



Weekly Booster

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor

David B. Clark

pastordavid@shen.church

Office Manager

Jeff Hiser

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,

Barb Cunningham,

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.*



Priscilla and Aquila

Priscilla, whom Paul usually called by her more formal name, Prisca, was his valued co-worker. As a Jewess who had come out of Rome, she and her husband Aquila were deeply involved in the spread of the gospel. Notably, her name unexpectedly precedes her husband's in three of the six references to them (Acts 18:18; Romans 16:3; 2 Timothy 4:19). This unusual ordering may suggest Priscilla belonged to a higher social class than Aquila, that she was more active than the two in ministry, or simply as an expression of deference toward her as a woman.

When Paul arrived in Corinth in late AD 50, he worked with this dynamic couple in their tent-making business (Acts 18:3). Originally from Rome, Priscilla and Aquila had moved to Corinth due to Emperor Claudius's edict expelling all Jews. Working alongside Paul, they likely were already Christians since Paul describes Stephanas and his household as the first converts in Corinth (1 Corinthians 16:15). Their close partnership with Paul in both business and evangelistic outreach gave them the priceless opportunity to be taught and trained personally by the apostle Paul.

When Paul left Corinth a year and a half later (Acts 18:11), Priscilla and Aquila accompanied him as far as Ephesus (Acts 18:18–19). There, they became leaders in the Ephesian church.

Continued on page 2

"The elevator to success is out of order. You'll have to use the stairs, one step at a time."
Joe Girard

"Be a positive energy trampoline-absorb what you need and rebound more back." **Dave Carolan**

Reminders

November 2nd

Sunday Service 9:00 a.m.
 PK-6 S.S. during the message
 Jr/Sr High S.S. – 10:30 a.m.
 Charge Conference – 2-4 p.m.
 Communion Sunday
 **Clocks fall by one hour!!

November 4th

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

November 5th

Bible Study – 11:00 a.m.
 Praise Team - 4:00 p.m.
 Bell Choir – 4:30 p.m.
 Chancel Choir – 5:30 p.m.

November 7th

T.O.P.S.

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

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



Aquila & Priscilla - continued from page 1.

In addition to leading a house church, they had a significant ministry to Apollos. Although an eloquent speaker, Apollos had gaps in his understanding of the gospel. Priscilla and Aquila took him aside privately and mentored him, explaining "the way of God more adequately" (Acts 18:26).

Sometime after Paul's visit in AD 57, Priscilla and Aquila returned to Rome because Paul later sent special greetings to them and to the members of the house church that they led (Romans 16:3– 4). He also mentioned a time when they risked their lives to save his, possibly during the Ephesian riot (Acts 19:23– 41). Later, they appear again in Ephesus, for the last mention of this dedicated Christian couple comes at the end of Paul's life, when he greeted them in his last letter to Timothy (2 Timothy 4:19).

Priscilla stands out as a strong, competent woman actively engaged in Christian ministry. She managed her household, contributed to her trade, mastered the Scriptures, and proved herself an able teacher. As a well-respected leader in the early church, she was also noted for her hospitality. Working side-by-side with her husband Aquila, they together made a significant contribution to the spread of the gospel in the early church.

What we can learn from Priscilla and Aquila

When Priscilla and Aquila were forced to leave Rome and move to Corinth, they could have closed themselves off, clinging to the past in fear and grief over the loss of their old life. Instead, they opened themselves up to new opportunities and relationships in Corinth. In doing so, they experienced a life-changing partnership with Paul and lives that made a significant impact on the spread of the Gospel.

Likewise, when we find ourselves in unfamiliar circumstances, a new community or job, for example, we can likewise trust and know that God is at work. By embracing our circumstances and stepping forward in faith, we allow him to shape new friendships and experiences and further his kingdom purposes through us.

Adapted from content in the NIV Woman's Study Bible and Flourish: The NIV Bible for Women. NIV Weekly Blog. All Rights Reserved 501 Nelson Place, Nashville, TN 37214, USA, October 27, 2025.

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
Roger Jones - Trustee
Bob Lynn - SPRC
Barb Lundgren - 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 –
Starting September 7th.
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 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

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.



To whom did the ravens
bring food?

- a) Noah
- b) Elisha
- c) Moses
- d) Elijah

"The righteous shall live by
faith." Which letter of Paul
does this come from?

- a) Romans
- b) James
- c) Galatians
- d) Revelation

Which do the Greeks seek
according to 1 Corinthians?

