



Weekly Booster

CHURCH STAFF

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David B. Clark

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Jeff Hiser

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Pianist

Terry Stafford

Bells & Choir Directors

Dan & Linnea Shook

Multimedia & Website

Jeff Hiser

Sunday Media Booth

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, Drew Morelock,

Pastor David



How to Stop Comparing Yourself to Others

We are all susceptible to comparison –comparing ourselves to others in a superior way that leads to pride. Or focusing on someone else who seems to have a perfect life and letting discontentment grow in our hearts. But you can break free from either extreme.

Remind yourself that . . .

1. Envy is pointless.

Often the devil wants to distract you from what God has for your life by getting you to focus on someone else. Don't let him do that to you! Instead, focus on what God has for *you* and how he wants to use you.

2. You are unique.

You are not a victim in this life but a unique creation of God with a role he wants you to play in your world (see Psalm 139:14). If you spend your time trying to be someone else, you aren't fulfilling the role he designed for you.

3. You can choose to accept yourself and others.

Continued page 2.

Quote

“A loyal friend laughs at your jokes when they’re not so good, and sympathizes with your problems when they’re not so bad.”
Arnold H. Glasgow

Reminders

February 25th
 Sunday Service 9:00 a.m.

February 27th
 Lenten Study begins with
 Bishop Kennetha
 See Booster for more information

February 28th
 Bible Study – 11:00 a.m.
 Praise Team - 5:00 p.m.
 Choir – 5:30 p.m.
 Bell Choir – 6:30 p.m.

February 29th
 T.O.P.S.

****No Men’s Saturday Bible Study
 Until Spring - TBA**

****Worship Assistants are needed
 for March**

**** 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**

Comparing Yourself - Continued from page 1.**3. You can choose to accept yourself and others.**

Ask Jesus to change your focus from appearances to what matters (see John 7:24) so that you can accept others — and yourself — just the way they (or you) are.

The secret to contentment is not having a perfect life with everything you want. Contentment is a learned attitude (see Philippians 4:11–13). When you are tempted to play the comparison game, flex your gratitude muscles instead. You may want to start a thankfulness journal in which you list the blessings God has given you. Or you may simply want to name them off while you drive in the car, pray, or take a shower.

Choose to focus on Christ and his kingdom rather than others and the things of this world, and you will be amazed at how your perspective changes from comparison to contentment.

Meditate on David’s words in Psalm 139:14:

*“I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;
 your works are wonderful,
 I know that full well.”*

Adapted from the Flourish: The NIV Bible for Women. HarperCollins Christian Publishing. NIV Weekly Blog, All Rights Reserved 501 Nelson Place, Nashville, TN 37214, USA, February 12, 2024



A big thank you to those who let us know you were watching the service live this past Sunday. Taking attendance online is difficult each week but only concurrent numbers are recorded. The church must report certain information each year and online attendance is one of the requirements. If you are watching online, will you please just type your name in the chat area so a better count can be taken? If you have others watching with you, please list their names as well. Your help is appreciated.

Quote

“There is nothing better than a friend unless it is a friend with chocolate.”

Linda Grayson

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.



Which nation was
described as “hasty and
bitter” according to the
book of Habakkuk?

- a) Chaldeans
- b) Israel
- c) Syria
- d) Ethiopia

By how many years did God
extend Hezekiah’s life?

- a) 5 years
- b) 10 years
- c) 15 years
- d) 20 years

In what will the Lord Jesus
come with His mighty angels
according to the book of 2
Thessalonians?

- a) Rushing Winds
- b) Thunders
- c) Flaming Fire
- d) Earthquake

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



26th – Gaylen Lundgren, Mac McNeal
27th – Parker Dailey
1st – Jim O’Hara

****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: We stand as a witness to future generations:

People: God hears us when we cry out!

L: All the ends of the earth shall remember:

P: God does not turn from us!

L: We shall live for God,

P: and we will proclaim God's glory to all the earth!

“What Matters Most”

Scripture Reading: Mark 8:31-38

Songs

Standing on the Promises #374

Jesus at the Center (screens)

The Summons #2130

Last Week's Attendance

In-Person Worship – 77

On-Line Worship – 23

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 Jan 18th are c) darkness a) Jericho b) his father couldn't see
Quiz hints – Q1) Habakkuk Q2) Isaiah Q3) 2 Thessalonians**



March 2024

Chunky Style Soups, Spaghetti Sauce and Pasta (any kind), Hamburger, Tuna and Chicken Helpers, Potato Flakes, Boxed Potatoes, Green Beans, Corn, Macaroni & Cheese, Cake, Brownie, Cookie, and Pancake Mix and Cereal, Bar Soap,

Deodorant, Shampoo & Conditioner, 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.

