



Weekly Booster

CHURCH STAFF

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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



Psalm 1: Like a Planted Tree

Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers. Not so the wicked! They are like chaff that the wind blows away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous. For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked leads to destruction. – [Psalm 1](#)

Like a tree planted by streams of water ... Close your eyes and picture it for a moment.

What do you see?

My mind envisions a large, beautiful tree with lush, green branches filled with leaves. The branches invite you to rest under their shade. The tree, unwavering in its strength and position, has deep roots that have stood the test of time.

It's a beautiful picture, isn't it?

“Falling doesn’t make you a failure. Staying down does.”

“There is an exception to every rule, and most people think they are it.”

Reminders

October 15th

Men’s Bible Study – 8:00 a.m.

October 16th

Men’s Breakfast – 8:00 a.m.

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Men’s Breakfast – 8:00 a.m.

Sunday School for all ages – 10:30

HS Youth Group – 7:00 p.m.

Youth Room, Wesley Hall

October 17th

Monday Evening Study, 6:30 p.m.

“Who is Jesus” – Fellowship Hall
with Pastor Clark

October 19th

Praise Team - 5:00 p.m.

Choir – 6:45 p.m.

October 20th

T.O.P.S. – 5:30 p.m.

****Worship Assistants are needed for October 30th and November**

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

Tree- Continued from page 1

But, as I reflect on this chapter, my eyes quickly settle on the words leading up to the picture of the lush tree, *Blessed is the one... whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night.* If I’m honest, I fall short of this description daily. This passage feels like a task I can never live up to.

Thankfully, we don’t have to look at it as a task to fulfill our strength. As Christians, we can read this passage through the lens of Jesus and the work he did for us on the cross. He took our wickedness as his own and paid the price so we don’t have to. And, through his incredible gift of mercy and grace, Jesus invites us to come to him often without needing to have it all together. As we read God’s Word, pursue Jesus, talk with him in prayer and spend time with others who do the same, we start to become more like him in the way we think, speak and act. And, our roots begin to deepen and our branches begin to grow.

I want to be a person whose roots run deep, don’t you? Let’s position ourselves to drink deeply from the Word of God and flourish because his life flows through us.

As you spend time with Jesus today, reflect on the goodness of his gift of grace to each of us. Take some time to read [Colossians 2:6-7](#) and [John 3:16](#) and then go back and slowly re-read [Psalm 1](#). Let God’s Word encourage you to draw closer to him. Thank Jesus for his incredible gift of grace. Then, ask him to give you a deeper love for his Word and to continue to make you more like him.

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Methodist Men’s monthly breakfast will be held on Sunday, October 16th starting at 8:00 a.m. All men are welcome! Come and enjoy fellowship, devotion, and breakfast.

*“Sorrow looks back,
worry looks around,
faith looks up.”*

Volunteers Needed



First United Methodist Church
Please wear your name tag on Sunday mornings




If you ordered a U.S. Flag from Mac, they have arrived. Call him at 712-246-2844.

Church Office Hours

**** Children & Jr.-Sr. High Sunday School** 10:15
 Questers (Adults) 10:30

****Chancel Choir –**
 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.



Who did Paul go up to Jerusalem to visit the first time according to the book of Galatians?

- a) Cephas
- b) Andrew
- c) The elders
- d) James the Lord's brother

According to Isaiah 21, whose glory will come to an end within a year

- a) Moab
- b) Egypt
- c) Kedar
- d) Anon

At whose feet was Paul educated?

- a) Gamaliel
- b) Eli
- c) Amas
- d) Caiaphas

Check page 4 for answers in next week's booster

Birthdays and Anniversaries



- 16th – Chris & Molly Wiebold
- 17th – Erin Baldwin, Sue Burchett
- 18th – Dennis & Kathy Bayless
- 19th – Bennett Blane, Brian Black
- 20th – Andrea Robinson, Paige Wiebold, Dennis & Sandra Bailey
- 21st – Brielle Blank
- 22nd – Al & LuAnn Armstrong

****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. <http://bit.ly/3skF0p9>

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

Call to Worship

Leader: As the rains pour from heaven, soaking the earth that it may produce good things...

