



Weekly Booster

CHURCH STAFF

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Choir Director

Sue Jones

Multimedia & Website

Jeff Hiser

Sunday Media Booth

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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



After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people, and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." – [Revelation 7:9-10](#)

The story of the Bible closes with a vision of God's kingdom on earth. At the end of time, history's completion is illustrated as a gathering filled with people of every ethnicity, language, and nation, singing together in a beautiful chorus of praise to God. What a beautiful picture!

God's heart is that we, with our unique histories and cultures, languages, and perspectives, would live in unity with one another, working to reflect the perfect love of God. He created us differently, and we each image his character in a unique way. When we come together and love one another well, we are reflecting God and his perfect relationship with himself as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. There is beauty in our differences, and it's meant to be that way. Our differences make loving others well a reflection of the character of God.

God's heart is for unity, not uniformity

This idea is nice, but it doesn't often translate into reality. We live in a world that counts differences as opportunities for division.

Continued page 2.

Question and Answer –

Q: What do you call a Bible character who just pulled into the church

A: a parking lot

Reminders**August 5th**

Men's Bible Study – 8:00 a.m.

August 6th

Church Lunch – 11:00 a.m.

August 9th

Praise Team - 5:00 p.m.

August 10th

T.O.P.S. – 5:30 p.m.

****Worship Assistants are needed for August 27th**

**** 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**

Family of God - Continued from page 1.

We're hardwired in our sinful nature to have an us versus them mentality and we often devalue people who look, sound, and act differently than we do.

Instead of a beautiful song of praise filled with the voices of a diverse choir, we hear clamor as every individual and group sings their tune. Sometimes, this noise seems inescapable, but Jesus has shown us another way—the way of God's kingdom, the truth of God's reconciling redemption, and the life of God's multiethnic family. Revelation's vision of people from every nation and ethnicity coming together to worship God isn't something we just wait for Jesus to accomplish. As his followers, we are called to align our lives with the radical vision of God's kingdom coming to earth.

An aspiring vision

The great multitude wearing white robes and holding palm branches are the souls saved through the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. The multitude is made up of every nation, tribe, people, and language, but their differences don't divide them. Instead, they are united in worship and service to God, each enjoying a close relationship with him.

Churches today can reflect this diverse yet unified vision of heaven by showing their unity across national, ethnic, economic, and generational boundaries. When we pray, worship, read Scripture, or march against injustice together, we are reflecting this incredible unity that comes from God.

As Christians, we believe that every person is made in God's image and therefore has infinite value. But that isn't enough. We should try to live out what we believe. What does this look like in your life?

Adapted from the NIV Telos Bible, HarperCollins Christian Publishing. 501 Nelson Place, Nashville, TN 37214, USA. All Rights Reserved, 2023. Guest Post, Bible Gateway Blog, July 31, 2023.



We are looking for special music for the summer. If you are interested in providing special music or know of someone that might be interested, please contact Mace Hensen or call the office and the message will be forwarded to him.

Question and Answer

Q: What did Adam say when asked about his favorite holiday?

A: It's Christmas Eve

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 finished until September 2023**

****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

What does Song of Solomon says spoil the vineyards?

- a) large animals
- b) pest
- c) locust
- d) little foxes

According to Micah, what did the Lord say He will make Samaria?

- a) battlefield
- b) forest
- c) desert
- d) a place for planting vineyards

What kind of animal questioned its owner for being beaten?

- a) donkey
- b) lion
- c) horse
- d) sheep

Check page 4 for answers from the previous week.



- 6th – Richard & Pat Perkins
- 7th – Jim & Joyce Baldwin
- 8th – Sue Jones
- 9th – Duane & Mary Lou Rexroth
- 10th – Ardyce Giese, Kynlee Pease
- 11th – Isaac Lundgren
- 12th – Phil & Val Grossman

****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: Some of us come exhausted.

People: Some of us are hopeful.

L: Some of us come with nothing left

P: Some of us are at peace.

L: Jesus says to us "Come!"

P: We bring what we have.

“BRING WHAT YOU HAVE”

Gospel Reading: Matthew 14:13-21

Songs

I Come with Joy #617

Spirit of God #2117

Communion

Standing on the Promises #374

Last Week’s Attendance

In-Person Worship – 52

On-Line Worship – 14

Our Mission:

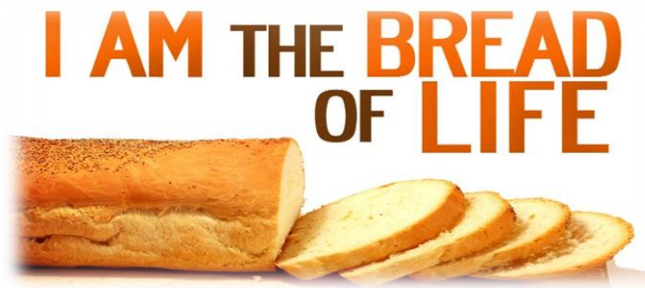
“Know & Serve God by Sharing Christ’s Love.”

