th – Johathan DeLong
6th – Nancy Bonefas
7th – Jim Baldwin
8th – Emma Robison

****See a wrong birthday or anniversary, or need one added, please call the
office, or send an email to office@shen.church**

**Shenandoah First United
Methodist Church**

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Shenandoah, IA 51601

Phone 712-246-2081

Church E-mail
office@shen.church

Same address – a new look at
<https://shen.church>



<https://shenchurch.onechurchsoftware.com/>



United Methodist Church,
Shenandoah, IA

<https://www.facebook.com/methodist.church.shenandoah>



Services are now on our YouTube
channel only.

<https://www.youtube.com/@shen.church8192/streams>

***Prelude/Postlude/Accompanist: Terry Stafford**

Call to Worship

Leader: In the beginning, God created all we can see and all we cannot

People: And God made us. We are made in the image of God.

L: No one has ever met a God like this, who works from those who wait and do what is right.

P: But we've sinned and kept at it so long; we deserve your anger.

L: Rejoice, children! Our God is ready to remold and reshape us.

P: We enter this holy place confident that God can restore our identity.

“Hope”

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 64:1-4

Songs

Come, Thou Almighty King v.1-4 #61

Majesty, Worship His Majesty #176

O Come, O Come Emmanuel v.1, 2, 7 #211

Last Week's Attendance

In-Person Worship – 43

On-Line Worship – 20

Our Mission:

“Know & Serve God by Sharing Christ's Love.”

Our Vision:

“We will grow in holiness, our community will thrive, & we will make a difference in our world.”

**Answers for Nov 19th are b) twice d) 9th a) Er, Onan, Shelah
Quiz hints – Q1) Philippians Q2) 2 Samuel Q3) Haggai**

6 Insights- Continued from page 2.

Three sets of fourteen generations is the same as six sets of seven generations. In the Bible, the number seven symbolizes wholeness or completion. Jesus, therefore, represents the beginning of the seventh set of seven generations, the fullest completion of what came before him.

2. Matthew uses creative wordplay to show how Jesus fulfills all of Scripture.

Asaph (also translated as Asa) is a figure associated with many of the Psalms, like Psalms 73–83, and Amos (also translated as Amon) is one of the Old Testament prophets. Jesus' birth fulfills the Biblical story, and his spiritual heritage includes not just kings, but prophets and poets too.

3. Matthew highlights Joseph's royal lineage from Judah through David.

No Jewish family ancestry could be more prominent than the Davidic royal line. Although both Matthew's and Luke's genealogies trace Jesus' royal ancestry on Joseph's side of the family through somewhat different paths, both emphasize that, many centuries earlier, Jesus' line proceeded from King David (see Romans 1:3; Revelation 5:5).

Even though Jesus was not Joseph's biological son, in the ancient world, an adopted child had the same rights and privileges as a biological child. This means that Jesus was considered a descendant of David, making it possible for him to reign as King of the kingdom God promised.

4. Matthew summarizes the Old Testament with three main events leading up to Jesus.

With Abraham, he recalls God's promise to bless all nations. With David, he recalls God's promise to establish an everlasting kingdom. With the exile, Matthew highlights the great act of judgment that questioned whether God would keep his promises. Matthew wants to introduce the story of Jesus by showing that he fulfills the Old Testament's story.

5. Matthew includes five women in the genealogy of Jesus: Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, Bathsheba and Mary.

This would have been odd by ancient standards. It's even more surprising that Tamar, Rahab, and Ruth are not Jewish. Matthew is highlighting Jesus' mixed heritage on purpose. It is striking because one of the purposes of ancient Jewish genealogies was often to highlight the purity of one's Israelite (or Levite, etc.) ancestry. Jesus came not just to save the Jewish people, but the whole world, and his family lineage shows that God also makes non-Jewish people part of his special covenant family.

