



Weekly Booster

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor

Oliver Fabros

pastoroliver@shen.church

Office Manager

Jeff Hiser

office@shen.church

Pianist

Terry Stafford

Bells & Choir Directors

Danny & Linnea Shook

Multimedia & Website

Jeff Hiser

Sunday Media Booth

Alan Hutchison

Jeff Hiser

Sunday Facebook Host

Craig Harris,

Facebook Contributors

Pastor Oliver Fabros,

Craig Harris, Jeff Hiser

Sunday Praise Team

Terry Stafford, Linda Haldane,

Margaret Brady, Deb Finlay,

Jeff Hiser, Pastor Oliver

*Our Vision: **Growing** as
disciples of Jesus while
connecting with others and
serving our community.*



Trust In the Lord With All Your Heart

When my oldest son, Emmett, started learning to ride a bike, we found a bike for him at a rummage sale. I think it was only about \$5. The bike had flames painted on it along with the brand name in red letters. Emmett thought it looked pretty cool! I attached training wheels onto the bike, and Emmett strapped on his big, cherry-red helmet. We started practicing in an empty parking lot.

Slowly, we made our way around the parking lot in giant ovals. I talked him through how to ride a bike the whole time we were practicing: "Aim for that light post. Keep your front wheel pointed at it. Don't turn too sharply. Remember to balance. Keep pedaling. Don't look behind you while you're going forward; aim your tires where you want the bike to go."

At first I kept my hand firmly on his shoulder. But little by little, he was going farther and farther on his own, without me needing to reach down to turn or straighten the handlebars for him or push him along. I just walked behind him and kept talking: "Aim for that bush. Don't turn too hard." He heard my voice and tried to do what I said. I was always right behind him.

The relationship my son and I have as I'm teaching him to ride a bike is similar to the kind of relationship the speaker in Proverbs wants his son to have with God.

Continued on page 2

"There's no elevator to success. You have to take the stairs." Zig Ziglar

"Success is not the absence of failure, it's persistence through failure."
Aisha Taylor

Reminders

August 30th

Sunday Service 9:00 a.m.
PK-6 S.S. & Jr/Sr High – starts
September 13th
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 2nd

Praise Team – 4:00 p.m.
No Bell or Chancel Choirs until fall
Practice begins September 2nd

September 3rd

T.O.P.S.

Worship Assistant is
needed each Sunday,
sign up at the Welcome Center

Meals-On-Wheels Deliveries
Sign up at the Welcome Counter

Fellowship Volunteers and treats
needed, sign up in Fellowship Hall

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost
August 30, 2026



Trust - continued from page 1.

The speaker wants his son to listen to God and to trust God in everything: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding" (Proverbs 3:5). What does it mean to lean on our own understanding? I suppose it would be a bit like Emmett riding his bike without training wheels or without his father's help and instruction—just heading for the streets or sidewalks. It wouldn't go well. His path would be fraught with danger.

Proverbs 3:6 goes on to say, "In all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." God will show you the way. Like a father saying, "Aim for that bush," God has a road map for the good and flourishing life. If we trust him, we'll be able to walk according to that road map. We'll be on the good path.

The command continues in verse 7: "Do not be wise in your own eyes." The Bible gives us access to the wisdom of God and his good instructions for our lives. If we make ourselves the measure of wisdom and truth, we'll always be in danger. We'll make decisions contrary to God's will. We'll end up hurting ourselves and others. That's the cost of being wise in our own eyes.

If, on the other hand, we "fear the Lord and shun evil," we'll flourish. As verse 8 illustrates, "This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones." We don't need to read this too literally; it's a poetic way of showing that following God's will and design for our lives will lead to flourishing.

But what does it mean to "fear the Lord"? It means to reverently trust him and to obey his instructions for our lives. "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" (9:10). The proper fear of God has to do with the posture of our heart. Our heart gives direction to our life by making the critical choice between arrogant self-reliance and faithful trust. The heart that trusts, fears, and honors God knows that abundant life can only be found through Jesus.

This kind of fear of the Lord reminds me of King Hezekiah, who was the king of Judah when the great Assyrian army arrived to destroy the city of Jerusalem. Assyria's king, Sennacherib, sent Hezekiah a threatening letter stating that the Assyrians would defeat Jerusalem just as they had defeated so many other cities. King Sennacherib said that the Israelites' God could not save them, just as the gods of the other nations were not able to save their people.

