



# Weekly Booster

## CHURCH STAFF

### Pastor

David B. Clark

[pastordavid@shen.church](mailto:pastordavid@shen.church)

### Office Manager

Jeff Hiser

[office@shen.church](mailto:office@shen.church)

### 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,

Craig Harris, Jeff Hiser

### Sunday Praise Team

Terry Stafford, Linda Haldane,

Margaret Brady, Deb Finlay,

Jeff Hiser, Pastor David

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



## Beyond fasting: 10 tips for a more meaningful Lent

Lent is a time for self-reflection and deepening one's relationship with God in Jesus Christ. For many this season leading up to Easter will be weeks of giving up something they enjoy. Others will spend extra time in devotions and prayer, while a few more will carry a cross or nail in their pocket as a reminder of the sacrifice Jesus made for them and the whole world.

If those practices work for you, wonderful! Others may want to find another way of observing this holy season. Consider adopting one or more of the following creative uses of the days between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday.

### 1. Apologize to someone

Lent is a season of repentance. Most often we think of asking God for forgiveness from our sin, but that is only half of the story. Most sins include hurting others, which mattered to Jesus. He taught that if during worship if you "remember that your brother or sister has something against you... First make things right with your brother or sister and then come back and offer your gift." (Matthew 5:23-24 CEB). Lent is a great time to seek forgiveness from those we have harmed.

### 2. Perform random acts of kindness

Express your love for Jesus by loving others. Pay for the order of the person behind you in the drive-through. Give an extravagant tip. Carry gift cards to give away. Ask others how they are doing, then stop and listen to their responses. Share the love of Jesus in any way you can think of each day during Lent.

*Continued on page 2*

*"If you don't like the road you're walking, start paving another one." Dolly Parton*

*"If it makes you nervous, you're doing it right."  
Childish Gambino*

## Reminders

### March 1

Sunday Service 9:00 a.m.  
PK-6 S.S. during the message  
Jr/Sr High S.S. – 10:30 a.m.  
Second Sunday in Lent  
Communion Sunday  
No Sunday School

### March 3<sup>rd</sup>

Mat Making (Loom Room) 1:00 p.m.

### March 4<sup>th</sup>

\*\*No Bible Study – 11:00 a.m.  
Praise Team - 4:00 p.m.  
Bell Choir – 4:30 p.m.  
Chancel Choir – 5:30 p.m.

### March 5<sup>th</sup>

T.O.P.S.

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

\*\* Fellowship Volunteers and treats  
needed, sign up in Fellowship Hall

March 1, 2026

Second Sunday of  
Lent 2026

John 3:1-17

Lent - continued from page 1.

### 3. Delve into a book of the Bible

Enhance your devotions by getting to know a book of the Bible well. Read it repeatedly, at least once in a single sitting. Find articles about it. Meditate on it with a commentary. Memorize portions of it. Pray through it. Google sermons about it. Find hymns based upon it. In the six weeks of Lent, you could develop a deep understanding of a book of the Bible about which you have always been curious.

### 4. Serve people in need

Identify an organization with which you would like to participate. Find out what is required to become a volunteer, then sign up to serve throughout the season of Lent. When Jesus washed his disciples' feet at the Last Supper, he taught that we are called not to be served, but to serve (John 13:1-17).

### 5. Visit the lonely

Jesus also taught his disciples to treat others as we would treat him. This included visiting those who are sick and in prison (Matthew 25:31-36). Talk to local nursing homes, children's hospitals, prisons, senior centers or any other place where people need some human contact. Even if you can't visit in person, you can send a card, make a phone call or seek another way to let someone know you care. If a facility allows for in-person visits, find out how you may visit (observing all procedures to keep everyone safe). When together, play games, look at photo albums, tell stories and enjoy those about whom Jesus said, "When you have done it for [them], you have done it for me."

### 6. Read Wesley's sermons about the Sermon on the Mount

These 13 sermons (see Matthew) are central to the message of John Wesley. They make up a little more than one-quarter of the fifty "Standard Sermons" he gave to his Methodist lay preachers to teach them "the essentials of true religion." Reading these sermons will have you focused on Jesus' Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) and give you a sense of what it means to be a United Methodist in the tradition of John Wesley.

### 7. Tell others you love them

Some of us struggle to say those three little words. Maybe we assume others already know how we feel. Maybe we think we *show* our love and don't need to say it. Or maybe we are concerned it won't be reciprocated. Fight the fear and say "I love you" to friends, family members, and everyone else you love at least once during the season.

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*  
*David Clark - Pastor*

## Church Office Hours

**\*\* Children & Jr.-Sr. High  
Sunday School –  
PK-6 during service  
Jr/Sr High 10:30 a.m.**

**Wednesday  
Praise Team – 4:00 p.m.  
Bell Choir – 4:30 p.m.  
Chancel Choir – 5:30 p.m.**

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 was the father of the 12 tribes of Israel?

