



Weekly Booster

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor

David B. Clark

pastordavid@shen.church

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Jeff Hiser

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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.*



Josiah and the Transforming Power of God's Word

Perhaps you have participated in the annual practice of “spring cleaning.” After the winter season, you go through your house and belongings, clear out the clutter, and tidy up. It’s common during these cleanups to find things that we forgot all about. As a father of two sons, ages 10 and 11, I can testify that they find all sorts of old treasures when they clean through the geological layers of belongings in their rooms! Toys and keepsakes long forgotten become engaging once again.

Something similar happened during the 18th year of the reign of Judah’s king, Josiah. As Josiah’s officers were cleaning and repairing the neglected temple of God, they found something that sparked a spiritual revival in the nation.

Josiah’s Faithfulness in a Spiritually Broken Culture

Most of the kings who reigned in Jerusalem after David were wicked leaders, but Josiah was a noteworthy exception. It might seem that the odds were stacked against Josiah. After all, both his father and grandfather (Amon and Manasseh) had been evil leaders, and Josiah became king of Jerusalem when he was only 8 years old. That certainly seems like a recipe for disaster! Yet God used Josiah as a good leader who re-established proper worship and rid Judah of idolatry.

Continued on page 2

“The only way to discovering the limits of the possible is to venture a little way past them into the impossible.”

Arthur C. Clarke

“Worry is a misuse of imagination.” Unknown

Reminders

January 25th

Sunday Service 9:00 a.m.
PK-6 S.S. during the message
Jr/Sr High S.S. – 10:30 a.m.

January 27th

Mat Making (Loom Room) 1:00 p.m.
Ad Board Meeting -6:30 p.m.

January 28th

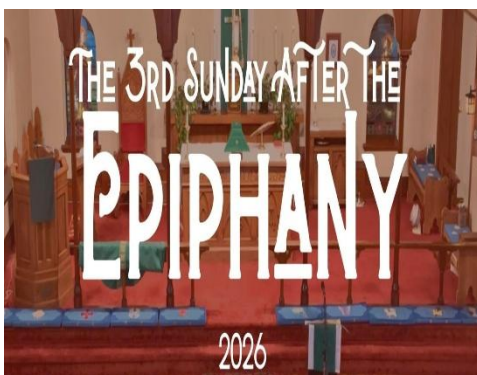
Bible Study – 11:00 a.m.
Praise Team - 4:00 p.m.
Bell Choir – 4:30 p.m.
Chancel Choir – 5:30 p.m.
No Wednesday activities

January 29th

T.O.P.S.

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

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



Josiah - continued from page 1.

In the 18th year of his reign, Josiah sent his secretary, Shaphan, to the temple to tell the high priest Hilkiah to restore the neglected house of God. Carpenters, builders, and masons set to work. In the process, Hilkiah said to Shaphan, “I have found the Book of the Law in the temple of the LORD” (2 Kings 22:8).

Imagine that: God’s ways had been so neglected by the kings and leaders of Jerusalem that the Book of God’s Law had been lost and forgotten! It would be like finding a Bible in some forgotten closet of a church—a sad testimony to years of ignoring God and his Word.

When the Book of God’s Law was read to King Josiah, he tore his robes (see 2 Kings 22:11). The words pierced his heart, and he knew immediately that the people of Judah had not been living according to God’s will. Josiah sent Hilkiah, Shaphan, and his officers to speak to the prophet Huldah about the discovery of God’s Law so she could give them a deeper understanding of God’s will (see 2 Kings 22:14–20). Even when most of the country had all but forgotten about God, God still had at least one faithful prophet who knew and trusted him and who could point the people to God’s truth.

Josiah Seeks to Lead the Nation in a Spiritual Revival

Josiah then led Judah to renew its covenant with God. Finding God’s Law sparked a national revival! Josiah himself read the words of the book to the people, and the people pledged themselves to the covenant (see 2 Kings 23:3).