Continued on page 6

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 Ad Board Members

Bob Lynn - Chair
Mary Peterson - Secretary
Darlene Howard - At-Large
Roger Jones - Trustee
Dave Christensen - SPRC
Dan Weiss -
Finance/Stewardship
Dave Lashier - Treasurer
Craig Harris - Lay Member to
Annual Conference
Connie Anderson - Memorials
Linda Haldane - Membership
Oliver Fabros - Pastor

Church Office Hours

**** Children & Jr.-Sr. High
Sunday School –
PK-6 & Jr/Sr High
resumes in the fall**

Wednesday

Praise Team – 4:00 p.m.
Bell Choir – again in fall
Chancel Choir – in the fall

The front door to the church
will be locked during office
hours. Please ring the
doorbell to be let into the
church.

Monday

9:00-11:00
12:00-3:00

Tuesday

9:00-11:00
12:00-3:00

Wednesday

Office Closed

Bible Study 11:00

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 to
enter 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 on the next
business day.



Who closed the door of
the ark when everyone
was inside?

- a) Noah
- b) The Lord
- c) One of Noah's sons
- d) Noah's wife

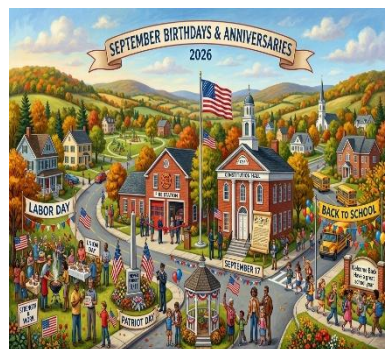
Where could Jesus not
perform many miracles
because of their unbelief?

- a) Jerusalem
- b) Jericho
- c) His hometown
- d) Canaan

Who made an ivory throne
overlaid with gold?

- a) Solomon
- b) David
- c) Hezekiah
- d) Nebuchadnezzar

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



30th – Annalise McIntosh

1st – Sandy Bailey, Charles Hall, Kris & Jodi
Anderzhon

2nd – Bob Burchett

3rd – Ed Bonefas, Dave Lashier, September
McElroy

4th – Jim Brownlee

5th – Alex McIntosh

****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: God meets us on holy ground and calls us by name.

People: We turn aside, listen, and open our hearts.

L: Christ does not gather the church only to keep us safe inside.

P: Christ sends us with genuine love, courageous service, and costly grace.

L: Shenandoah is before us, our neighborhood, our mission field, our home.

P: We will carry God's welcome beyond these walls.

ALL: Here we are, Lord. Shape us, fill us, and send us.

"Beyond The Walls: Thrive Where You Are Planted"

Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 29:4-14

Songs

How Great Thou Art #77

Sanctuary (screens)

Here I Am, Lord #593

Go Now in Peace #665

Last Week's Attendance

In-Person Worship – 85 Online Worship – 18

Our Vision:

"Growing as disciples of Jesus while connecting with others and serving our community."

