



Weekly Booster

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor

David B. Clark

pastordavid@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 David B. Clark,
Barb Cunningham,
Craig Harris, Jeff Hiser

Sunday Praise Team

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



God Calls Us to Lead

Leadership is for everyone! How can I make such a bold claim? Because every person who accepts Christ is called to influence others. Everyone. Leadership is not just for a select few.

God is the Ultimate Leader, and he calls every believer to lead others. God could have arranged his creation in any number of ways. He chose to create human beings who possess spirits and the capacity to relate to him and follow him, yet who are not forced to do so. When mankind fell into sin, God could have easily executed a plan of redemption that did not include sinful people in the process. But he has called us to participate and to lead others as we follow him. He makes that clear from the beginning: "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule" (Genesis 1:26).

The call to leadership is a consistent pattern in the Bible. When God decided to raise a nation of his own, he didn't call upon the masses. He called out one leader—Abraham. When he wanted to deliver his people out of Egypt, he didn't guide them as a group. He raised a leader to do it—Moses. When it came time for the people to cross into the Promised Land, they followed one man—Joshua. Every time God desires to do something great, he calls a leader to step forward. Today he still calls leaders to step forward for every great work.

Continued page 2.

Question and Answer

Q: What did Daniel tell his Real Estate agent?

A: I'd prefer a house with no den.

Reminders

August 26th

Men's Bible Study – 8:00 a.m.

August 30th

Praise Team - 5:00 p.m.

August 31st

T.O.P.S. – 5:30 p.m.

September 10th

Sunday School Begins
PK-6th & Jr/Sr High

****Worship Assistants are needed
for September**

**** 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**

Lead- Continued from page 1.

Leadership Defined

Years ago in his book *Spiritual Leadership*, J. Oswald Sanders gave the best definition of leadership I've ever read. He simply stated, "Leadership is influence." I have embraced that definition and taught it to thousands and thousands over the years. If you are a follower of Christ, then you recognize that you are called to influence others. Jesus said "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:13–16). It doesn't matter what your role is in life; if you call yourself a Christian, then you are called to influence others.

The True Nature of Leadership

Somewhere along the way, countless Christians became convinced that if they were going to follow Christ, they must become sheepish, quiet, and withdrawn. The problem is that they have confused meekness with weakness. As Christians, we recognize our weaknesses, but that is when God's strength is perfected in us (see 2 Corinthians 12:9). What God desires is that we display broken boldness.

A follower of God should be a leader of people. That's more than just being "boss" or having a leadership position. And it certainly doesn't mean being pushy or in control. Jesus taught that it means serving others (see Matthew 20:25–28). While there is a gift of leadership (according to Romans 12:8), you need not possess that gift to exert your influence in a Christlike way.

The problem is that, if you are like most people, you may not wake up in the morning, look in the mirror, and say, "Now, there's a godly, effective leader if I ever saw one." Most people don't believe they can make a positive impact on the world they live in. Even most pastors feel this way. The Barna Research Group reported that 95 percent of American pastors said they don't believe they have the spiritual gift of leadership.¹ Nor do they feel they have been adequately prepared for the task of leadership.

Continued page 5

Question and Answer

Q: Who in the Bible knew the most people?

A: Abraham knew a Lot.

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 – Starts September 10th**

****NO Chancel Choir Until Fall – 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.

BIBLE Quiz

Who ate honey while others were eating raw meat?

- a) David
- b) Saul
- c) Jonathan
- d) Samson

According to the law, was Herod allowed to be the king of Israel?

- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) If the people agree to
- d) Not known

What did God say Nineveh would do in the book of Nahum?

- a) Seek refuge from the enemy
- b) Go into hiding
- c) Be drunken
- d) All of the above

Check page 4 for answers from the previous week.



20th – Jamie Burdorf
23rd – LeRoy Whitehill, Derek & Stephanie Howard
24th – Craig & Kathy Harris
26th – Karen Foster

****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>



Services are now on our YouTube
channel only.

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

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

Call to Worship

Leader: Life can sometimes be very difficult.

People: We look around and wonder where God is.

L: In the midst of our trials and tribulations, God is with us.

P: God surrounds us with love and courage.

L: Come, let us praise God for God's abiding presence.

P: Lord, thank you for always being with us, even when we don't recognize your loving presence.