Josiah ordered that the idols and items made for false gods be removed from the temple and destroyed. He did away with the false priests who had been appointed by the kings who went before him. He desecrated the “high places” where idol worship had taken place (2 Kings 23:5). It was a national cleanup: Josiah did everything he could to abolish all vestiges of idolatry from Judah. Josiah’s cleanup campaign even extended beyond Judah’s borders and into the northern kingdom of Israel (see 2 Kings 23:15–21).

Josiah then ordered the greatest Passover celebration the nation had ever experienced (see 2 Kings 23:22). Proper worship of God was restored.

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.**

Monday	9:00-11:00 12:00-3:00
Tuesday	9:00-11:00 12:00-3:00
Wednesday	Praise Team – 4:00 p.m. Bell Choir – 4:30 p.m. Chancel Choir – 5:30 p.m.
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

The front door to the church will be locked during office hours. Please ring the doorbell to be let into the church.

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 King too possession of Naboth's vineyard?

- a) Manasseh
- b) Belshazzar
- c) David
- d) Ahab

Who said faith apart from works is dead?

- a) James
- b) Paul
- c) Peter.
- d) John the Baptist

Whom did Jesus call the "Comforter" or Helper"?

- a) a poor widow
- b) Peter
- c) Holy Spirit
- d) Solomon

Check page 4 for answers from the previous week.



- 25th – Addison Blane, Aiden Hobbie*
- 27th – Mary Ann Goodrich Keep, Pat O'Hara*
- 28th – Shelly Hamilton*
- 29th – Kathy Bayless*
- 31st – Erika Stevens*

****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.

<https://www.youtube.com/@shen.church8192/streams>

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

Call to Worship

Leader: O Lord, who may abide in your tent?

People: Who may dwell on your holy hill?

L: Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart.

P: Those who do these things shall never be moved.

L: My heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rest secure.

P: You show us the path of life, O God. In your presence there is fullness of joy.

"Blessed are the Poor in Spirit"

Scripture Reading: Matthew 5:1-12

Songs

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing #400

Open the Eyes of My Heart #3008

Be Thou Vision #451

Seek Ye First #405

Last Week's Attendance

In-Person Worship – 71

Online Worship – 12

Our Vision:

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

Answers for Jan 18th are a) son of Nebuchadnezzar c) Holy to the Lord a) be silent

Quiz hints – Q1) Daniel Q 2) Exodus Q3) Zechariah

February 2026



Mandarin Oranges, Cake, Brownie, and Cookie Mixes, Macaroni & Cheese, Spaghetti Sauce (with any type of pasta), Chicken Noodle Soup, Chili Beans, Tuna and Chicken Helpers, Microwave Popcorn, Hot Chocolate Mix, Chunky Style Soup, Bar Soap

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 December will go to the **Sleep In Heavenly Peace**.

SALE
MISC

There are two pews located in Fellowship Hall. The AD Board met and decided to try and sell them for \$25 each. There are numerous folding chairs with wooden seats that are also available for \$3 each. If you are interested in purchasing the pews and/or folding chairs, please contact the office.

Joshia- continued from page 2.

This was a central aspect of covenant renewal, and this covenant renewal event marked the first occasion since Joshua's time that the Passover was celebrated as a national festival with government officials involved.

Everything Josiah did, he did in accordance with what he read in God's Law (see 2 Kings 23:24). In a stunning and wonderful summary of Josiah's reform efforts in Judah, the Bible says: "Neither before nor after Josiah was there a king like him who turned to the LORD as he did—with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his strength, in accordance with all the Law of Moses" (2 Kings 23:25).

Sadly, Josiah's efforts were not enough to save Judah from its evil and sin. Though his reign was a spiritual high point, too much evil had infected the nation. Josiah's own reign also ended in disappointment, on the battlefield against Egypt (see 2 Kings 23:29). The four final kings who reigned after Josiah, ending with Judah's final king Zedekiah, were all moral and spiritual failures.