Our Vision:

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

Answers for July 30th are d) Job b) 7 lambs, sheep, oxen b) 30

Quiz s hints – Q1) Job Q2) Genesis Q3) Matthew



You might be familiar with the story of “the feeding of the five thousand.” Jesus is up on a mountaintop with his disciples and thousands and thousands of people who are watching as Jesus performs sign after sign. Healings. Miracles. And nobody (obviously) wants to leave! But, they needed to eat.

And Jesus has a plan. Remember the little boy? He takes his five loaves of bread and two fish and He multiplies them to feed the entire crowd with leftovers to spare. People are so amazed, the Bible says they wanted to take Jesus forcefully to make him king right then and there! But, it seems as though Jesus is disappointed. I’ll tell you why. He knows the people aren’t really after *Him*. They don’t seem to care about who Jesus is and who He could be for them, but simply what He can *do* for them.

Listen to His words, Jesus says this, “You are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life... I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to *me* will never go hungry, and whoever believes *in me* will never be thirsty.” John 6:26-27, and 35.

What does Jesus mean? *Jesus is* the bread who offers eternal life to anyone who believes, but we are also invited to find *daily* provision. Not just provision for the future but daily, physical, spiritual, emotional, and relational provision for our life through Jesus. See Jesus offers eternal life that is abundant and fully satisfied in Him now and forever.

When Jesus teaches His disciples to pray He says “Lord, give us *this* day, our *daily* bread.” (Matthew 6:11) Not “give me everything I need for the rest of my life so I’m good to go on my own. I’ll take it from here.” No, the Lord’s prayer is “Give me what I need today, and then I’ll come back again tomorrow.” This requires dependence. And being dependent on someone else is hard! Isn’t it? But when we acknowledge our neediness, and actively trust Him *daily*, we get to experience God as the Bread of Life. Not just know it intellectually. Everything we need is found in HIM. Love acceptance, security. Jesus’ presence is what is so deeply satisfying.

Maybe you’re a follower of Jesus but you’re finding yourself still hungry and thirsty. Are you dependent on Jesus and experiencing abundant and satisfied life in Him? Or have you been looking somewhere else or maybe to someone else to quench your spiritual hunger and thirst? You’re not crazy.

To find satisfaction in the bread of life we have to become aware of and then surrender these things to Him. It's only in His kindness that He even wants to bring it up. He loves you so much He doesn't want you to keep running to places that only satisfy for a bit, when He's there, ready to satisfy *period*. Satisfaction from other things is like trying to fill up on junk food that will not leave you feeling good when you could be sitting at a banquet table with a feast in front of you! I invite you to take a moment now to consider this. Where have you been looking to quench your spiritual hunger and thirst? Your spouse? Maybe you're longing for a spouse. Kids? Friendships? Job opportunities? Even hobbies? Even good things! See I believe with my whole heart that no one other than Jesus, the bread of life, can truly provide for all of our needs and satisfy our hearts completely, forever. In Christ, we have everything we need because Christ *is* everything we need.

Let's pray. Jesus, thank you that you are the bread of life. Thank you for In you we have everything we need because you are everything we need. We don't want to simply come to you once for what we need, we want to come back to you day after day, hour after hour, to be near you. And to find what we need in Your presence. Lord, make us aware of the people and things we look to satisfy us and would you help us find your satisfaction in you alone. We love you. Fill us to the measure of all of the fullness of you, we pray. Amen.

Adapted from author Megan Fate Marshman, Women's Ministry, Bible Gateway, 3900 Sparks Drive SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546. Bible Gateway Blog, January 27, 2023.

Food Pantry Needs for August



Peanut Butter & Jelly, Brownie, cake, cookie, & muffin mixes, pasta (any kind), green beans, corn, Mandarin Oranges, cereal, Tuna & Chicken Helpers, microwave popcorn, shampoo, conditioner, toilet paper

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.



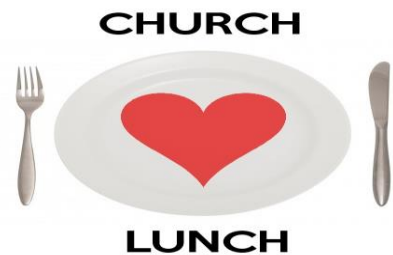
A NEW KIND OF DISCIPLESHIP

*Sermon Series
Matthew 14-20*

This Sunday we will be staying with the Gospel of Matthew, but Jesus will shift his teachings. We have been talking about what the Kingdom of God is like and Jesus now will address what it is to be a disciple in this kingdom. Jesus was often addressed as Rabbi or teacher and a disciple was one who gave their life in order to not only learn the Rabbi's teachings but to live them out. We will look at these discipleship teachings over the next couple of months. I would encourage you to take a look yourself, in your own Bible, Matthew chapters 14 through 19. See you Sunday morning!

Grace and peace,
Pastor David B. Clark

This **Sunday at 11:00 a.m.** Deb and Dan Finlay are hosting a luncheon in Fellowship Hall. They will provide sweet corn and pork. If you can attend, you are asked to bring a side dish or dessert. Mark your calendar for this Sunday and come for good food, conversation, and fellowship.



I would like to thank everyone who remembered me on my birthday by reaching out and letting me know you care. That's the best gift of all! Those remarkable birthday messages and calls I received transformed my birthday into one that I will always remember. I am lucky to have such a wonderful church family.

God Bless each one of you!

Joyce Baldwin