- a) signs
- b) wisdom
- c) wealth
- d) power

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



2nd – Jourdan Perkins

5th – Amelia McIntosh, Jim & Sallie
Brownlee

6th – Richard Perry, Mesa Tackett

7th – Jamie Stribling

****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: Come and see the love of God.

People: We come, seeking light for our journey.

L: Come and see the grace of Christ.

P: We come, longing for mercy and truth.

L: Come and see the Spirit's presence.

P: We come, ready to remain in God's love.

"COME AND SEE"

Scripture Reading: John 1:35-51

Songs

O Spirit of the Living God #539

Beautiful Things (screens)

Breathe on Me, Breath of God #420

Last Week's Attendance

In-Person Worship – 64

Online Worship – 15

Our Vision:

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

**Answers for Oct 26th are b) Enoch b) sin offering d) remember His covenant
Quiz hints – Q1) 1 Kings Q 2) Galatians Q3) 1 Corinthians**



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Two Volunteers Needed each Thursday

to Deliver Meals

**Sign-Up Sheet is on the
Welcome Center Counter**



November 2025

Spaghetti Sauce and Pasta (any type), Chili, Chunky Style Soup, Mandarin Oranges, Green Beans, Corn, Spinach, Sauerkraut, Beets, Gravy Packets, Potato Flakes, Soda, Graham and Snack Crackers, Brownie, Cake, Muffin and Cookie Mixes, Hot Chocolate Mix, Microwave

Popcorn, Dish and Laundry 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 November will go to the **Adopt-A-Family**.



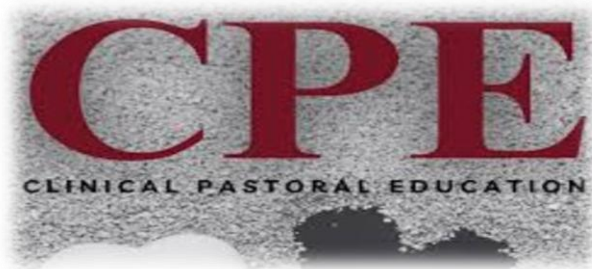
Fellowship Time

Cookies and Treats are running low for fellowship time. If you are willing to help replenish goodies for after service, it would be greatly appreciated. There is also a sign-up sheet downstairs if you would like to be in charge for a certain Sunday. Baked goods are still appreciated even if you can't host after service.



Southwest District Charge Conference

The Southwest District Charge Conference will be held this coming Sunday, November 2nd, from 2-4 pm. The conference will be held in Sidney, IA, at Sidney United Faith Church. Anyone is welcome to attend. If interested in attending, contact Pastor David to discuss carpooling.



Clinical Pastoral Education

As Pastor David approaches the end of his journey toward full ordination in The United Methodist Church, one more requirement is to complete Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE). CPE is most often taken in a hospital setting, which provides numerous opportunities for pastoral and spiritual care. In seminary, future pastors learn about theology and the Bible, and it is in CPE that future pastors learn the art and skill of pastoral care. This is why it is an important component of the ordination process and will be of great benefit for our congregation in Shenandoah.

As there has been a decrease in the number of hospitals offering CPE, the nearest to Shenandoah offering such a program is Unity Point, Iowa Methodist Hospital in downtown Des Moines.

The CPE program requires 2 days a week in Des Moines: class on Mondays and clinical hours providing pastoral care to patients on another day of Pastor David's choosing. Fridays were Pastor David's day off previously, so those will be the days of his clinical hours in Des Moines to facilitate the continuation of full-time pastoral duties in Shenandoah.

Pastor David will be present in the office and/or making visitations on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday afternoons. As always, Pastor David can be reached on his cell phone (308-258-7749) or by email (pastordavid@shen.church).



Having Faith When God Doesn't Make Sense

No servant of God in the Bible had more to complain about than Abraham. He was promised the land of Canaan for an inheritance, but when he went out he “did not know where he was going” ([Heb. 11:8](#)). Not only that, when Abraham came into the promised land God “didn’t give him an inheritance in it—not even a foot of ground” ([Acts 7:5](#)). Figure that out! John Calvin observed that Abraham must surely have felt deceived or betrayed. In a word: Abraham, more than any character in Holy Scripture, must head the list of those who felt that God made no sense!

Yet more difficulties followed. When Abraham was about eighty-five and his wife Sarah was seventy-five, God promised him a son from his own body. Since Sarah was now barren, this surely made no sense! But Abraham believed God’s promise, and his faith was counted for righteousness ([Gen. 15:6](#)), this being Paul’s chief illustration for the teaching of justification by faith alone.

