



# 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

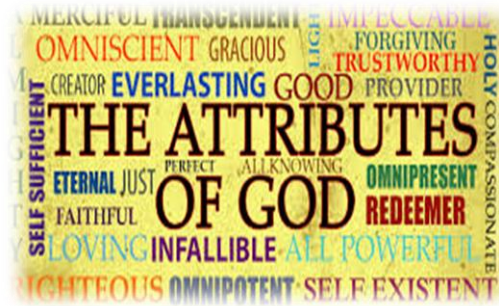
## Sunday Praise Team

Terry Stafford, Linda Haldane,

Margaret Brady, Deb Finlay,

Jeff Hiser, Pastor David

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



## The Importance of Knowing the Attributes of God

Who is God, really?

Not just what he has done. Not just the stories we know so well. But who he is at his very core. What is God like? What kind of God stands behind every promise, every command, every page of Scripture?

These are not abstract questions reserved for theologians or seminary classrooms. They matter for every one of us, whether you're three or eighty-three, whether you've followed Jesus for decades or are just beginning to ask honest questions about faith.

The Bible is filled with stories—beautiful, dramatic, unforgettable stories. We know about Daniel and the lions, David and Goliath, Jesus walking on water. But beneath every story is something even more foundational: the unchanging character of God. Scripture doesn't just tell us what God has done; it reveals *who he is*.

And if we miss that, we miss the point.

To know God's attributes—to know what he is like—is not a side topic of the Christian faith. It is incredibly central. Scripture's great aim is not simply to inform us about God's works, but to introduce us to God himself.

*Continued on page 2*

*“Doubt is a killer. You just have to know who you are and what you stand for.”*

*Jennifer Lopez*

*“Some people want it to happen, some wish it would happen, others make it happen.” Michael Jordan*

### Reminders

#### March 22<sup>nd</sup>

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

#### March 24<sup>th</sup>

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

#### March 25<sup>th</sup>

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 26<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



Attributes of God - continued from page 1.

## Why Knowing God's Attributes Matters

### It Makes God Personal

Think about how you describe someone you want another person to know. You don't just list their accomplishments or recount stories about them. You describe who they are: their personality, their character, their traits. You might say they're loyal, generous, creative, or patient. These attributes help paint a picture of the person.

### The same is true of God.

Though we cannot see him with our physical eyes, we can grasp who he is by understanding his character: God is kind, generous, faithful, merciful, and so much more.

And because God always acts in accordance with his character, knowing who he is helps us trust what he does. God acts in the world in ways aligned with his unchanging character, which means we can know with certainty that he never sleeps, that he is always with us, and that he hears us when we pray (even when we pray silently in our hearts).

By knowing these truths, God becomes more personal to us. We begin to understand not just what he has done, but why God does what he does. We see the heart behind his actions.

### It Grounds Us When Life Raises Hard Questions

We all wrestle with profound questions: *Why does God love us? Why did he create us? Why does he allow suffering? How can I trust him with my future? Where is he when I'm hurting?*

When we understand God's attributes, we have anchors for these questions. We can answer "Why does God love us?" with the truth that God is love—it's his very nature. We can answer "Why did God make us?" by understanding that God is creative and relational, and he made us to know him and reflect his glory.

*Continued on page 7*

## 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.



Which of his sons did Jacob bless FIRST before his death?

- a) Joseph
- b) Gad
- c) Reuben
- d) Benjamin

Which king burned Jeremiah's scroll?

- a) Jehoiakim
- b) Jeroboam
- c) Nebuchadnezzar
- d) Jehoshaphat

Who was Isaac's wife?

- a) Rebekah
- b) Rachel
- c) Leah
- d) Sarah

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



23<sup>rd</sup> – Connie Andersen, Susan Foster  
25<sup>th</sup> – Ann O'Hara, Ed & Nancy Bonefas  
27<sup>th</sup> – Luke Langrer, Phyllis Moore, Quinn Wiebold, Dan & Heather Weiss  
28<sup>th</sup> – Brody Burdorf

**\*\*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: People of God, hope in the Lord!**

**People: For with God there is steadfast love.**

**L: We cry out to you, O God.**

**P: Lord, hear our voice.**

**L: Wait for the Lord.**

**P: Our souls wait for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning.**

*“Transformation of Death”*

**Scripture Reading: John 11:1-6, 17-44**

Songs

**How Great Thou Art #77**

**Still #3134**

**Be Still, My Soul #534**

**A Wilderness Wandering People #3113**

Last Week's Attendance

**In-Person Worship – 62**

**Online Worship – 10**

**Our Vision:**

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

**Answers for March 15th are b) Timothy c) Joseph a) Ehud**

**Quiz hints – Q1) Genesis Q) Jeremiah Q3) Genesis**



# 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.

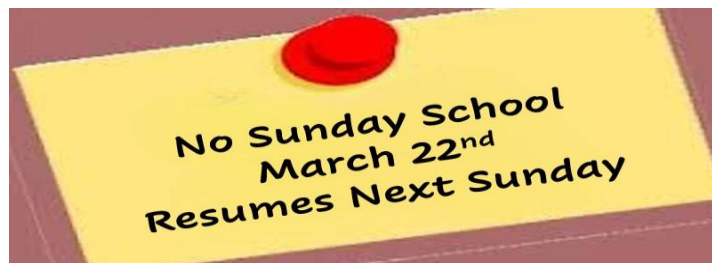
## Bring Your Change to Make a Change

*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**.





