



Weekly Booster

CHURCH STAFF

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Jeff Hiser

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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, Drew Morelock,

Pastor David



He Provides Manna One Day at a Time

Be careful to follow every command I am giving you today, so that you may live and increase and may enter and possess the land the LORD promised on oath to your ancestors. Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands. He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. Your clothes did not wear out and your feet did not swell during these forty years. Deuteronomy 8:1-4

When God provided the miraculous manna, he provided just enough. The description's pretty precise. Those who gathered a lot had nothing left over, and those who gathered a little had enough. Then he gave them a curious command: "No one is to keep any of it until morning" (Exodus 16:19).

Why would God forbid leftovers? What's wrong with taking a little initiative and gathering enough manna for a couple of days or weeks?

Here's my take on the manna miracle: The manna was a daily reminder of their daily dependence on God. God wanted to cultivate their daily dependence by providing for their needs on a daily basis.

Continued page 2.

Did you know that the world's longest walking distance is 14,000 miles? You can walk from Magadan in Russia to Cape Town in South Africa. It requires no flying or sailing—just bridges and open roads.

Reminders

July 17th

Praise Team - 5:00 p.m.
No Bell or Choir Practice until Fall

July 18th

T.O.P.S.

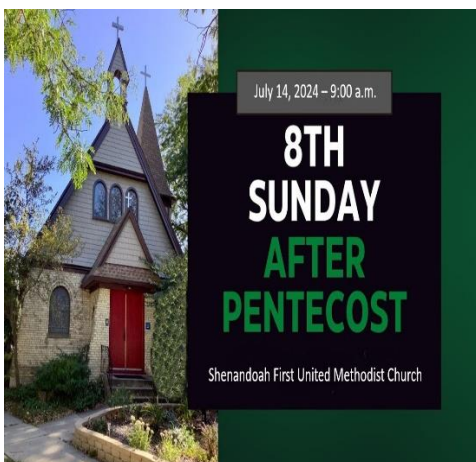
July 21st

Men's Breakfast – 8:00 a.m.

****No PK-6 or Jr/Sr High
Sunday School until Fall**

****Worship Assistants are needed for
July 21st, 28th**

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



Manna - Continued from page 1.

By submitting himself to death, Jesus found life. “For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it” ([Mark 8:35](#)). It's only in surrendering to his will and his way that believers find the fullness of life as God intended it.

In all of this, Jesus is victorious. He was, is, and will always be undefeated by sin, by death, and by the grave. His victory is found in the fact that he was, and is, a selfless servant. In graciously giving his life, he also created a pathway to the life that is truly life eternal.

Nothing's changed. We want a one-week or one-month or one-year supply of God's provision, but God wants us to drop to our knees every day in raw dependence on him.

And God knows that if he provided too much too soon, we'd lose our spiritual hunger. He knows we'd stop trusting in our Provider and start trusting in the provision.

Spiritual maturity is often confused with independence. It's the exact opposite. The goal is codependence on God. God didn't design us to “grow up” and be independent from him. Our desire for self-sufficiency is a subtle expression of our sinful nature. It's a desire to get to a place where we don't need God, don't need faith, don't need a local church home, and don't need to pray. We want God to provide more so we need him less. That's just not the way it's supposed to work.

Drawn from the NIV Bible for Teen Guys. Article from The Circle Maker Student Edition by Mark Batterson with Parker Batterson, copyright 2012 by Mark Batterson, published by Zondervan. He Provides Manna One Day at a Time. HarperCollins Christian Publishing. NIV Weekly Blog, All Rights Reserved 501 Nelson Place, Nashville, TN 37214, USA, July 8, 2024.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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

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

- Michelle Morelock - Chair*
- Mary Peterson - Secretary*
- Margaret Brady - Vice Chair & Trustee*
- Gary Milstead - Trustee*
- Roger Jones - SPRC*
- Robin Hensen - Finance*
- 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 – will resume in the Fall. Have a safe summer!**

****Choir – No choir until Fall.**

****Bell Choir – No Bells until Fall**

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.



