



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

Bell Choir Director

Volunteer Needed

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



We are Called to Listen

“He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the teachers of the law and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. “Get behind me, Satan!” he said. “You do not have in mind the concerns of God but merely human concern.” Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny himself and take up their cross and follow me.” Mark 8: 31-34.

There is a lot in this scripture. There is something about listening even when it's hard. There is something about following the way to the redemptive life, even when it's hard. There is something about making choices that sometimes are hard. There is this question about whether we hear the lesson Jesus teaches.

Listening is not always a simple thing. In my years as a counselor, I learned to listen to what was said or not said, to what was included or left out of the person's narrative they were telling me, what emotions were allowed or not allowed, to what was longing to be heard but was hardly expressed. I also found that really as I learned to listen, the person or people before me were learning to listen. Many very capable and intelligent adults have learned over a lifetime to not listen to themselves very well, to not listen to their deepest needs and desires, or, as I found with couples, to not listen, as if for the first time, to their partner. Listening is sometimes really hard.

When Jesus began talking about the suffering ahead of him, his number one disciple, Peter, rebuked Jesus. “Don't say that kind of thing, “was Peter's feeling “Don't talk like that!” And, in turn, Jesus rebukes Peter and does so quite forcefully. “Get behind me Satan!” he says. Peter didn't want to listen to what Jesus was telling him, and often neither do we, but you see, we are called to walk behind Jesus who is leading us to the deepest possible relationship with God.

Continued page 2

He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified, and on the third day be raised again.
Luke 24:6-7

Reminders

April 20th

Women's Bible Study

11:30 a.m.

Praise Team - 5:00 p.m.

Choir Practice – 6:45 p.m.

April 21st

T.O.P.S.

4:30 p.m.

April 24th

Methodist Men's Breakfast

8:00 a.m. Fellowship Hall

All men welcome!

Elementary Sunday School

End of Year Celebration,

May 1st

Sisters in Faith Women's Spring Tea

2:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall

****Worship Assistants needed
for May**

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

"The Story" Study Groups

Women-Wednesday-11:30 a.m.

All-Wednesday-6:15 p.m.

Listen - Continued from page 1

We are to try not to make ourselves the ones leading because you know, we often choose the things that make us more comfortable rather than more loving, or we choose the things that are easy to listen to rather than the things that may have some pain in them but lead us into the deepest possible relationship with God. When Jesus says, "Get behind me!" he is telling Peter, and us, to stay in your lane! Follow me and I will show you new life, give you new ears to hear, and offer you living water. All this trying to go ahead and lead the way is taking you nowhere fast.

Jesus' rebuke is not to put us down or to make us feel shame in our lives. Jesus' rebuke is to help us identify what is not helpful in our walk with God. Have you ever had a plan that in your mind was just great but then someone warns you that it's heading into disaster? The rebuke ends up saving you – from embarrassment, from injury to self or other, or from perhaps more serious problems legal or financial.

I know during this Lenten season a group at my church has been studying the work of anti-racism. That is material that contains voices that often have not been heard. And sometimes it is really hard to learn to listen to those voices as we do the anti-racism work. It's hard because it's painful. Because the voices talk about pain and suffering and hurt and anger. It's hard for us to learn to listen when the word is painful. But the reward in it is having our hearts and minds opened to a great reality in the world. The reward is that people who have been the recipients of racism speak so that others will hear and listen, and then there is the opportunity that we can live a little better, we can walk closer to justice, can find our hearts and minds understanding and we see more clearly. We begin to take deep cleansing breaths that are filled with a new sense of relationship and a better world.

We have had to listen to the suffering and pain of the people of Ukraine. Sometimes it is so painful we want to turn away, turn off the television, and turn our minds to something pleasant. And maybe we do some of this to stay well and healthy ourselves. And yet. And yet, Jesus asks us to bear the suffering alongside other people, to feel inside of ourselves that the attack on humanity even across the world, is an attack on people everywhere.

You know, Jesus had been walking and living with his disciples for quite a while when Peter didn't want to listen to what Jesus was saying about the cost of discipleship, the way we have to take up our cross and follow, the way we have to lose our lives to find them. If we are really honest, haven't we, at some point, disagreed with Jesus, asking why he doesn't do what we want? Why won't he see the world our way? It all seems so clear to us? What's wrong with shutting out the suffering so we don't have to feel it? What's wrong with just focusing on the positive? What's wrong with making sure we sidestep any conflict or problem?

Continued page 6



“Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died, more than that, who was raised to life is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Romans 8:34

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	Monday 9:00-11:00 12:00-3:00
** Bell Choir – Volunteer needed	Tuesday 9:00-11:00 12:00-3:00
** Chancel Choir – Wednesdays, 6:45 p.m. Sunday 8:30 a.m.	Wednesday CLOSED
	Thursday 9:00-11:00 12:00-3:00
	Friday 9:00-11:00 12:00-3:00

The front door to the church will be unlocked during office hours and closed only for errands and lunch.

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.



Who was the father of Ezekiel the priest?

- a) Buzi
- b) Zachariah
- c) Eliab
- d) Josedeck

Who was the most humble/meek man on earth?

- a) Abraham
- b) Jacob
- c) Moses
- d) David

Who made two golden calves for Israel to worship?