What Josiah's Story Teaches Us

Even though Josiah's story is a good moment in an otherwise tragic story, we can still take a great deal of encouragement from this righteous king. For one thing, he did not go along with the evil of his family, modeled by his father and grandfather. Josiah chose God's way rather than the wicked practices he was raised with. God's children in this world need to stand firm in obedience to God and not go along with social pressures to do evil, whether those pressures come from within or outside our families.

Josiah's testimony also reminds us of the radical transforming power of God's Word. Hearing the words of God's Law read aloud transformed Josiah, and in turn, reformed the nation of Judah. The role God's Book of the Law played during Josiah's reign is a picture of what we read in Hebrews 4:12: "For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart." Where have you witnessed the transforming power of the Bible? The same God who brought transformation to Judah through his Word transforms and changes both us and our communities through that same Word today!

For Reflection

As you read and reflect upon Josiah's story, ask yourself: Have you left God's Word out of your life for a while? Do you need to rediscover its power and transforming grace? Take the opportunity this week to rediscover the wonder of God's Word. Let the gospel message you find in it transform your heart. Reaffirm your covenant relationship with God. Praise God for the grace and truth His Word will give you!

*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, January 19, 2026.*



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Two Volunteers Needed each Thursday

to Deliver Meals

Sign-Up Sheet is on the

Welcome Center Counter

23rd Annual Clarinda Lutheran School

German Dinner

Sunday, February 1, 2025

Starting at 11 a.m.

Menu

Marinated Pork Loins
Bratwurst
Bavarian Sauerkraut
Hot German Potato Salad
Green Beans with Bacon
Escalloped Apples
Homemade German Breads
German Chocolate Cake
Peach Kuchen Lemon Streusel
Black Forest Cake Banana Rum Cake

**Clarinda Lutheran School
707 W. Scidmore
Clarinda, Iowa**

Silent Auction opens at 10:30 a.m. until 1:15 p.m.

**This is a benefit dinner for the operational expenses of
the educational ministry of Clarinda Lutheran School.
Cost of the meal is a free will donation.**

**Make your Reservations on our website:
clarindalutheralschool.com/german-dinner**

Questions? Please call (712) 542-3657



10 resolutions that will strengthen your faith

Whether beginning a new calendar year, a new year after a birthday or starting fresh after a challenging season, setting a goal can be a helpful tool for self-accountability as you move forward. Many of us resolve to find a stronger connection with God in these moments.

Here are ten resolutions that will help you grow your faith:

Deepen discipleship

- **Commit to reading your Bible.** The reassurance found in Scripture can only be discovered by setting aside time to study and better understand God's word. As you read, pay close attention to what God is teaching you, and consider what calling God has for your life.
- **Pray more often.** If you pray rarely, start by praying at least once each day. If your prayer life needs enlivened, explore new prayer practices, such as breath prayers. Finding ways to incorporate prayer into your daily routines will help it become a central point of your faith.
- **Attend church services regularly.** If you need a church home, search for nearby United Methodist congregations on Find-A-Church. If you are a member at a church but haven't been attending consistently, go! Connecting with others and participating in worship are vital parts of a growing faith, whether in-person or online.
- **Join a small group.** This might be a Sunday School class, a community group organized by your church or a Bible study fellowship. Investing in others and building friendships can strengthen your mental and spiritual health. Additionally, you'll be able to share thoughts, beliefs and questions with other Christians who are also on a journey of faith.

Get creative

- **Write in a journal.** Capture thoughts about life and God. Putting pen to paper helps us unload whatever mental weight we are carrying and often brings a new perspective. This can be diary-style writing, but you can also write down prayers, poems or a fictional short story that helps you express your emotions and spiritual outlook.
- **Create something beautiful.** This could be anything from a pencil sketch in the margin of a piece of paper, to a scrapbook page, to a knitted scarf. Using your creativity unlocks your right-brain thinking and helps us tap into new ideas, find calm and let go of anxiety.
- **Make a joyful noise.** Listen to uplifting, worshipful music that stirs your soul and sing along. It doesn't matter if you are the best or the worst singer – lifting your voice in praise to God is an important part of soul-care. Join in congregational singing with a bit more gusto, or simply sing to the heavens while you are stuck in traffic.