According to the book Colossians, by what did Jesus make peace in reconciling all things to himself?

- a) His name
- b) The blood of His cross
- c) His mighty power
- d) His virgin birth

Who sat down under a tree and asked the Lord to take away his life?

- a) Elijah
- b) David
- c) Samuel
- d) Ezekiel

What did God create on the 4th day?

- a) sun, moon, and the stars
- b) plants
- c) animals
- d) waters

Check page 4 for answers from the previous week.



16th – Keven & Becky Livengood

17th – Mace Hensen

18th – Brent Ehlers, Hali Giese Mayer

20th – Don & Rita Rorebeck

****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: Jesus calls us to go out into deeper waters,

People: But we often hesitate because of fear.

L: Jesus calls you to let go and trust him.

P: God, help us to let go.

L: Jesus has things taken care of.

P: God, help us to trust.

THE CALL "COME FOLLOW ME"

Scripture Reading: Luke 5:1-11

Songs

Where He Leads Me #338

Holy Is the Lord #3028

Grace Alone #2162

Last Week's Attendance

In-Person Worship – 60

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 4th are d) righteousness c) sluggard d) All of the above
Quiz hints – Q1) Colossians Q2) 1 Kings Q3) 2 Genesis**



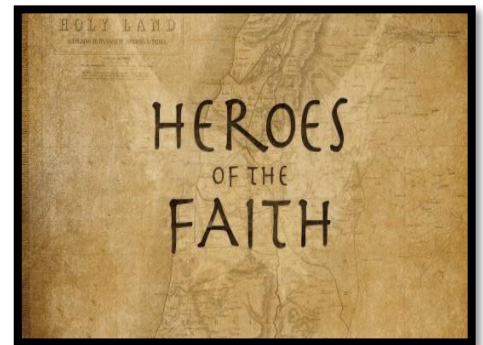
July 2024

Spaghetti Sauce, Green Beans & Corn, Brownie, Cake, and Muffin Mixes, Mandarin Oranges & Pineapple, Macaroni & Cheese, Hamburger & Tuna Helpers, Chicken Noodle Soup, Cereal, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Shampoo.

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.

Heroes of Faith and The Art of Overcoming

How do we trust God's faithfulness through challenges, loss, grief, and hurt, the way heroes of faith did? Author and Pastor Tim Timberlake explores the lives of biblical heroes listed in the Book of Hebrews to reveal how their stories teach us to overcome obstacles, deal with adversity, and trust God in difficult times.



Allowing faith to coexist with death experiences—everyday setbacks and disappointments, grief, pain, and hurt—is important because sometimes we try to use faith to *avoid* them when God is asking us to use faith to *deal with* them.

Instead of walking through death experiences with grace, we think we can believe, hope, trust, claim, quote, and pray our way out of them. When that doesn't work, we blame ourselves for our lack of faith, or we get mad at God for not holding up his end of the deal, or we pendulum back and forth between the two.

If you think every bad thing that happens is because you didn't have enough faith, you're going to spend a lot of time feeling ashamed and condemned. Plus, what we are suffering from or what we have lost is only part of our story. Faith in God allows us to see difficult situations in their wider context: they are just one part of a complex, long, layered, beautiful life.

Hebrews 11 lists numerous people from Israel's history. For each one it says, "By faith so-and-so did such-and-such." It's easy to look at that list and think, *Wow, those men and women were incredible. They believed, and God did miracles. Their faith was proved by their life.*

But look at verse 13: “All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth.”

They didn't just live in faith; they died in faith, knowing that God is faithful in this age and in the age to come.

What if we stopped looking at our death experiences as a sign that we *lacked* faith, and instead looked at them as simply another way to *walk by* faith? What if we stopped thinking we somehow *failed* God and instead remembered we are *following* God?

That would change our whole perspective on loss, pain, and disappointment. It would change our perspective on ourselves too. We would give ourselves space to grieve and time to heal instead of hiding our pain or beating ourselves up over it.