Bring Your Change to Make a Change

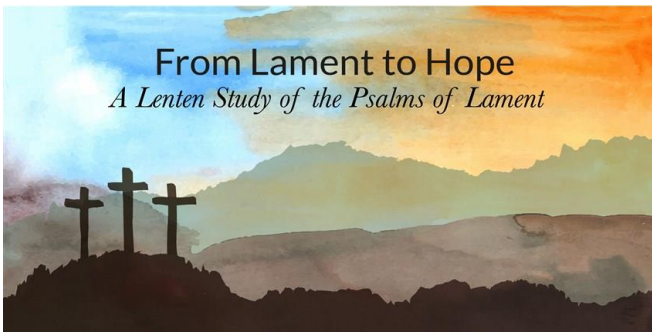
*Collected each Sunday after
the children's message*

"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 February will go to the Meals on Wheels program.



From Lament to Hope: A Lenten Study with Bishop Kennetha of the Psalms of Lament

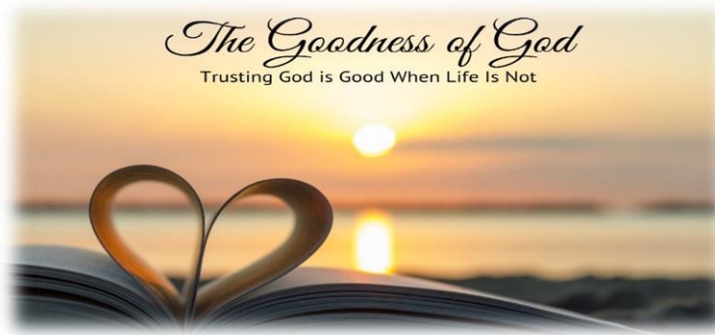
The psalms were Israel's hymnbook. And psalms of lament were Israel's expression of grief in the midst of trial. For this season of Lent, Bishop Kennetha invites you to join her for a conference-wide online study that will explore both

personal and communal psalms as we focus on events impacting our world and our lives. In particular, we will pray for peace in the Holy Land, Ukraine, and our own nation. As we move from Lent to Easter, we will see how the psalms can lead us to hope.

This Lenten study will give us the opportunity to strengthen our relationships with each other and with our worldwide United Methodist connection as we invite special guests to share on the topics we address. We will conclude with an annual conference-wide opportunity to worship together and take action for peace.

Sessions will be held over four Tuesday nights (February 27, March 5, March 12, and March 19) on Zoom beginning at 7:00 pm. Participants will have an opportunity for conversation and prayer in breakout rooms.

Register here <https://bit.ly/4bjalA6> or scan the QR code



Faith in the Goodness of God

The Bible claims that God is loving and all-powerful. Yet we all know from personal experience that evil still exists in the world. We must admit that part of the question of the presence of evil and the biblical claim of the love and power of God simply cannot be answered. We are called, by faith, to hold the presence of evil and the character of God in tension. We are called to believe that, along with the martyred saints, we will someday confess, “Just and true are your ways, King of the nations” (Revelation 15:3).

The writer of the Old Testament book of Habakkuk asks why there is injustice in the world, and God answers that evil will eventually be punished. In the meantime, the righteous person will live by their faith (Habakkuk 2:4 ESV), believing that God will punish evil. Hearing this, Habakkuk responds with his beautiful statement of faith:

*Though the fig tree does not bud
and there are no grapes on the vines,
though the olive crop fails
and the fields produce no food,
though there are no sheep in the pen
and no cattle in the stalls,
yet I will rejoice in the Lord,
I will be joyful in God my Savior.
Habakkuk 3:17–18*

Part of the answer to the problem of pain is that God requires us to have faith in his goodness *despite* the presence of pain.

One of the reasons faith is required to live as a believing Christian is because there is so much we don't understand about evil, and according to the books of Job and Habakkuk, this ignorance is by God's design. We don't know where Satan came from. God must have created him since God created all things (Colossians 1:16), but why did God create Satan? If Satan is an angel, why did God allow him and his followers to fall? And couldn't God have made the world in such a way that humans could make their own choices, but evil choices were not an option? While we're on this earth, we can't ultimately know why there is evil in this world. Certainly, most of us have rightly said at one time or another that evil doesn't make sense. Ultimately, evil does not make sense,[1] and apparently, we don't need to know where it came from, or, ultimately, why God continues to allow it to happen.