Be present

- **Volunteer in the community.** No matter where you live, churches and nonprofit organizations are always in need of helping hands. Find a cause that excites you and consider how you can get involved. This could be a food bank, an animal shelter or an afterschool program, or you can simply ask a neighbor in need how you can help them.
- **Reach out to those you love.** Life can be short and is full of the unexpected. Make a promise to yourself and those you hold dear that you will be present, engaged and devoted to your relationships. Attend activities that are meaningful to your friends and family members. Mend past brokenness. Make an effort to call, text and email people you haven't heard from in a while.
- **Invite someone to church.** There are many people who are seeking deeper meaning in life but are unsure about visiting a church. Think of coworkers, neighbors, friends and family members that are yearning for a loving community in which to grow and find support. Invite them to join you for a worship service or a church event where they can meet members of the congregation.

Adapted by author Laura Buchanan who works for UMC.org at United Methodist Communications. This story was published on December 14, 2023.

The flyer is for a Bingo Night event at St. Mary's Catholic Church. It features a light blue background with decorative elements like yellow and purple circles and white plus signs. At the top, it says "Proceeds benefit the Shenandoah Pregnancy Center" in an orange box, followed by "St. Mary's Catholic Church". The main title "BINGO NIGHT" is in large, bold, green letters. Below that, three colored buttons (orange, yellow, purple) contain the words "GAMES", "FUN", and "FOOD". The event date is "February 7, 2026", and the description is "Soup Supper, Desserts, Drinks, followed by BINGO!". A green banner states "Supper begins at 5:00 pm". At the bottom, an orange box says "Hosted by the Knights of Columbus", and the location is "Parish Hall of St. Mary's, 512 W. Thomas, Shenandoah". A purple circle with the number "80" is also visible.

Proceeds benefit the Shenandoah
Pregnancy Center

St. Mary's Catholic Church

BINGO NIGHT

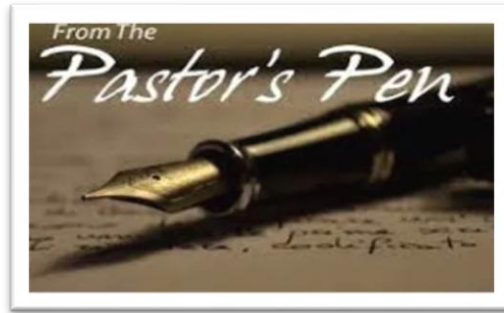
GAMES FUN FOOD

February 7, 2026
Soup Supper, Desserts,
Drinks, followed by
BINGO!

Supper begins at
5:00 pm

Hosted by the Knights of Columbus

Parish Hall of St. Mary's, 512 W. Thomas, Shenandoah



Dear Church,

I want to celebrate with you the incredible generosity you demonstrated at the close of 2024! What began as a significant budget shortfall became a story of faith in action—we ended the year only \$10,000 short, which is not only manageable but a tremendous improvement from last year. I recognize that finances have grown tighter for many over recent years, and the demands keep mounting. Your sacrifice and generosity mean the world, and I pray that peace and joy will flourish in your hearts because of it.

As we step into this new year, I'm excited to invite us all to explore how we can Cultivate Faith:—in ourselves, in our church, and in our community! Faith is ultimately a gift and grace from God, but here's the wonderful news: we get to participate in this gift! We have the privilege of creating spaces where faith can grow and thrive. Our membership vows in The United Methodist Church call us to faithfully participate in its ministries through our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness. I believe this is exactly how we cultivate vibrant, living faith!

The beauty is that these practices will look different for each of us, reflecting our unique personalities and talents. Even more, how we participate will naturally shift through different seasons of our lives—and that's perfectly okay! Over the coming months, we'll explore each of these exciting paths of participation together, and you'll have wonderful opportunities to discover what your service to the church and community might look like.

Thank you again for your inspiring generosity and steadfast commitment to this body of Christ in Shenandoah! I'm filled with anticipation for the new and renewed expressions of faith that will bloom in the year ahead!

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