- a) Abraham
- b) Jacob
- c) Isaac
- d) Ishmael

Who raised Tabitha (Dorcas) from the dead?

- a) James
- b) Peter
- c) Paul
- d) Jesus

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

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

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



3<sup>rd</sup> – Sandy Crowdes  
5<sup>th</sup> – Katy DeLong  
6<sup>th</sup> – Pastor David Clark

**\*\*See a wrong birthday or anniversary, or need one added? Please call the office or send an email to [office@shen.church](mailto:office@shen.church)**

**Shenandoah First United  
Methodist Church**

200 Church St.  
Shenandoah, IA 51601

Phone 712-246-2081

Church E-mail  
[office@shen.church](mailto: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: I lift up my eyes to the hills,**

**People: from where will my help come?**

**L: The Lord is your keeper.**

**P: The Lord neither slumbers nor sleeps.**

**L: My help comes from the Lord,**

**P: who made heaven and earth.**

**"TRANSFORMATION OF LIFE"**

**Scripture Reading: John 3:1-17**

Songs

**O God, Our Help in Ages Past #98**

**Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone) #3104**

**Christ Beside Me #2166**

**A Wilderness Wandering People #3113**

Last Week's Attendance

**In-Person Worship – 51**

**Online Worship – 15**

**Our Vision:**

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

**Answers for Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> are a) Leading man c) Samson b) to the twelve tribes  
Quiz hints – Q1) Genesis Q) Acts Q3) Isaiah**



## MARCH 2026

Mandarin Oranges, Cereal, Pasta or Rice Side Dishes, Mandarin Oranges, Cake, Brownie, and Muffin Mixes, Macaroni & Cheese, Any Variety of Pasta, Microwave Popcorn, Chicken Flavored Ramen Noodles, Bar Soap, 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 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 have them contact Jeannine K. Liljedahl at 712-215-2488.

*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 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 **Church Bible Camps**.

Lent- continued from page 2.

### **8. Throw a party for everyone**

Jesus often used the image of a party to describe the Kingdom of God. He talked about wedding receptions and banquet feasts, and participated in several large group celebrations. Host your own Kingdom party! You may choose to cook for the neighborhood, friends, people from church who you rarely see or office colleagues. Keep this act of love festive with fun napkins and other decorations.

### **9. Serve in worship**

Your church needs you. Sing in the choir, usher, serve as a liturgist, work with the tech team or find some other way to serve your church. If you worship primarily online, ask your church staff how you might be able to help, including sending out cards or making phone calls to people on the church prayer list. Don't wait for someone to ask you to use your God-given gifts. Offer yourself in service to your church for the season.

### **10. Say "thank you"**

Parents, family members, mentors, coaches, teachers, authors, pastors, Sunday school teachers, and others have shaped you into the person you are. Each week during Lent, send a note of gratitude to one of them. Tell them how much they meant to you and how they inspired you. Consider including a small gift. Even if you do not know that author or speaker personally, draft an email of thanks.

There are many ways to be observant during Lent. Be original. Find yours.

*Adapted from the author Joe Lovino. United Methodist Now, United Methodist Communications. All Rights Reserved 810 12<sup>th</sup> Ave S, Nashville, TN 37203, USA, originally posted on February 23, 2015 and updated February 6, 2023.*

---



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**Two Volunteers Needed each Thursday**

**to Deliver Meals**

**Sign-Up Sheet is on the**

**Welcome Center Counter**



## HISPANIC CENTER

Maribel Jimenez is opening the Hispanic Center on Tuesdays and Fridays. She would love to have people stop in and say hello! There are also families in need of different things. Towels and washcloths are items that are in need. If you would like to donate you can drop them off and say hello to Maribel on a Tuesday or Friday. Your donations are always greatly appreciated.



### What Solomon's Wealth Teaches Us About Faith and Money

Ask many people what the Bible teaches about money, and they will likely respond with a paraphrase of 1 Timothy 6:10. For example, people often misquote this verse saying, "money is the root of all evil." Some, more accurately but still not fully capturing the meaning of this text, will say, "The love of money is the root of all evil." What 1 Timothy 6:10 actually says in the

NIV is, "For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs."

There are two things we can notice right away. First, it is the *love* of money that is the issue. Paul warns that some people's desire for money leads them away from the faith. Second, the love of money is the root of *all kinds* of evil, not every single evil. Envy and lust are other roots of evil, as are other sins.

If we look at other Bible verses about money, we see that money itself doesn't appear intrinsically evil. Proverbs 3:9, for example, says to "Honor the LORD with your wealth." Proverbs 13 says a person who "gathers money little by little makes it grow" (verse 11) and "A good person leaves an inheritance for their children's children" (verse 22). As we can see, money itself is not the problem. It is a person's *relationship* with money and how they use their wealth to honor God that matters.