But there is still more to tell! When Sarah didn’t get pregnant, she persuaded Abraham to make good God’s promise by sleeping with her servant Hagar ([Gen. 16](#)). Abraham, therefore, assumed that when Hagar conceived and had the male child Ishmael, this must have been what God had in mind all along. Wrong! God revealed to Abraham and Sarah that she would conceive after all—that Isaac was coming and that Isaac, not Ishmael, was the child of promise. Can you blame Abraham for being confused?

The Promise and the Oath

I had a vivid supernatural experience on October 31, 1955. What I saw was more real to me than anything I ever saw with my physical eyes or heard with my physical ears. I was driving on old U.S. 41 in Tennessee between Monteagle and Nashville. Suddenly, Jesus appeared before me, praying for me. I felt overwhelmed. I was fascinated that he was positioned at the right hand of the Father. I could not tell what Jesus was saying, but never in my lifetime—before or since—had I felt so loved. I wept and watched. I do not know how I drove for the next eighty miles.

Over an hour later, as I passed through Smyrna, I distinctly heard Jesus say to the Father, “He wants it.” I heard the Father reply, “He can have it.” At that precise moment, I felt a warmth in my chest and a peace and

joy in my heart that surpassed anything I have ever—ever— felt. I saw the physical face of Jesus for about a minute. Then it diminished. I had no idea at that time what had happened to me. It all made no sense.

What I do know is that my theology underwent a major surgery—I would call it a personal paradigm shift. By sundown that very day, I had learned two indisputable things from this experience: (1) I was eternally and unconditionally saved (which went completely against everything I had been taught); and (2) I was sovereignly chosen (which I had known nothing about). For days, I wondered (I am almost ashamed to say) if I was the only person to have this kind of experience. Had I come to believe something new?

My memory and details of that experience are as real today as if it had happened yesterday. This vision is more real than the Nashville skyline Louise and I see from our condo every day. Ironically, we now live on U.S. 41 in Nashville, overlooking Nissan Stadium, where the Titans play. But it took a long time—years— before I could say what Jesus’s words “He wants it... he can have it” meant. I now know that “it” is the oath as described in Hebrews 6:16–17, where the writer says that the “oath ends every dispute.” Hebrews 6:18 also refers to “two unchangeable things,” i.e., the promise and the oath. Finally, the author calls “it” the “rest” in Hebrews 4:1 and 4:10.

The “oath” is called by other names in the Bible: “the rest,” “inheritance,” and “full assurance.” The Westminster Confession also refers to “infallible assurance” not belonging to the “essence of faith.” I take this to mean that you can be a good Christian without experiencing unbroken assurance. This type of assurance comes pretty close—I think—as a fulfilling reward to those who don’t give up even during a season in which God seems to make no sense. It is a reward worth waiting for.

Abraham’s Finest Hour

Let’s get back to Abraham and his greatest challenge.

“Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about.” (Gen. 22:2)

I find it impossible to put myself in Abraham’s shoes in this moment. How did Abraham’s trust in God—what did he see or feel?—give him the willingness to sacrifice Isaac? Abraham’s actions, recorded for us in Scripture, have been questioned and commented on for ages. We only know that he did what God told him to do.

Risking everything that was promised to him, Abraham could not have known what would follow. Nobody was there to witness his actions—God alone was his witness.

Nevertheless, Abraham obeyed. And that was his finest hour.

What followed Abraham's finest hour was a big deal. The writer of Hebrews wants us to know just how big a deal it was for God to swear an oath to Abraham. Whereas one swears an oath by something "greater"—whether it be by the Holy Bible or something that seems sacred (one may say, "I swear by my mother's grave")—God could not find anything greater. Therefore, he swore "by himself" (Heb. 6:13):

I will indeed bless you and make your offspring as numerous as the stars of the sky and the sand on the seashore. Your offspring will possess the city gates of their enemies. And all the nations of the earth will be blessed by your offspring because you have obeyed my command. (Gen. 22:17–18)

The letter to the Hebrews refers to Abraham having experienced God's oath. The oath came to him after he became utterly willing—indeed, he was in the process of sacrificing Isaac as a burnt offering. Receiving God's oath was Abraham's reward for his obedience.

God's Promises Are Worth Trusting

The moment when God swore an oath to Abraham was ten thousand times more powerful to Abraham than my experience on U.S. 41 was to myself. Furthermore, Abraham was over one hundred years old, but I was only nineteen, which I find embarrassing to say (if I am totally honest). Why did God give me this vision? I honestly do not know. But I do know one thing for sure: I had done nothing before, nor have I done anything ever since, to deserve this blessing. At the same time, the experience of God swearing an oath is promised to ALL believers, and this blessing has happened to millions all over the world.