Answers for August 23rd are d) Peter d) Ezekiel d) trees

Quiz hints – Q1 Genesis Q2) Matthew Q3) 1 Kings



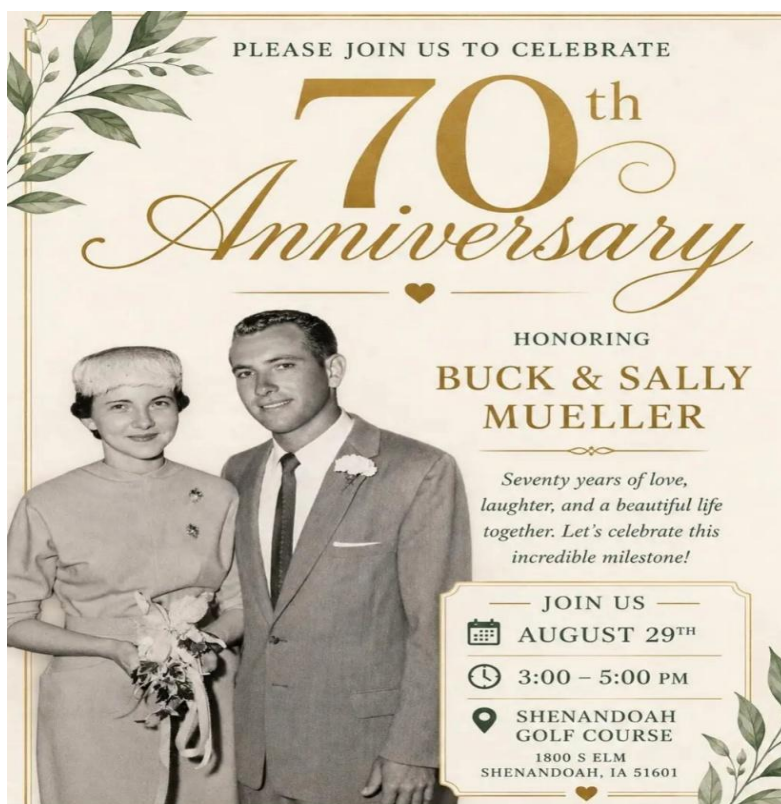
September 2026

Cereal, Hamburger, Tuna, and Chicken Helpers, Jelly, Mandarin Oranges, Pineapple, and Cinnamon Applesauce, Rice and Side Dishes, Cookie, Cake, and Muffin Mixes, Chunky Style Soup, Soda Crackers, Microwave Popcorn, Hot Chocolate Mix, Toilet Paper, Kleenex

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 home with their food items. 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.

Thank you to everyone who continues to support the Community Food Pantry. We exist totally on donations; we couldn't assist those in need without your help!

If you or anyone who would be interested in volunteering at the Food Pantry, please contact Jeannine K. Liljedahl at 712-215-2488.





Practice for the Bell and Chancel choir will start on Wednesday, September 2nd. See the times on the flyer. Join the fun and fellowship.

Trust - continued from page 2.

How did Hezekiah respond to this threat? He didn't go to his military intelligence officers. He didn't go to his political cabinet. He didn't sit down and strategize with his chief of staff. No. Hezekiah's response was powerful. He took the threatening letter and went up to the temple. Hezekiah spread the letter out before God and prayed for God to intervene (2 Kings 19:14–19). And God did intervene, saving Jerusalem from the Assyrian warriors (2 Kings 19:35–36).

What does Hezekiah show us when his city is on the verge of being attacked by a super-army? He shows us how to “trust in the Lord with all [our] heart and lean not on [our] own understanding.” He shows us how to “submit to God in all [our] ways.” Don't turn to the left, afraid of the danger you see; don't turn to the right, looking for a savior other than God.

This reminds me of an activity I used to do with my youth group. We would blindfold one person and then set up obstacles in a room. Then we would tell the person to try to get through the obstacles while everyone else yelled instructions at the same time: “Duck! Go left! Go right!” It was chaos. Which voice should they listen to? The blindfolded person would stumble along and try their best. But then we did it again. This time the blindfolded person was guided by just one voice. Only one person would call out instructions. And getting through the obstacles was as easy as walking a straight path. The blindfolded person would hear, “Take one step. Now move left. Walk forward.” It was clear because there was only one voice to listen to. It was like that one voice was saying, “This is the path; this is the way. Watch out for what's on your left; don't bump into that chair on your right.”

God does the same thing for us. In fact, we find this promise in Isaiah when things are falling apart for Israel. God gives Isaiah visions of the future, which include things like God's Spirit being poured on his people and a faithful servant of God delivering them from their sin (a foreshadowing of Jesus Christ). In one of these visions, Isaiah says to the people, "Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, 'This is the way; walk in it'" (Isaiah 30:21).

Just like my son on the bike hearing my voice behind him, we can listen to God saying, "This is the way, walk in it," and heed Proverbs 3:5–6: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Adapted from the study material from the *NIV Application Bible* based on the NIV Application Commentary series. April 24, 2026



School officially started on Monday, August 24, 2026. On Sunday the 23rd, Pastor Oliver gave the blessing of Back Packs for students, schoolteachers, both present and retired, and those who have taught or are teaching youth and adult Sunday School or bible study.





Nehemiah

Name: Nehemiah

Meaning of name: “Yahweh consoles”

Ancestry and family life: Nehemiah was the son of Hacaliah. His brother was Hananiah, an important figure in the book.

When and where he lived: Nehemiah lived in the capital of the Persian empire. Judah had been in exile in Babylon for seventy years. Under Persian rule they were allowed to return to Judah and many did under

Ezra. Many others stayed in Babylon, including Nehemiah. Jerusalem was in a desperate state and lay virtually unprotected. It was an important time for the weak nation to re-establish itself in the area.

Events surrounding birth: No info.

Training and occupation: Nehemiah was cup-bearer to the Persian king, Artaxerxes. As such, Nehemiah tested the food to make sure it wasn't poisonous. Nehemiah must have been very well trusted to be elevated to this position. The king trusted him with his very life. Because this position was so important often cup-bearers also became trusted advisors. It was a high position. Later on Nehemiah was appointed the governor of Judah and supervised the rebuilding of the walls.

Place in history: Nehemiah helped Judah to reestablish itself at a very critical time when the country was weak and in a dangerous position (see Neh 1:3). He not only led the rebuilding of the walls project, but he also served as spiritual leader for the people and helped bring about a revival.

