



Weekly Booster

CHURCH STAFF

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Announcement Coming Soon

Multimedia & Website

Jeff Hiser

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Alan Hutchison,
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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,
Pastor David



What the Bible Says About Prayer

We see in the Bible that God is always with us. When we become followers of Jesus, his presence comes to dwell inside us through the power of the Holy Spirit. Because God is always near, as Christians, it should be normal for us to carry on a conversation with God, not just in the morning and evening, but throughout the day.

In 1 Thessalonians 5:16–18, we are commanded to “rejoice always, pray continually” and to “give thanks in all circumstances.” But what does it look like to live this out? We can develop this kind of lifestyle through simple practices that help our hearts hear from the Lord, both in the quiet, still moments and the loud hectic ones throughout our day. This can be called “practicing the presence.” And as we learn to pray continually, talking to God becomes a natural part of our relationship with him.

How do we integrate prayer into our lives?

First, understand that prayer doesn't have to be long. One practical way we can begin practicing an awareness of God throughout our day is through breath prayers. This can be done by praying a short Bible verse or a simple prayer that can be said in the space of a breath. There's nothing magical about repeating these prayers as you inhale and exhale, but it's a simple and powerful way to stay connected with God throughout your day.

Continued page 2.

Question and Answer

Q: Who in the Bible knew the most people?

A: Abraham knew a Lot

Reminders

September 9th

Men's Bible Study – 8:00 a.m.

September 13th

Bible Study – 11:00 a.m.
Praise Team - 5:00 p.m.

September 14th

T.O.P.S. – 5:30 p.m.

September 17th

Methodist Men's Monthly Breakfast
8:00 a.m. Fellowship Hall

**Worship Assistant is needed for
September 24th

** Fellowship Volunteers needed
sign-up in Fellowship Hall



Two Volunteers Needed each Thursday

to Deliver Meals

Sign-Up Sheet is on the
Welcome Center Counter

Prayer- Continued from page 1.

As you read through the Bible, write down any short prayers that stand out to you. Or you can write out your own in the margins of your Bible in response to Scripture. Here are some examples to get you started:

1 John 4—Help me love like you today.

Psalm 139 and

Exodus 33—Be with me.

Psalm 23—Keep me safe.

Matthew 6—Forgive me and help me to forgive others.

Types of prayers in the Bible

Prayers of adoration, examen, and meditation are all additional ways for us to pray, each giving us different ways to communicate with and cultivate a life-giving relationship with our Creator.

Prayers of adoration give God glory simply for who he is. One easy way to do this is by praying the Psalms. You might even try to write a psalm in your own words, expressing your thanks and praise to God.

Prayers of examen help us to reflect. As you think back on your day, ask God to reveal the ways he has been present with you and reflect on whether your thoughts, feelings, and actions have been pleasing to him. This is a way for us to allow God to help us see ourselves more clearly and be transformed by him. Try praying this way by reflecting on your day before going to sleep at night.

Prayers of meditation allow God to address our will, calling us into repentance, obedience, and transformation. One way to do this is by reflecting on the truth found in the Bible and asking God to show us how it relates to our lives.

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Question and Answer

Q: How do you know Pharaoh was athletic?
A: He had a court

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 Office Hours

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

****NO Chancel Choir Until Fall – 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.

BIBLE Quiz

How did Judas Iscariot betray Jesus?

- a) pointed him out
- b) talked with him
- c) beat him
- d) kissed him

On which day did God create light?

- a) First Day
- b) Second Day
- c) Third Day
- d) Fourth Day

What did Naomi tell Ruth to do after Boaz has laid down?

- a) Observe the place he laid
- b) Uncover his feet
- c) Lie down with him
- d) All of the above

Check page 4 for answers from the previous week.



- 11th – Doug McElroy, Zach Zwickle
- 12th – Brandy Pease
- 13th – Phil Grossman
- 14th – Gloria Mauer
- 16th – Jeanne Williams, Aaron & Michelle Morelock

****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: Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song.

People: Sing praise among the faithful.

L: Let the people of God be glad.

P: Let us rejoice, dance, and sing.

L: For the Lord rejoices in the people.

P: God give glory to the humble of heart.

“WHEN CONFLICT HAPPENS”

Gospel Reading: Matthew 18:15-20

Songs

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee #89

Chainbreaker (screens)

Let There Be Peace on Earth #431

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love #528

Last Week's Attendance

In-Person Worship – 73

On-Line Worship – 18

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 Sept. 3rd are b) Nathan c) The same amount a) Absalom
Quiz hints – Q1) Matthew Q2) Genesis Q3) Ruth**

Starting Life Anew, Reborn, Redeemed

New birth is about casting off our old, mortal life and entering into a new kind of life: eternal life! By putting our trust in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, and by accepting the beauty of the truth that he has died for our sins, we can start the process of Christlike growth and maturity.



We all fall short of the glory of God (see Romans 3:23). But admitting our sins to ourselves is only the first step. We need to learn how to take our guilt, anger, and pain and transform it into love and compassion. We must learn how our sins can be washed clean so that we can once more become clean in the eyes of God. We must, as Jesus told Nicodemus in the Gospel of John, be “born again” (John 3:7).