“ON THIS ROCK”

Gospel Reading: Matthew 16:13-20

Songs

**The Church's One Foundation #545
Blessed Be the Name of the Lord #2034
Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing #400
Bind Us Together #2226**

Last Week's Attendance

**In-Person Worship – ?
On-Line Worship – 22**

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 August 20th are c) it's head b) 3 people c) Judah
Quiz s hints – Q1) 1Samuel Q2) Deuteronomy Q3) Nahum**

Lead - Continued from page 2.

The truth is that few people are natural when it comes to leading others. But everyone has potential. I believe you can become a better leader, regardless of your age, gender, marital status, or profession. Sociologists say that even introverted people will influence an average of 10,000 people in their lifetime. Just think about that! Someone who's not even trying to lead others will impact many. Just think about what one person can do if he or she is intentional about leading—as Jesus directed us to be. What kind of impact potential has God put inside of you?

The Best Means for a Lasting Legacy

Becoming a good leader may not guarantee that you will be able to leave a spiritual legacy for future generations, but it certainly provides you the greatest opportunity to do so. The Law of Legacy states, “True success is measured by succession.” A legacy that does not include people has no eternal value. Make it your aim to practice transformational leadership, where people's lives are changed from the inside out. That kind of leadership is based on character, conviction, and Christlikeness. In other words, transformational leadership follows the pattern laid down in Scripture.

My prayer is that you will be transformed by spending time with the men and women God has used as leaders to change the world for millennia—the men and women in the Bible. No matter how strong or weak your leadership is—whether you are a “4” or a “9” on the leadership scale—you can improve and reach your leadership potential for the glory of God.

Adapted from the article from the content in The Maxell Leadership Bible by Dr. John C. Maxwell. HarperCollins Christian Publishing. All Rights Reserved 501 Nelson Place, Nashville, TN 37214, USA, NIV Weekly Blog, August 21, 2023.

Positivity is the Competitive Advantage

Some people roll their eyes when they hear someone talk about positivity. They think of positivity as Pollyanna, weak and annoying. They mistakenly think positivity is about rah-rah and motivation.



But real positivity is really about optimism, grit, mental toughness, and energy that delivers real results. Positivity doesn't ignore reality. It maintains optimism and belief to create a better reality.

Positivity attracts great people to your team and organization and helps you build a great culture. It is the glue that fosters essential relationships and connections and helps you overcome the negativity that sabotages your vision and mission.

Too many people think you have to choose between positivity and winning. The truth is, you don't have to choose. Positivity leads to winning. It's the way to lead and perform if you want to win. Just ask the Los

Angeles Dodgers and Rams. Clemson Football. Miami Heat. Tampa Bay Lightning and many other teams I've worked with embrace positivity and win.

Positivity is a competitive advantage!

If you don't believe it or have some doubters on your team/organization, you can share the following proof of positivity with them.

Benefits of a Positive Perspective:

How you see the world determines the world you see. A positive perspective causes you to see the world in a positive light which helps you see the good that is happening right now and create positive possibilities tomorrow. Positivity broadens your perspective allowing you to see and find solutions whereas negativity narrows it and causes you to focus on problems. A positive mindset sees challenges as opportunities, fosters adaptability and growth, and powers you to thrive through change.

The Power of a Positive Mindset:

A positive mindset nourishes your mind and brain with positive thoughts and beliefs that maximize your ability and potential. I've never heard anyone say that someone needs to be more negative to get better. :) Most of us need more positivity because we must constantly battle life's challenges. Positivity helps you overcome the negativity that discourages you and the adversity that makes you want to give up. So when faced with adversity, naysayers, criticism, and rejection, a positive mindset leads to a higher state of mind that leads to more grit, resilience, optimism, belief, growth, and success.

Positive Leaders Deliver Positive Results:

A [Positive Leader](#) is a better leader. A Positive Leader sees a positive future and can rally their team to create it. With a positive mindset, a positive leader can encourage themselves and their team through challenges and change and develop relationships that lead to enhanced engagement and performance. Throughout history, it's the positive leaders who have made the greatest impact and changed the world.

Positive Leaders Build Great Cultures:

When talking about Positive Leadership, we must also recognize that positive leaders build great cultures that lead to sustained success. Great cultures don't happen by accident. They are created by positive leaders who live and share core values, implement success principles, attract and hire people who bring the principles and values to life, and reinforce their culture. Positive leaders invest in the root (culture, people, purpose) that leads to the fruit (results, success).

Positive Teams Outperform Negative Teams:

Speaking of results, no one creates success alone. We all need a team to be successful and positivity is essential to building a strong team. [Teams that stay positive](#) through adversity together grow stronger and succeed together. Negative teams divide, crumble and fall apart. Positive teams unite, connect, commit, and get stronger together.