People: So, God pours love upon us, that we, too, may produce goodness and peace.

L: We have been blessed with many gifts and talents.

P: God desires that we use these gifts and talents for healing, peace, and hope.

L: Come, let us worship and celebrate the mighty love and power of God.

P: Praise be to God who has blessed us in so many ways.

"Of Faith and Wrestling"

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 31:27-34

New Testament Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5

Third Scripture Reading: Luke 18:1-8

Songs

Power in the Name of Jesus (screens)

Great Is Thy Faithfulness #140

Through It All #507

Open My Eyes, That I May See #454

Last Week's Attendance

In-Person Worship – 69

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 Oct 9th are a) Phinehas c) Fifteen shekels b) Rachel & Leah

Quiz Hints – Q1 Ecclesiastes Q2 Isaiah Q3 Acts



Katherine Smidt will be celebrating her 90th birthday on October 23rd. If you like to send her a card her address is,

Katherine Smidt
c/o The Kensington, Primrose Path
2210 Avenue H
Ford Madison, IA 52627



Students, grades 7-9, are invited to the journey of confirmation beginning next Sunday. Each Sunday at 6:00 pm we will learn about and put into practice our Christian faith. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to attend our first meeting to learn more about our confirmation program. If you have any questions, contact Pastor David.



If you ordered a U.S. Flag from Mac, they have arrived. Call him at 712-246-2844.

The Angel Quilters group decided to stop getting together to make quilts. We have lots of material to give to anyone interested. We also have a sewing machine and batting for a small donation. Notify the church office, Sue Burchett, Lois Anderson, or Janet Jones if interested.





I would like to thank everyone who participated in the Future of the UMC Informational meeting. Our denomination is and has been in the national news and people are watching how we work through our differences regarding LGBTQ inclusion in the church. Recognizing that our church (and our community of Shenandoah) consists of persons with diverse theological, political, and social views, we begin a difficult and long journey to discern how we are the church in the 21st century in Shenandoah, IA.

When I first arrived, I preached several Sundays on life in the wilderness; on how to follow God when we don't know where we are going. This is where we get to put those lessons into practice. It is uncomfortable to sit with uncertainty. We want a "silver bullet" that will fix everything. Since we are uncertain about so much around us, we might stop listening to others so that we can feel more certain about our convictions. We are in an uncertain time; we are in the wilderness, and it has something to teach us if we are open: REST, RECONNECT, and RENEW.

While we desire a quick resolution, what are ways that you can find REST and slowness in the coming weeks? Discernment requires listening for where Spirit is moving. We cannot do this unless we slow down and sit in silence.

While our convictions may drive a wedge between those that have come to a different opinion, how might you find ways to RECONNECT with others in the church? Discernment requires getting outside of our heads and listening to others. Even if you have different theological views, might you have similar values and a similar love for this community?

When we feel anxious, it is comforting to stay with what we already know, even if what we already know is no longer working for us. Spirit makes paths where there previously was no path. What practices of RENEWAL can you participate in that might open your eyes to new paths that are emerging?

Concerning the meeting this past Sunday, there were several specific follow-ups and next steps for our church that I wanted to address:

1. There will be discernment gatherings in which we, as a church, will be able to listen and dialogue with one another to discern the church's next most faithful step. These have not been scheduled yet. The driving question for us will be: "What might it look like for persons to have different conclusions about LGBTQ inclusion in the church and still be the church together at First United Methodist Church of Shenandoah?"

2. There was a request for definitions of some of the more technical language from the presentation. I will be working on that in the coming weeks and will publish that via the booster and printed copies in the church.

3. My role as the pastor is to not do the discernment for you, but to be a guide in the discernment process. If there are resources or information that would help you personally, please let me know. If you need someone to vent to because these past 6 years of the UMC trying to resolve this issue is becoming too frustrating, I am here. If you have questions or want to dialogue through anything, I am here.

This will be a long and difficult journey, but that is what creates the possibility for it being one of the best journeys we can take.

May God be present with us in the wilderness; may Christ be our guide; and may Spirit open new paths.

Pastor David B. Clark