### **Solomon's Request for Wisdom and God's Generous Response**

King Solomon's life shows us how we can use money for good, and how it can lead us astray. After Solomon took his father David's throne, God offered Solomon anything his heart desired and Solomon asked for wisdom (see 1 Kings 3:9). God was pleased with Solomon's request and granted the new king not only deep wisdom but also great wealth (see 1 Kings 3:12–13). Solomon built God's temple and filled it with gold furnishings to honor God (see 1 Kings 7:48–50).

Solomon's wealth and gold, however, far exceeded what he used for God's glory. Solomon's building projects included ornate palaces for himself and for his wives. He also built a fleet of ships for the purpose of importing more gold (see 1 Kings 9:26–28).

### **Solomon and the Queen of Sheba**

The splendor in which Solomon lived was so extreme that when the Queen of Sheba—herself an opulently wealthy royal—saw Solomon's wealth "she was overwhelmed" (1 Kings 10:5). Yet her astonishment led her to praise God: "Praise be to the LORD your God, who has delighted in you and placed you on the throne of Israel. Because of the LORD's eternal love for Israel, he has made you king to maintain justice and righteousness" (1 Kings 10:9). We don't know what Solomon may have said, but clearly the Queen of Sheba had the right reaction. Rather than praising Solomon, she praised his God. This story should make Christians today ponder how to demonstrate a kind of faith that makes other people praise God.

### **The Scale of Solomon's Wealth**

Solomon received copious amounts of gold annually—666 talents of it (see 1 Kings 10:14). This amount is somewhere in the range of 45,000–50,000 pounds of gold! Solomon used the gold for everything: shields, his throne, goblets, household articles ... all of it was made of pure gold. In fact, the Bible says "Nothing was made of silver, because silver was considered of little value in Solomon's days" (1 Kings 10:21).

The account of Solomon's wealth is stunning, and it seems that the wealth he had yielded some good, God-oriented results. First Kings 10:24 says, "The whole world sought audience with Solomon to hear the wisdom God had put in his heart."

## Solomon's Wealth Became a Spiritual Snare

Unfortunately, Solomon's wealth led to his becoming involved with many foreign women, and they pulled his heart away from God (see 1 Kings 11:1–6). In this, Solomon's wealth becomes a cautionary example. His wealth gave him celebrity status, and his taste for the things of the flesh turned him away from following God's will. He pursued momentary pleasure rather than lasting faithfulness.

Wealth should always remind us to honor God as the Giver. The way we use money is a fundamental aspect of how we live out our faith. God's children need to look beyond their own interests and be generous with what God gives them, using it to bless others and to glorify God. We need to remember that every gift comes from God (see James 1:17). This means that all such gifts should be used in ways that honor and praise God. As Proverbs 3:9 reminds us, we must honor the Lord with our wealth.

## True Treasure

We also need to remember not to set too much value on wealth. It might be tempting to fantasize about having great wealth like Solomon. We might even try to convince ourselves that we wouldn't fall into the same sinful traps as Solomon did if we were blessed with wealth like his. (Let's not be too sure! There are all too many examples, ancient and contemporary, in which desire for wealth has twisted hearts away from God.) We need to remember that placing too much importance on wealth and possessions is the opposite of what Christ taught.

Jesus reminded his listeners that life does not consist in the abundance of possessions (see Luke 12:15). In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said to store up our treasures in heaven rather than on earth, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21). We want our hearts in the right place. Jesus went on to say, "See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these" (Matthew 6:28–29).

## What We Can Learn from Solomon

The splendor of Solomon's wealth was spectacular, but that's not what life is about. Whatever God blesses us with, we must use it for his purposes. Even if God doesn't bless us with wealth like Solomon's, we have no less splendor, for our true identity and worth are not in what we own but in the One who owns us by his grace and mercy. Thanks be to God!

*Adapted from the study material from the NIV Application Bible based on the NIV Application Commentary series. NIV Weekly Blog. All Rights Reserved  
501 Nelson Place, Nashville, TN 37214, USA, February 23, 2026.*

---





Dear Church Family,

In John 3, Nicodemus comes to Jesus under the cover of night, full of questions. He is thoughtful, faithful, and sincere, and yet Jesus tells him that something more is needed: “No one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.”

It’s a puzzling phrase. How can someone be born again? How can a life begin anew? But Jesus isn’t speaking about starting over in a literal sense. He’s speaking about transformation—about allowing God’s Spirit to reshape us from the inside out.

Lent is a season that invites exactly this kind of change. It meets us in the late days of winter, when the ground still looks frozen and the trees seem bare. Yet beneath the surface, something is already stirring. The days grow longer. The light shifts. What appears lifeless slowly prepares for renewal.

So it is with us. Transformation is often hidden at first. It begins in honest prayer, in self-examination, in releasing what no longer gives life. It unfolds as we trust that God loves the world, and loves us, enough not to leave us unchanged.

As winter gives way to spring, may we hear Jesus’ invitation not as pressure, but as promise. The Spirit is still at work. New life is possible. And even now, God is preparing something beautiful to emerge.

Grace and peace,  
Pastor David Clark  
308-258-7749 (cell)

---

### Making Progress in Fellowship Hall