In Rebirth We Find Grace

And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. 2 Corinthians 9:8

When we give ourselves up to the power of Christ, we are not only changed but also radically reborn. It is through this power of the new birth that we are saved (see Titus 3:3 – 7). While in the past we may have acted in a manner counter to God’s will, now, as we follow Jesus Christ, we allow the Holy Spirit to guide us to live a more Christlike life. This sacred new birth is our living hope (see 1 Peter 1:3). Just as Christ was restored to life on this earth, so too we can be restored to life in Christ.

We are More than Conquerors Through Jesus’ Love

In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:37 – 39

Even when we have experienced new birth through Christ, it can be easy to doubt God’s love for us if we focus on the evil in the world and the turmoil we often find in our lives. But if we truly want to turn our lives around as followers of Christ, we must grasp onto God’s love for us. God has shown us through the sacrifice of his Son that his love has conquered even death. There is nothing that can send us beyond the limits of his boundless love. There is nothing that should cause us to live lives marked by fear and sorrow. Jesus has conquered death, and we have the hope that someday we will too! When we believe in the promises of this passage in Romans, we know that God loves us no matter the situation, and we can live joyfully and victoriously changed lives as a result.

Loving God Sets Us Free

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. Mark 12:30

The first step in turning your life around as a Christian is allowing yourself to experience all-encompassing love for God. This is not a love that we should offer only during a weekly church service or when we cry out to him during desperate times. Rather, Jesus commands us to love God always, that at every hour our priority should be God.

While this sounds like a challenging task, focusing our love on God will allow us to experience his love and share it with others (see John 14:21 – 24). Loving God means freedom from the earthly desires that torment us and imprison us. Lust-filled desires for power, fame, riches, and sex can distract us from the true message of the gospel. Love for God, however, can be so strong that it counters these lesser desires, setting us free for the first time.

We are Called to Love All God's Children

Now about your love for one another, we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other. 1 Thessalonians 4:9

The first step toward turning your life around is loving God — learning to become liberated from your old earthly desires and needs by focusing your heart, soul, mind, and strength on the Lord. This first step leads naturally to another step — learning to love others. Once you enter into the light of the Holy Spirit and are cleansed of your sins, you will be able to see the world with new eyes. Your love for God will be reflected in your love for the world.

Ephesians tells us that we must bear with one another in love to keep the unity of the Spirit (see Ephesians 4:1 – 6) — joining together in one body and one Spirit. With the Spirit's help, we can love others by looking for opportunities to “do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers” (Galatians 6:10).

First Things First

Confession of sin is critical to the Christian life and the process of new birth. If we refuse to admit that we are sinful, we refuse to acknowledge our need for a Savior and as a result, we cannot be cleansed from the sin in our lives. The Bible tells us that “if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9). We don't deserve God's forgiveness, but when we confess our sins and ask for forgiveness, he freely gives it to us by his love and his grace (see Ephesians 2:3 – 5).

To keep our souls clean for God, we must pray, as the sinner in Jesus' parable prayed, "God, have mercy on me, a sinner" (Luke 18:13). This prayer — and the humility that accompanies it — is the first step toward a redeemed life.

Adapted from study material in the NIV Essentials of the Christian Faith New Testament. HarperCollins Christian Publishing. All Rights Reserved 501 Nelson Place, Nashville, TN 37214, USA, NIV Weekly Blog, July 2021.

Mark your calendar!

CHILDREN'S
Sunday School

Begins on Sunday, Sept. 10th!

Hello!

The new year for Sunday School will begin **THIS SUNDAY**, September 10th. We have some **BIG** changes for the preschool-sixth grade group that we are very excited about! Sunday School for **THAT AGE GROUP ONLY** will be held during the church service. The children will leave the sanctuary after the children's message, and you will pick them up downstairs in the fellowship hall following the service. The only exception will be during communion week (the first Sunday of the month) when we will return upstairs. We think this will be beneficial for both the kids and the parents/grandparents! 7th-12th grades will still meet from 10:30-11:30 AM.

We look forward to seeing you! Sunday School

Teachers - Laura Bowen, Heather Weiss, Michelle Morelock, Jamie Burdorf,

Shelly Hamilton, and Dan and Deb Finlay



Food Pantry Needs for September

Peanut Butter & Jelly, Brownie, cake, cookie, & muffin mixes, spaghetti sauce & pasta (any kind), green beans, corn, peas, pineapple, Tuna & Chicken Helpers, microwave popcorn, Chicken Noodle soup, toothpaste, deodorant

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.



Encountering the New Testament is our midweek Bible Study led by Pastor David, on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. The focus this year will be on the life, teaching, and letters of the Apostle Paul. We will journey with the apostle through the establishment of the first churches and look into what it was like to be a Christian in the first century. We hope you join us on Wednesdays.

Do you enjoy singing? Enjoy or would like to learn to play the bells? Interested in joining the Praise Team? You can participate in all three and share your talents. Maybe you have an instrument and would like to be part of the Praise Team band. You have a lot of options, and we want to see our music programs grow. There will be some exciting changes coming to our music ministry programs soon. Watch for additional information in future boosters!

JOIN OUR MUSIC PROGRAMS!

This Fall, consider joining the First Church Chancel Choir, Bell Choir, or both! All are welcome, whether you're returning, or you're a beginner! There is space for you here.