Overcome By Letting Go

“Letting go” is easier said than done. It takes foresight and maturity to look beyond your present pain and realize something better is coming.

Many heroes of the Bible had to say goodbye to things they cared for deeply. We remember the victory at the end of their stories, but we often forget the emotional choices they made along the way to let go of a past, a dream, or a relationship that needed to be laid to rest. Only then could they step into the future God was offering them.

Remember in Genesis 22 when God asked Abraham to give up his son? Isaac was his only son, his promised son, his beloved son, the answer to decades of prayer and patience. God's instruction must have felt like death to Abraham (Hebrews 11:17-19). But he was willing to let go, and God applauded him for his faith and trust. In fact, the Bible calls him the father of all who believe.

Or how about when Moses tried and failed to deliver Egypt in his strength, then fled to hide in the wilderness in fear and shame (Exodus 2)? I can only imagine the guilt and insecurity that must have plagued him for decades. Then, one day, God told him to go back.

Moses had more excuses than a teenager being told to clean his room, but God finally talked him into it. Moses had to let two things die: his idea of how Israel would be set free (control) and his feelings of failure (shame). When he let go of those, God used him to deliver Israel from Egypt (Hebrews 11:24-28).

Ruth let go of her homeland and her own family (Ruth 1:16-17). Hannah had to leave her son Samuel behind to grow up at the temple (1 Samuel 1:22). Esther had to leave her adoptive uncle to move into the palace of a maniacal, pagan ruler (Esther 2:8). Jesus had to find comfort and healing after his cousin John the Baptist was killed (Matthew 14:13).

Mary had to say goodbye to her son on the cross ([John 19:26-27](#)). I could go on and on, but you get the picture. Overcoming adversity is not just about what we *get*, but it's also about what we *give up*.

These stories from the heroes of our faith should remind us that letting go is just as much a part of faith as holding on. We need to remove the stigma that is often attached to grief. What are we so embarrassed about? What are we so afraid of?

Closing a business, going bankrupt, or having a chronic illness doesn't mean we are failures. Nor does it mean that we don't have faith. These circumstances and others like them simply mean we are alive, and we are human, and we are normal, and we are *moving forward*.

There is a natural movement or trajectory to life, and what works for one season doesn't necessarily work for the next. Losing, leaving, and laying to rest are necessary stages of growth. Nobody likes to lose, but if we can't lose, we can't gain either. We will just stay where we are, and that's unnatural.

A lot of overcoming is simply moving forward, growing, and adapting as we go. It is leaving the past behind without bitterness or regret, but rather with honor, knowing what we had was important for a season, but that the season has ended. In other words, we learn to let things rest in peace without losing our peace.

Having faith in God doesn't mean you never lose a job, loved one, or friendship. It means that even when you lose what you thought you couldn't survive without, you keep living. You keep loving. You keep giving.

Your pain runs deep, but your faith runs deeper. Your circumstances have changed, but God hasn't.

Adapted from *The Art of Overcoming: Letting God Turn Your Endings Into Beginnings*, by Tim Timberlake is published by HarperCollins Christian Publishing, Inc., the parent company of Bible Gateway. March 28, 2023





We are often stuck in ways of thinking and being that are defined by fear, anxiety, and scarcity. Jesus calls us out of that way of life into one of trust and abundance. We are called to let go and to give away.

Our gospel reading for this Sunday is Luke 5:1-11. One way that we can meditate with Scripture is to use our imagination and place ourselves in the text. I invite you to look up and read Luke 5:1-11 and imagine yourself as though you are there when the action is taking place. Who are you? Are you one of the disciples? Are you part of the crowd? Are you the family of the disciples? Where do you see yourself in this story? And then let your imagination go and ask yourself what you see, feel, hear, smell, and touch? What emotions are brought up in you as you imagine yourself as part of the gospel story?

I look forward to seeing you this Sunday morning!

Grace and peace,
Pastor David B. Clark