**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**Two Volunteers Needed each Thursday  
to Deliver Meals  
Sign-Up Sheet is on the  
Welcome Center Counter**



**Palm Sunday Potluck & Fellowship Hall Dedication  
Sunday, March 29 at 11:00 AM**

Join us for a special time of fellowship as we gather for a Palm Sunday Potluck and the dedication of our newly refreshed Fellowship Hall.

Thanks to the generosity of our church family, the hall has received new carpeting and a fresh coat of paint, made possible through gifts from our memorial funds. These gifts honor the lives of those who have gone before us while continuing to bless our congregation today. We will take a moment to give thanks and dedicate this renewed space for ministry, hospitality, and community.

After worship, everyone is invited to the Fellowship Hall for a potluck meal at 11:00 AM.

Please bring: A dish or two to share, and your own place settings (plate, utensils, and cup).

Come celebrate Palm Sunday, share a meal, and help us dedicate this renewed space that will serve our church for years to come. All are welcome!

### Attributes of God - continued from page 2.

We can face suffering by clinging to the truth that God is compassionate, sovereign, and good—even when we can't see or understand his purposes.

These truths don't promise tidy explanations. But they anchor us to what is true when life feels uncertain.

## Ten Attributes of God That Transform How We See Him

Understanding God's attributes helps us to see him more clearly, love him more deeply, and trust him more fully. Here are ten attributes of God with practical applications for our lives:

### 1. God is Eternal

*Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.* (Psalm 90:2)

God has no beginning and no end. He exists outside of time, and his character never changes with the passing years. Knowing this helps us see that God is not subject to the limitations we face. He sees all of history at once—past, present, and future. When we're anxious about tomorrow or burdened by yesterday, we can rest knowing that our eternal God holds all our days in his hands.

### 2. God is Omnipresent (Present Everywhere)

*Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.* (Psalm 139:7-8)

God is always fully present everywhere. This means you are never alone, never beyond his reach, and never in a place where he cannot see you or help you. When you feel isolated or abandoned, God is right there with you. When you're afraid in the darkness, he's there. When you're celebrating in joy, he's there too. His presence is not divided or diminished—he is fully with you while being fully with every other person who calls on his name.

### 3. God is Omniscient (All-Knowing)

*Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.* (Hebrews 4:13)

God knows everything—past, present, and future. He knows every thought, every motive, every fear, and every hope. This can be both comforting and convicting. It means you can never fool God, but it also means you never have to explain yourself to him. He already knows. He understands your struggles before you voice them. He sees the pain you hide from everyone else. This makes prayer deeply

personal—you're not informing God of anything; you're communing with the One who already knows you completely and loves you anyway.

#### 4. God is Holy

*"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come."* (Revelation 4:8)

God is set apart, morally perfect, and without any hint of sin or evil. His holiness is the standard of all goodness. Understanding God's holiness helps us see both his transcendence—he is far above us—and why we desperately need a Savior. We cannot approach a holy God in our own merit. But knowing his holiness also helps us understand why sin is so serious and why his grace is so amazing. A holy God doesn't overlook our sin; he dealt with it completely through Jesus's life, death, and resurrection, making it possible for us to come near to him.

#### 5. God is Love

*God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.* (1 John 4:16)

Love isn't just something God does—it's who he is. Everything God does flows from his perfect love. This means God's discipline is loving, his correction is loving, and even his judgments are consistent with his loving character. When you question whether God cares about you, remember that his very nature is love. He cannot act unlovingly toward you any more than water can cease to be wet. Every moment of your life is touched by the love of God, whether you feel it or not.

#### 6. God is Just

*For the LORD is righteous, he loves justice; the upright will see his face.* (Psalm 11:7)

God is perfectly fair and always does what is right. He never shows favoritism, never makes mistakes, and never lets evil go unpunished. This attribute helps us trust God when we see injustice in the world. We can know with certainty that every wrong will ultimately be made right, every hidden sin will be brought to light, and every person will be treated with perfect fairness. While earthly judges can be corrupt or make errors, God's judgments are always true and right. This should both comfort us when we're wronged and humble us when we recognize our own need for his mercy.

#### 7. God is Faithful

*Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments.* (Deuteronomy 7:9)

God always keeps his promises. He never abandons his people, never forgets his word, and never fails to follow through. When we struggle with trust—in relationships, in circumstances, in life—knowing God's faithfulness gives us an anchor. People may let us down, but God never will. His track record is perfect.

Every promise he has made will be fulfilled in his perfect timing. When you read God's promises in Scripture, you can be sure of them because they come from a God who is completely faithful.

