



Weekly Booster

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor

Kelly W. Peavey

pastorkelly@shen.church

Office Manager

Jeff Hiser

office@shen.church

Pianist

Terry Stafford

Choir Director

Sue Jones

Multimedia & Website

Jeff Hiser

Sunday Media Booth

Kris Anderzhon,
Alan Hutchison,
Jeff Hiser

Sunday Facebook Host

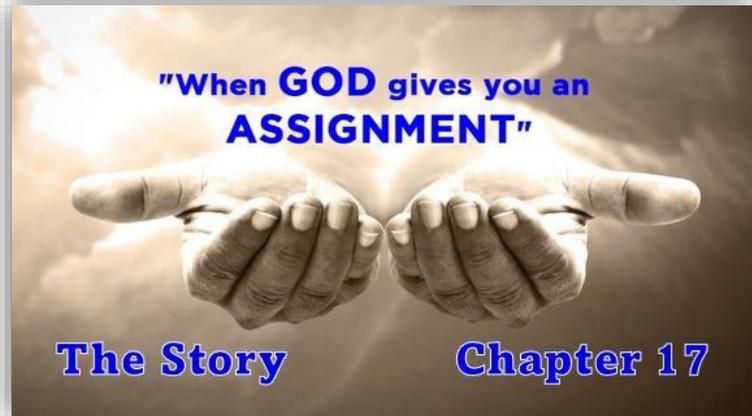
Craig Harris,

Facebook Contributors

Pastor Kelly W. Peavey,
Barb Cunningham,
Craig Harris, Jeff Hiser

Sunday Praise Team

Terry Stafford, Linda Haldane,
Margaret Brady, Deb Finlay,
Jeff Hiser, Jodi Anderzhon



Sally Edwards is a highly esteemed third-grade teacher at Jacksboro Elementary in Texas.¹ She was preparing her students for the TAKS test and compiled an exam to prepare them for it. There were twenty questions. Number eleven on the test was this question: "List in any order the four seasons."

A whopping 67% of her 3rd-grade students answered: "Dove season, deer season, duck season, and turkey season."¹

I don't know what season of life you are in, but I do know this. God has something for you to do. He did for Jeremiah. He told Jeremiah he had work for him to do. His assignment? Stand in the rubble of Jerusalem and weep. He was also told the people would not listen to him.

That was it. And oddly enough, Jeremiah did it. As the people of Judah were leaving Jerusalem in single file as captives, Jeremiah stood weeping and reminding them that God would bring them back with these words: "Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness" (Lamentations 3:21-23).

God had something for Jeremiah to do. And he has something for you to do too. In the New Testament book of Ephesians, the apostle Paul writes to the church, "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God created in advance for us to do" (Eph. 2:10).

Continued page 2

Never let the things you want make you forget the things you have.

If you can't stand the heat-better make plans to avoid it.

Reminders

June 1st

**No Women's Bible Study
11:30 a.m.**

**Praise Team - 5:00 p.m.
Choir Practice - 6:45 p.m.**

June 2nd

**T.O.P.S.
4:30 p.m.**

****Worship Assistants are needed
for June 19th & 26th**

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

**"The Story" Study Groups
Women-Wednesday-11:30 a.m.
All-Wednesday-6:15 p.m.**

**New Address
Scott & Roma King
5417 Sunset Dr.
Midland, MI 48640**

Assignment - Continued from page 1

In God's employment contract for us today, he does not ask us to be successful by the world's standards but rather to be faithful to him to do good things. God is not so much concerned about your ability as he is your availability.

Just like Jeremiah, God is calling you to play a role in his Grand Story. It may be that this is your time to change the direction of your family. Turning from a focus on you alone to a concerning yourself with the things of God. It may be that God is calling you to reach out to a neighbor. Perhaps he is laying on your heart a ministry where there is a need you can't even see at the moment.

Whatever season of life you are in God is calling you to make a difference. And he is desiring to equip you to make that difference. Right now. Today. Are you available for his purposes?