6. Jesus's Ancestry Shows God's Faithfulness.

Some Jewish teachers have remarked that arranging all the marriages in people's ancestry was a greater miracle than the parting of the sea in Moses' day. Jewish recipients familiar with Scripture would hear the names of most of these ancestors with rich nuances of how God had guided His people's history. Far from being foreign to their heritage, Jesus was its climax.

Orders are now being taken for poinsettias to help decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas season. If you are interested in purchasing one "In Honor" or "In Memory of" please fill out a POINSETTIA ORDER FORM that is located on the Welcome Center information desk. Each poinsettia is \$16.00. Please put your prepaid check or cash and order form in the envelope provided with the form and place it in the wooden offering boxes. We encourage you to order early (only 5 left) and appreciate your kindness in helping make our sanctuary colorful for the Christmas season.



"Each of you should GIVE what you have decided in YOUR HEART to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for GOD LOVES a cheerful GIVER." (2 Corinthians 9:7)

The Noisy Offering is one more way to do ministry for those in need and also teach your children the importance of giving and serving. Each Sunday a new opportunity for mission giving will take place after the Children's Message. Sunday School students will walk around the congregation, collecting your loose coins and currency in their colorful metal pails. This would be a good time to clean out the loose change from your pockets or purse. The money donated in December will go to the Shenandoah Food Pantry.



NOISY OFFERING



December

Peanut Butter and jelly, Green Beans, Corn, Peas, Stuffing Mix, Potato Flakes, Boxed Potatoes, Pineapple, Mandarin Oranges, Cinnamon Applesauce, Pasta (any variety), Spaghetti Sauce, Chili and chunky Style Soups, Cake, Brownie, Cookie, and Muffin Mixes, Toothbrushes & Toothpaste.

There are times when people who use the Food Pantry come to the pantry on foot. They are then forced to walk home carrying, pushing, or pulling several pounds of food. Southwest Iowa Transit, for a very reasonable fee of \$5.00, will take individuals with their food items home. If you are interested in helping pay for these fees, simply seal your cash (whatever you would like to give) in a plain envelope and add it to your donated food items.

Over thirty-one years ago, concerned citizens in the Shenandoah community had a dream of all community families having a happy and healthy holiday and formed the **Adopt-A-Family** project. Our church will provide a local family-in-need with a brighter holiday with gifts appropriate for their age or need. No adult information will be given, this way we can help the children in more families. This year we will be able to ask for contributions of money in the Mission Cans as we have done before. The mission Cans are placed on top of the wooden offering boxes and just inside the middle set of the sanctuary doors. As soon as I receive the information from the **Adopt-A-Family** committee regarding the size of the family and items on their wish list, I will put the information in the Booster. Thanks for your ongoing support for this important community project. *Edi Norris*



Hat & Mittens Collection – we are collecting hats, mittens, scarves, and gloves for children in need. Until the hat and mitten tree have been put up, please place these items in the back pew in the Welcome Center near the elevator.



The Hispanic Center is now collecting items for their Christmas Shoe Boxes. There are 15 children, which includes 8 girls ages 6-14 years of age and 7 boys ages 2-14 years old. Children's lists of ages are on a sheet on the Welcome Center counter. There are also slips of paper for you to write your Shoe Box child's information and then take with you. You may also contact Sue Jones with questions.





It has been a few years since we took a bus and went caroling. Thanks to Heather Weiss, Jamie Burdorf, and Michelle Morelock they have planned a caroling and soup supper on Sunday, December 10th. The bus will depart from the church at 5:00 p.m. and the soup supper will follow caroling. They have planned to Carol to homes and care centers.

The ladies have set out a sign-up sheet, on the Welcome Center counter if anyone would be interested in helping by providing soup, food, and to help that night.


Finally, they would ask that you dress warmly and wear your ugly Christmas sweater if you have one in your closet.