## 8. God is Merciful

*The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. (Psalm 103:8)*

God withholds the punishment we deserve and shows us compassion instead. His mercy means that he doesn't treat us as our sins deserve. Every morning, we wake up is a gift of God's mercy. Every breath is undeserved kindness. Understanding God's mercy transforms how we see our own failures and how we treat others. If God has shown us such incredible mercy, how can we withhold it from those who wrong us? This attribute also brings comfort—no matter what you've done, God's mercy is greater. You can always come back to him.

## 9. God is Sovereign

*Our God is in heaven; he does whatever pleases him. (Psalm 115:3)*

God has supreme authority and control over all things. Nothing happens outside of his knowledge or against his ultimate will. This doesn't mean God causes evil, but it does mean that nothing—not even evil—can thwart his purposes. When life feels chaotic and out of control, God's sovereignty assures us that he is still on the throne. Your greatest fears, your biggest problems, your most confusing circumstances—none of these have escaped God's sovereign hand. He can use even the darkest moments for his glory and your ultimate good.

## 10. God is Good

*Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. (Psalm 107:1)*

God's goodness means that he is the ultimate source of all that is good, and he desires good for his creation. Everything he does is motivated by his good character. This attribute helps us trust God even when his ways don't make sense to us. When we face trials, loss, or unanswered prayers, we can hold onto the truth that God is good—always, completely, without exception. His goodness doesn't mean life will be easy, but it does mean that he is working all things together for the good of those who love him (Romans 8:28). A good God can be trusted, even in the darkness.

## Teaching God's Attributes to Children: Start Early

While understanding God's attributes matters for people of all ages, there's something uniquely important about teaching these truths to children at an early age. Young children may not grasp the full theological weight of God's omnipresence or sovereignty, but they can understand that "God is always with me" and "God is in charge of everything." They may not comprehend the depth of God's holiness,

but they can learn that “God is perfect and never does anything wrong.” These simple truths, planted early, give children something solid to build on as they grow.

When a child asks, “Why does God love us?”, we can answer with truth about God’s attributes: “God loves us because God is love. That’s who he is.” When they wonder, “Why did God make us?” we can respond, “God made us because God is creative, and he wanted us to know Him.” These answers may not fully sink in, but they give children something true and lasting to hold onto.

Teaching children about God’s attributes makes God real to them. Not distant. Not abstract. Rather than God being a distant figure in Bible stories, he becomes real—a God who never sleeps (so he’s always watching over them), who hears their prayers (even the ones they whisper), who loves them no matter what (because he is love), and who will never leave them (because he is faithful). These truths provide security, comfort, and a framework for faith that will sustain them throughout their lives.

Discipling children in the truth of who God is shapes their faith for a lifetime. And as we teach them, we often find our own hearts renewed—reminded again of the wonder and beauty of our unchanging God.

If you’re looking for a resource to help children develop a deeper understanding of God, the *NirV Tiny Theologians Bible* is a wonderful Bible designed to help young readers develop biblical literacy from an early age.

*Adapted from Amy Gannett, Amy Gannett is a writer and Bible teacher passionate about equipping Christians to know and love God through his Word. NIV Weekly Blog. All Rights Reserved 501 Nelson Place, Nashville, TN 37214, USA, March 6, 2026.*



### He Shall Be Like a Tree

Man is said to be several things in the Bible: builders, sheep, branches, salt, light, withering grass, and fading flowers. Psalm 1:1-3 speaks of a righteous man being like a tree "planted by the rivers of water." Christians have also been "planted" (Romans 6:3-5). Here are some other ways Christians are like trees.

**A tree is a rooted thing.** Christians are rooted and built up in Christ (Col. 2:7). It takes time for a tree to become rooted, and it takes time for a person to become established in the faith (Heb. 5:12).

**A tree is a growing thing.** "By the rivers of water" is a place of nourishment. Nature demands that a tree grow, and the law of God demands that a child grow (1 Pet. 2:2). The environment for growth is equally important for the tree as it is for a Christian (1 Cor. 15:33).

**A tree is a beautiful thing.** Few things in nature are as beautiful as a tree. There is nothing more beautiful than a godly life (Romans 10:15).

*Adapted from BulletinDigest.com. Bulletin Digest. All Rights Reserved PO Box 831, Judsonia, AK 72081, USA, September 9, 2024.*



Dear Church Family,

We are nearing the end of Lent, and our gospel text this coming Sunday comes from John 11, the story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead. This story prefigures the journey of Holy Week: death and resurrection. Death comes to each of us differently, but it comes to us all. Sometimes we know that it is imminent, and sometimes it catches us by surprise. Sometimes it can be a holy and peaceful moment, and sometimes it can be traumatic. In the story of Lazarus, we see the full range of ways people grieve the loss of a loved one, and we see Jesus' own emotional response, "Jesus began to weep."

And Jesus also provides the foundation of our hope that death is not the final word. He says, "I am the resurrection and the life." This hope does not erase death or grief, but it does give us a path through it. I hope to see you this Sunday, as we hear together how the hope of resurrection meets us even in our darkest moments.

Grace and peace,

Pastor David Clark  
308-258-7749 (cell)