Strengths:

1. Sensitivity (Neh 1:4) – When Nehemiah heard the news about the state of Jerusalem he wept and mourned for days. He had a very sensitive heart towards God's people and was filled with compassion. It is not weakness for a guy to be sensitive and compassionate towards others. Nehemiah's heart was touched with the things of God. Later Nehemiah mentioned that he himself had bought back Jewish slaves and freed them (4:8).
2. Reliance on God (1:4-11, 2:4) – When Nehemiah was faced with the news about Jerusalem he immediately turned to God in fasting and prayer for help. He repented of the sins of Israel and beseeched the Lord to help them in their plight. Notice too, when the king asks Nehemiah what he can do for him Nehemiah first voices a quick prayer to God for wisdom.
3. Ambitious for God (2:5-8) – Nehemiah asks leave from his job to go to Jerusalem and rebuild the temple. He also asks for letters from the king to speed him on his way and give him protection as he

goes. However, he doesn't stop there. He also asked for use of the king's materials as well! This was extremely bold.

4. Perseverance (4-6) – Nehemiah simply didn't give up. His enemies tried making fun of the project. They planned an attack against it. He also faced problems from his own countrymen. The nobles had lent money to the commoners and were demanding an interest that these commoners were unable to pay. This caused the commoners to want to give up the work on the wall. Nehemiah 6:1-4. Nehemiah was unwilling to stop the work or be distracted from it. His enemies slandered him and attempted treachery, but nothing would dissuade him or turn him aside from the goal (6:5-15). He even didn't consider his own life as important compared to the work that God had him do (6:11).
5. Leadership – Nehemiah was a very strong leader. He had a vision for what was to be accomplished. He relied on God. He stuck to the job at hand. He didn't give heed to lies and gossip which were spread about him. He was courageous in the face of difficulty. He encouraged the people under him. He used his God-given wisdom strategically (4:16-22). He stood up against the nobles under him who were using their power for their own ends. He led by example lending to the commoners and not charging any interest. He didn't take advantage of the fact that he was governor (6:18).
6. High standards (10:29-39) – These commitments likely came about largely because of Nehemiah's leadership. (13:14-31)

Important acts and events:

1. Asking the king for leave to go to Jerusalem (Neh 2)
2. Examining the wall and beginning work on it (Neh 2)
3. The entire wall was finished in just 52 days! (6:15-16).
4. Corrected many abuses and brought about many reforms.

Lessons from his life:

1. It is not a weakness for us, as guys, to be sensitive. When other people encounter trials or difficulties this should touch our heart and we should reach out in compassion towards them. We shouldn't have a heart of stone that doesn't react and is dead towards others.
2. As William Carey once said, "Ask great things from God; attempt great things for God". Nehemiah did this long before Carey. He asked God in prayer for help for Jerusalem. Then he ambitiously pursued his goal, boldly asking the king for help and fearlessly pushing on to build the wall even in the face of great obstacles.
3. It is a good thing for us to make plans for what we want to accomplish in the future. When we do so there are several principles to follow, which we can see from Nehemiah. He first prayed to God about it (1:4-11, 2:4). When he knew God was in it (2:20) he carefully surveyed and planned out what needed to be done (2:11-18). Finally he carried out and didn't give up even in the face of opposition.

4. The greatest lesson that we can learn from Nehemiah comes from his amazing endurance. A lot of opposition was mounted, but Nehemiah set his eyes on what was to be accomplished and did not turn aside from that. He knew God was in it and He looked to God for sustenance and strength to carry it through. When obstacles came he didn't dwell on them, but he submitted them to God's hands. We need to persevere in what we know is right. We need to focus on what God has for us and not let anything distract us from that.
5. We need to have a zeal to do the Lord's work. God doesn't want us to be luke-warm and half-hearted. We need to give our whole heart to serve Him.
6. Nehemiah took a stand against corruption and lax morals for what is right (10:29-39, 13:14-31). We should do the same thing in our schools, in our offices, and in our families.
7. Marrying unbelievers will be a snare to us and cause us to sin. We must not allow ourselves to get even close to that unholy alliance (13:23-30).
8. Throughout the book Nehemiah asks God to repay him for the things he did for God. We should also seek to earn God's pleasure rather than man's (13:21, 13:14, 5:19).

Adapted from Study and Obey, Jason Dexter, 182 Queen Victoria Ave, Saint Johns, FL 32259.



Cathy Shull now has a new phone number after 50 years. She asked that her new number be shared and would love to hear from you. Cathy is doing well and enjoying being at Accura.

New Phone Number: 712-796-9180