The PK-6 Sunday School students have been busy decorating bags so they can be placed around the church. They are collecting food for the food pantry to help the holidays a little better for others. Each month we receive a list of food items that the food pantry could use. The congregation has touched so many lives that need assistance and it is a great project for the Sunday School students to be involved in and learn what it means to help others.

***Side note, some church members have asked if we are still collecting for the First Fruits of each month. The answer is yes, and a class from the high school comes once a month and takes the items to the food pantry for the church.



Let Go and Let God Take Your Worries and Fears



God did not design you to be anxious or nervous. In his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus told the crowds, “Do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ . . . Do not worry about tomorrow” — Matthew 6:31,34

At some point, all of us have worried about the basics of life through the COVID-19 pandemic. Our anxieties often involve fundamental things: fears for our health and those we love, how we will make a living, securing supplies, and how to handle previously anticipated events and celebrations. In all these concerns, the issue is one of faith and trust in God. Do we believe that he will do what he has promised to do in his Word?

If you assume that you are the one who is in charge of your life, then you will battle anxiety and fear. However, if you understand the ways of the Lord, then you will know that he is in charge and that the sovereign God of the universe cares for you. If you worry and doubt his goodness, you will never have the peace he wants you to experience. Do you take the time to acknowledge him as your provider? Your answer has everything to do with your anxiety level.

Have you ever watched a mouse running inside a wheel? The faster he runs, the faster the wheel moves — but he doesn't make the slightest progress. He does not even have the sense to get off the wheel. This is exactly what anxiety does to you. As fearful thoughts fill your mind, you begin to run faster, trying harder to meet the demands of others or to prevent an uncertain disaster. But you will never gain complete control over your circumstances because God is the One who is solely in control of all things.

There is only one way to step off the wheel and that is by acknowledging the Lord's ability to take care of every need you have. God created you. He knows your needs and the deepest desires of your heart (Psalm 37:4). He longs for you to end the anxiety cycle and let him lead (Matthew 11:28). First Peter 5:6 – 7 says, “Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.” The word “casting” is related to the Greek verb used in Luke 19:35, when on Palm Sunday the people of Jerusalem threw their garments onto a colt for Jesus to ride. The word describes the same motion: a deliberate action of setting something down and leaving it there.

Jesus wants you to give your cares over to him and leave them with him. You depend on him for life itself, and you acknowledge this by saying, “Here, Jesus. Take my problems. You have the answers! I trust you to show me what to do and to take care of the consequences.”



ADVENT: UNRELENTING GRACE

This Sunday marks the first Sunday of Advent. Advent is traditionally a time of preparation and waiting for Christmas morning. It is a time of tension and paradox. During this season we find ourselves busier and yet the shortening of days and cherished rituals invite us into a time of quiet reflection. This season is a time of celebration and joy, but it also shines a light on loss and grief.

Isaiah 64:4 says, "From ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any god but you who acts on behalf of those who wait for him!"

This Advent may we learn to wait. May we learn to slow down. May we learn the rhythms of unrelenting grace. May we learn to see that Christ has come, Christ is here even now, and Christ will come again.

Grace and peace,
Pastor David B. Clark

WHAT: The Iowa United Methodist Foundation has over 100 scholarships available for the 2024-2025 academic year. There are scholarships specifically for high school seniors, general scholarships for students going to non-Methodist colleges, scholarships for students going to United Methodist colleges, and seminary scholarships designated for individuals following the call to join the ministry.



WHEN: Applications will be accepted starting December 1, 2023, and will remain open until March 1, 2024 (see the tentative timeline below).

HOW: Check out the criteria on our website for any scholarship at any time to make sure you are eligible to apply. After December 1, go to our website at <https://iumf.org/scholarships> and click APPLY NOW to begin the application process.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION TIMELINE:

Dec. 1-March 1: Submit Applications

March 5: Recommendation letter turned in

April or Earl May: Notification of your application status

May to June: Accept or decline your scholarship(s) online