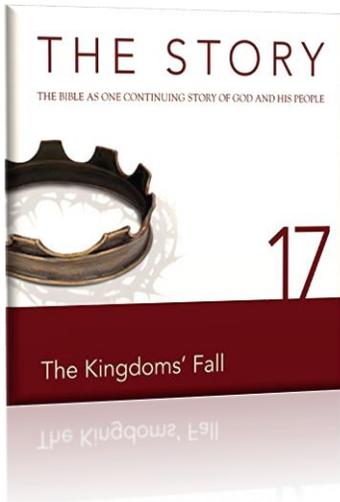
¹ The Story told by Randy Frazee in *The Story* sermon, Chapter 17

Adapted from the article about The Story was originally written by Pastor Rick Brown of Christbridge Fellowship in Tomball, Texas.



There will be one more opportunity to have your picture taken at the church after Pastor Kelly returns from vacation. Update your contact information yourself (see how-to video here: https://youtu.be/3NGE7Ec5_jA), or we can help you. Tell us what info of yours we can share in the directory, even if it's none. It's your decision. A printed directory will be available, but the main directory will be online through our One Church software. One Church software only has places for individual photos, but we are happy to take a family photo for you, too. You can provide your own photo. You can upload it yourself, or we'll help you do it.





Books and Study Guides are still available. Contact the office.

Book Your Appointment Online



Would you like to chat with Pastor Kelly, maybe over coffee, tea, or soda? Need to get something on the church calendar or need something brought to our attention? You can book an appointment online with Jeff or Pastor Kelly by going to the following link <https://bit.ly/3sm5lyY> (click on the link or copy and paste it into your browser). You may also use a QR reader.



Church Office Hours

** Children & Jr.-Sr. High
Sunday School 10:15
Questers (Adults) 10:30

**Chancel Choir –
Wednesdays, 6:45 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 a.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.



How many times was Paul stoned?

- a) never
- b) once
- c) twice
- d) three times

Check page 4 for answers in next week's booster

One of the four faces of the living creatures that Ezekiel saw, was which bird?

- a) Eagle
- b) Owl
- c) Hawk
- d) Dove

Which prophet ate and drank where he wasn't allowed to?

- a) Ezekiel
- b) Elisha
- c) Jeremiah
- d) his name is unknown

Birthdays and Anniversaries



29th – Laura Bowen

31st – Rick & Lorraine Torres

2nd – Dan Weiss

3rd – Jeff Hiser, Elinor Sharp, Paul & Connie Andersen, Dave & Jacque Lashier

4th – Daniel Anderzhon

**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**

200 Church St.
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>



Go to the addresses by holding down
the Ctrl button and clicking on the links
<http://bit.ly/3skF0p9>

Live streaming of our weekly service
is now on our Youtube channel only.

*Prelude/Postlude/Accompanist: *Terry Stafford*

Call to Worship

Leader: When the world divides us

People: Come, Holy Spirit, make us one.

L: When the world calls us orphaned

P: Come, Holy Spirit, make us family

L: When the world leads us astray

P: Come, Holy Spirit, call us home.

All: Come, Holy Spirit, come! Come and fill this place!

"The Kingdoms' Fall"

New Testament Scripture: Acts 16:16-34

New Testament Scripture: *Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21*

Gospel Reading: *John 17:20-26*

Songs

Here I Am to Worship #3177 (Green Book)

Faith of our Father's #710 (Hymnal)

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot #703 (Hymnal)

It's Me, It's Me, O Lord #352 (Hymnal)

Last Week's Attendance

In-Person Worship – 55

Online Worship – Youtube 14

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 May 22nd are c) he did not love Ruth c) bow d) doze and sleep

Clues for May 29th Q1) 2Corinthians, Q2) Ezekiel

Pastor's Reflections



Blessings,
Pastor Kelly



Principles for Interpreting Jesus's Parables

Jesus' parables seldom needed interpretation by his listeners. Part of their effect was their immediacy and ability to "catch" the hearer. Today, however, they come to us in written form and need interpretation because we lack an immediate understanding of the points of reference the original hearers had. We suggest two things –

1. Understanding Context

As always, we concern ourselves basically with the parables in their present biblical contexts. The parables are in a written context, and through the exegetical (explanatory and interpretive) process we can discover their meaning – their *point* – with a high degree of accuracy. What we need to do then is what Matthew did (for example, [Matthew 18:10 – 14](#) and [20:1 – 16](#)): *translate that same point into our own context.*

With the story parables one might even try retelling the story in such a way that, with new points of reference, one's own hearers might feel the anger or joy, of the original hearers' experience.

The following version of the Good Samaritan is not defended as inspired! As an audience, it assumes a typical, well-dressed, middle-American Protestant congregation.