Whenever we talk about pain and suffering, that conversation must be held up against the backdrop of heaven. Pain often forces our heads down, looking only at ourselves in the present, focusing on the reality of the pain. Faith lifts our heads, acknowledging the pain of the present but vowing to see it in the light of the future, in light of eternity. This is what Paul meant when he wrote to the church in Rome, "I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us" (Romans 8:18). He wrote the church in Corinth, "For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal" (2 Corinthians 4:17–18). Someday the tension between earthly evil and God's goodness will make sense, but until then we live by faith.

To the non-Christian, I understand that this whole discussion about faith appears to sidestep the issue. Pain and suffering are here and now, and we need an answer here and now, or so they claim. However, for Christians, we are content to live by faith, acknowledging that someday this world will all make sense, as difficult as it is to accept when there is so much pain and suffering everywhere in the world—and in our own homes—right now. The Bible teaches that "without faith, it is impossible to please God because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek

him” (Hebrews 11:6). Part of our heavenly reward will certainly be a clear understanding of the character of God and the world as we experienced it.

[1] This point is made repeatedly by Clay Jones, *Why Does God Allow Evil? Compelling Answers for Life’s Toughest Questions* (Eugene, OR: Harvest House, 2017).

Adapted from the article by Bill Mounce. HarperCollins Christian Publishing. NIV Weekly Blog, All Rights Reserved 501 Nelson Place, Nashville, TN 37214, USA, November 8, 2021.

Aldersgate District Town Hall with Bishop Kennetha

Sunday, March 3, 2024, from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. in person at [Creston First United Methodist Church](#) (400 N Elm St) or on Zoom.



The focus of our gatherings will be on our mission, vision, and core values at the Iowa Annual Conference. Bishop Kennetha Bigham-Tsai will be present for a time of teaching, and together, we will share stories about what it means to be engaged and connected with one another. Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/3T5iQYf>

Zoom QR Code



Palm/Passion Sunday – March 17th

Maundy Thursday – March 28th

Good Friday – March 29th

Holy Saturday – March 30th

Easter Sunday – March 31st

Shenandoah United Methodist Church Ministers 1870 - Present

Samuel Farlow 1870-71

G.C. Waynick 1871-72

Jesse Evans 1872-73

Fred Harris 1873-75

W.S. Hooker 1875-76

J.M. Conrad 1876-77

W.J. Beck 1877-78

L.H. Woodworth 1878-80

W.D. Bennett 1880-81

J.C. Eckles 1881-83

A.P. Hull 1883-85

W.O. Allen 1885-86

L.B. Wichersham 1886-91

A.E. Griffith 1891-94

G.W. Roderick 1894-96

M.C. Waddell 1896-98

F.L. Hayward 1898-99

Wm. Stevenson 1899-1902

Wm. M. Dudley 1902-05

C.J. English 1905-07

B.F. Chrissman 1907-12

F.W. Simpson 1912-17

A.S. Woodard 1917-23

L.P. Goodwin 1923-29

F.N. Willis 1929-30

L.E. Watson 1930-34

E.A. Bentzinger 1934-38

W.J. Todd 1938-38

J. Richard Sneed 1938-42

Alvin T. Maberry 1945-51

Harlow T. Doliber (Asst.) 1949-51

J. Roland Crandall 1951-60

Gerald M. Rosenberger 1960-66

Lester C. Hall 1966-69

Donald Bissinger 1969-73

Robert K. Wilcox (Assoc.) 1969-73

Raymond Lott 1973-78

Donald R. Arthur 1978-84

Don Mitchem (Assoc.) 1978-82

Marilyn Winch (Assoc.) 1982-84

Daniel J. Herndon 1984-87

James S. Dale 1984-88

Beverly Butler (Assoc.) 1987-88

Bob D. Davis 1988-93

Roger C. Madden 1993-2003

James Gubser 2003-08

Clark L. Finehout 2008-11

Alan Moore (Lay) 2010-11

Ed Powers 2011-14

Humberto Gonzalez 2014-18

Luke Fillmore 2018-2021

Kelly W. Peavey 2021-2022

David B. Clark 2022-