- a) Korah
- b) Absalom
- c) Shimei
- d) Jeroboam

Check page 4 for answers in next week's booster

Birthdays and Anniversaries



18th – Mary Thompson
22nd – Karen Gourley

**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>



United Methodist Church,
Shenandoah, IA

www.facebook.com/methodist.
church.shenandoah



Click on the link below by holding
down the Ctrl button and click on
the link <http://bit.ly/3skF0p9>

*Prelude/Postlude/Accompanist: *Terry Stafford*

Call to Worship

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

People: CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED!

Leader: Darkness has been vanquished!

People: THE BRILLIANT LIGHT OF HOPE HAS COME!

Leader: Come let us worship and celebrate the Good News!

People: ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN! AMEN!!

“Resurrection Day”

Old Testament Scripture: Acts 10:34-43

New Testament Scripture: **1 Corinthians 15:19-26**

Gospel Reading: *John 20:1-18*

Songs

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today #302 (Hymnal)

The Old Rugged Cross #504 (Hymnal)

Up from the Grave He Arose #322 (Hymnal)

In Christ Alone #3105

He Lives #310 (Hymnal)

Last Week's Attendance

In-Person Worship – 72

Online Worship – 10

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 April 10th b) Because of the Lord's sake a) at Casiphia
d) seven times**



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I get emotional this time of year. As I go through the songs for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, I get choked up thinking about what Jesus has done for us. Of course the physical abuse, torture, and crucifixion, but also the betrayal and denial. I went through a period of denial in my life, and when I think about what good I failed to do during those years, and the impact walking away from Jesus had on my family, it can be heartwrenching.

But praise God that He is a God of second chances. That when we repent, He is faithful to forgive us of our sins. That we can count on God to desire a restored relationship with us, so much so, that Jesus came and died on a cross to make it possible. Not only that, but Jesus also rose again! A seal on the promise that we can have eternal life in Him. John 1:12 tells us, "Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God".

Let us remember what it takes to be children of God, celebrate our hope in Jesus Christ, and share that hope with others this Easter season.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you today, and always,

pk

Continued from page 2

You know, it was probably thoughts just like this that Peter had and we have these thoughts too. As Episcopal priest Michael Marsh says, "We have this image of what the Messiah is supposed to do and who the Messiah is supposed to be. Everything is great when Jesus is casting out demons, healing the sick, preventing death, and feeding the multitudes. We like that Jesus. We want to follow that Jesus."^[1]

But Jesus rebukes Peter and us really because you see the road is more than that. Jesus is more than all of that. He is the one who "must undergo great suffering and be rejected by the elders, the chief priest and the scribes, and be killed and after three days rise again." And it is not just the elders and the chief priests and the scribes who reject him. Peter does. We do. If just for a moment. We do.

You see we have to keep making a choice: to listen to all of it, to the miracle and the anguish. To the people well-fed and the people never fed. To the sea that becomes calm and the storm that never seems to go away. We have to listen to all of it to choose again and again the life that Jesus calls us to. Asks us to follow him. Asks us to sacrifice for.

Whenever I think about sacrifice, I think about how love helps me choose. I would sacrifice anything for my children, even my own life if it were necessary. I would choose that and I think many of you would choose it too. I would sacrifice for my husband and I would sacrifice for my brothers, my friends, and for my opportunities to feel the presence of God near to me. I think many of you would too. Love clarifies our choices. And it is love that allows us to listen. It is love that is the road. It is love that can create the miracles, all of them, that Jesus did and which he instructed us to do. It doesn't mean that all the problems and pain disappear. It means that love as the road will always lead us to the transfiguration of our lives. We are lifted with our crosses and our suffering is changed to strength and our minds are changed to reflect the image of Christ.

When Jesus rebukes us it is to teach us again to listen and to choose. Again, Michael Marsh says it well: "To choose to give in a world that takes, to live in a world that hates, to heal in a world that injures, to give life in a world that kills. Jesus offered mercy when others sought vengeance, forgiveness when others were condemned and compassion when others were indifferent. Jesus trusted God's abundance when others said there was not enough. With each choice, Jesus denied himself and showed God was present."

It is this that we are called to. It is this way that we walk and to this story, we are called to listen to.

The promises of this way of choosing and this way of listening leads to an amazing amount of love. Love like we can hardly believe. Love that sustains us and heals us and sustains and heals the world. It is this love that brings the resurrection which we shall surely see, not only at the end of our days but within our days, within our lives, and the life of the world.

^[1] Michael Marsh. "Denying Self, Choosing Christ" 2012.

The Sisters of Faith will be having a Women's Spring Tea on May 1, 2022. This will take place at 2:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Mark your calendar and come enjoy the fellowship. RSVP by April 27th. Call the office and leave a message.



Methodist Men's Breakfast is next Sunday, April 24th. Men, mark your calendar for next Sunday at 8:00 a.m. for devotion, fellowship, and breakfast. All men welcome!

What should congregations know about disaffiliation?

What should congregations know about disaffiliations? Go to [this link at the UMC website](#) to find out more information. You can also sign-up to receive other email notifications, like UM News Daily Digest and more.

<https://www.umc.org/en/content/ask-the-umc-what-should-united-methodist-congregations-know-about-disaffiliation>



Join us Sunday morning for Easter Sunrise Service starting at 6:30 a.m. Jesus is the reason for the season! Regular service at 9:00 a.m.