A family of disheveled, unkempt individuals was stranded by the side of a major road on a Sunday morning. They were in obvious distress. The mother was sitting on a tattered suitcase, hair uncombed, clothes in disarray, with a glazed look to her eyes, holding a smelly, poorly clad, crying baby. The father was unshaved, dressed in coveralls, a look of despair on his face as he tried to corral two other youngsters. Beside them was a run-down old car that had just given up the ghost.

Down the road came a car driven by the local bishop; he was on his way to church. And though the father of the family waved frantically, the bishop could not hold up his parishioners, so he acted as though he didn't see them.

Soon came another car and again the father waved furiously. But the car was driven by the president of the Kiwanis Club, and he was late for a statewide meeting of Kiwanis presidents in a nearby city. He, too, acted as though he did not see them and kept his eyes straight on the road ahead of him.

The next car that came by was driven by an outspoken local atheist, who had never been to church in his life. When he saw the family's distress, he took them into his own car. After inquiring as to their need, he took them to a local motel, where he paid for a week's lodging while the father found work. He also paid for the father to rent a car so he could look for work and gave the mother cash for food and new clothes.

One of the authors presented this story once. The startled and angry response made it clear that his hearers had really "heard" the parable for the first time in their lives. You will notice how true to the original context this is. The evangelical Protestant was thinking, of course, about the bishop and the Kiwanis president. Then, surely one of my own will be next.

After all, we have always talked about the Good Samaritan as though Samaritans were the most respected of people. But nothing would be more offensive to the good churchgoer than to praise the actions of an atheist, which, of course, is precisely where the expert in the law was at the original telling.

This may be a bit strong for some, and we insist that you make sure you have done your exegesis with great care before you try it. But our experience is that most of us are a bit high on ourselves, and the retelling of some of Jesus' parables would help to get at our own lack of forgiveness ([Matthew 18:23 – 35](#)), or our own anger at grace when we want God to be "fair" ([Matthew 20:1 – 6](#)), or our pride in our own position in Christ as compared to the "bad guys" ([Luke 18:9 – 14](#)). We did not know whether to laugh or cry when we were told of a Sunday school teacher who, after an hour of excellent instruction on this latter parable in which he had thoroughly explained the abuses of Pharisaism, concluded in prayer — in all seriousness: "Thank you, Lord, that we are not like the Pharisee in this story"! And we had to remind each other not to laugh too hard, lest our laughter is saying, "Thank you, Lord, that we are not like that Sunday school teacher.

2. Understanding the Coming Kingdom

Our other suggestion is related to the fact that all of Jesus' parables are in some way vehicles that proclaim the kingdom. Hence you must immerse yourself in the meaning of the kingdom in the ministry of Jesus. In this regard, we highly recommend that you read George E. Ladd's *The Presence of the Future* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1974).

The urgent message of the kingdom as present and soon to be consummated is still needed in our own day. Those who are trying to secure their lives by possessions urgently need to hear the word of impending judgment, and the lost desperately need to hear the Good News. Joachim Jeremias eloquently put it this way (*Rediscovering the Parables* [New York: Scribner, 1966], p. 181):

The hour of fulfillment has come; that is the keynote of them all. The strong man is disarmed, the powers of evil have to yield, the physician has come to the sick, the lepers are cleansed, the heavy burden of guilt is removed, the lost sheep is brought home, and the door of the Father's house is opened, the poor and the beggars are summoned to the banquet, a master whose kindness is undeserved pays wages in full, a great joy fills all hearts. God's acceptable year has come. For there has appeared the one whose veiled majesty shines through every word and every parable — the Saviour.

Article is drawn from [How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth](#) by Gordon D. Free and Douglas Stuart. *NIV News*, HarperCollins Christian Publishing April 25, 2022, 501 Nelson Place, Nashville, TN 37214.



In a special ceremony Wednesday morning, May 18th, Shenandoah High School special education teacher Mary Peterson was given the Lakin Outstanding Teacher award, including a \$10,000 prize for the teacher and a \$2,500 gift to the school district. Peterson was one of 180 nominations for the award from 19 different school districts this year. She was nominated by Linda Laughlin, Heather Weiss, and Crystal Wittmer. Congratulations, Mary!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

You are invited next Sunday, June 5th, after church for cake in Fellowship Hall to celebrate the birthdays of Elinor, Jeff, and Lanette.