Positive Relationships Build Strength:

Relationships are the foundation that builds a strong team and guess what helps build a great relationship? You guessed it. Positivity. Couples who had more positive interactions at a ratio of 3 positive to 1 negative or greater were more likely to stay married. Couples who compliment, support, and encourage one another are happier and stronger together. Numerous studies demonstrate that positive relationships at work lead to higher engagement, greater retention, and improved morale and performance.

I could go on and on and talk about how positivity makes you a better coach, teacher, parent, designer, builder, etc. To build something or build up someone, optimism, positivity, and belief are essential to building greatness. If you don't have it, you can't share it. Look around and it's clear the world desperately needs you to share positivity.

Positivity isn't the only ingredient for success, but it's the key ingredient that makes you and everything you do and everyone around you better.

Positivity is the difference, and it is the key to you making a greater difference.

Adapted from the article by Jon Gordon Weekly Newsletter. The Jon Gordon Companies, Inc. 830-13 A1AN., Suite 111, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082. August 21, 2023.



Food Pantry Needs for September

Peanut Butter & Jelly, Brownie, cake, cookie, & muffin mixes, spaghetti sauce & pasta (any kind), green beans, corn, peas, pineapple, Tuna & Chicken Helpers, microwave popcorn, Chicken Noodle soup, toothpaste, deodorant

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.

Hispanic Center

The Hispanic Center needs backpacks for several students. Sue has a variety of ages that could use a backpack. If you would like to donate a backpack you can bring this Sunday and put them in the front pew of the Welcome Center. Your donations are always helpful and greatly appreciated.



Mark your calendar!

CHILDREN'S
Sunday School

Begins on Sunday, Sept. 10th!

Hello!

The new year for Sunday School will begin on September 10th. We have some BIG changes for the preschool-sixth grade group that we are very excited about! Sunday School for THAT AGE GROUP ONLY will be held during the church service. The children will leave the sanctuary after the children's message, and you will pick them up downstairs in the fellowship hall following the service. The only exception will be during communion week (the first Sunday of the month) when we will return upstairs.

We think this will be beneficial for both the kids and the parents/grandparents!

7th-12th grades will still meet from 10:30-11:30 AM.

Please let us know if you have any questions!

We look forward to seeing you! Sunday School

Teachers - Laura Bowen, Heather Weiss, Michelle Morelock, Jamie Burdorf,

Shelly Hamilton, and Dan and Deb Finlay



Learning to Listen: Contact Bias

While there are certainly more biases than what I have written about the past several weeks, this last bias directs us to such an important way in which Jesus lived and in which he called his disciples. It is called Contact Bias which is a bias towards those that we already are in close contact with.

Our connections shape us. As our country becomes more and more polarized in our politics and in our churches, we have the tendency to limit our contact with people who believe like us, who behave like us, who vote like us, who love other people like us, who hold the same values as us. This was further heightened during the years of the pandemic in which our contact with others was limited; often limited to people like us. This is an echo chamber, where everyone around us is really a reflection of ourselves.

Jesus' example in the Gospels is one that is constantly going beyond and making contact with people who are beyond the echo chamber. Remember this past Sunday's passage in Matthew 15:21-28. Jesus and his disciples crossed the border and interacted with a "pagan" or "Gentile" woman and there it was discovered that God was already at work in her life. The disciples wanted to send her away. They could not hear her pleas for compassion perhaps because of a contact bias.

When we start to connect with people who are different from us, that contact will give us the opportunity to see how God works in this world and will expand our ability to listen and to live in compassion with others who believe, think, or vote differently than us. Love and compassion flourish in difference; not sameness.

Grace and peace,
Pastor David B. Clark



**Aldersgate United Women in Faith
Annual District Meeting
10 a.m., Sat. Sept. 9, 2023
Stuart Mount Vernon United Methodist
Church**

9:30-10 a.m. Gathering & coffee; 10 a.m. Meeting.

Bring Walmart gift cards to support Families First (formerly Bidwell-Riverside & Hawthorn Hill). We'll have a basket near the registration table.

Please register by Tuesday, **Sept. 5** with the number from your unit attending to: SMV United Women in Faith, Stuart-Mount Vernon UMC, P.O. Box 127, 219 NW 2nd, Stuart, IA 50250.

Registrations are due by Tuesday, September 5. Registration can be at <https://bit.ly/44DES7f> or QR Code