Abraham would never doubt God's promise again. Had he doubted God's word before the oath came? Possibly. From Genesis 12 through Genesis 21, God spoke at different times to Abraham—again and again. But he only spoke by promise—promise after promise. Finally, for the first time in Abraham's life, God swore an oath to him. What does this mean? Answer: The oath ends all disputes. An oath is more convincing than a promise. Whereas both a promise from God and an oath from God are equally true, the oath removes all doubt. After God swore an oath to Abraham, you could say that he was "set." Never again would Abraham need more convincing—the oath did it. Nothing, indeed, tops experience over argument. It is like seeing the Swiss Alps rather than viewing pictures of them.

Times will come in your life when God doesn't make sense. You probably already have had some of those experiences. But I want to encourage you that in those times, you can believe God even more. Let Abraham be our guide into believing that God's promises are worth trusting even in the midst of confusing times.

Adapted from Their Finest Hour: 30 Biblical Figures Who Pleased God at Great Cost by R.T. Kendall, foreword by O.S. Hawkins. Bible Gateway News and Knowledge, USA, August 8, 2024.



Grow your hair: Participants stop shaving their hair for the entire month of November. This can include beards, mustaches, and other hair.

Donate your grooming money: Instead of using the money for razors, shaving cream, and other grooming products, participants pledge to donate it to cancer charities.

Raise awareness: The campaign raises awareness by sparking conversations about cancer and highlighting the fact that many cancer patients lose their hair during treatment.

Fundraise for the cause: You can support cancer research, education, and prevention by participating or donating through the official [No-Shave November website](http://no-shave.org) (no-shave.org) or other affiliated organizations.

We are ready to take your orders for poinsettias to help decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas season. If you are interested in purchasing one "In Honor of" or "In Memory of," please fill out a [POINSETTIA ORDER FORM](#) that is located on the Welcome Center information desk or attached to the booster. Each poinsettia is \$17.00. Please put your prepaid check or cash and order form in the envelope provided with the form and place it in the wooden offering boxes. We encourage you to order early (only 30 poinsettias were ordered) and appreciate your kindness in helping make our sanctuary colorful for the Christmas season.



November 2, 2025

Purpose: To honor all saints—every Christian throughout history—and to remember deceased loved ones with gratitude and hope.

Celebrations: Services will likely include memorials for members who have died in the past year and may involve reading names or lighting candles.

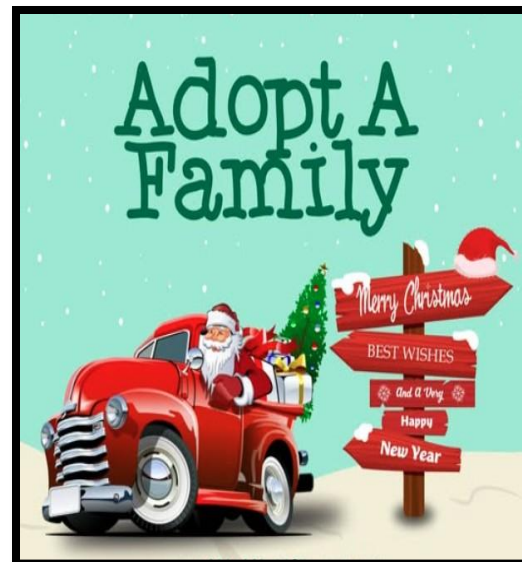
Meaning: United Methodists view all Christians as saints and use this day to inspire them to live saintly lives, rather than venerating saints as mediators to God.

All Saints Day article can be found by clicking the following link:

<https://bit.ly/4322ft7>



Over 31 years ago, concerned citizens in the Shenandoah community had a dream of all community families having a happy and healthy holiday and formed the **Adopt-A-Family** project. Our church will provide a local family in need with a brighter holiday with gifts appropriate for their age or need. No adult information will be given; this way, we can help the children in more families. This year, we will be able to ask for contributions of money in the Mission Cans as we have done before. The mission Cans are placed on top of the wooden offering boxes and just inside the middle set of the sanctuary doors. As soon as the **Adopt-A-Family** committee contacts the church regarding the size of the family and items on their wish list, that information will be listed in the Booster. Thanks for your ongoing support for this important community project.



The church doors will remain locked during normal office hours. However, the doors will be unlocked for church service and other special events such as mat making and bible study. The following are the new procedures. **The camera/doorbell is now operational.**

Here are the key points of the new procedure:

- **Doors will be locked** at all times.
- The doors will only be unlocked for **scheduled events** (e.g., mat making and bible study).
- To gain access when the doors are locked, you can:
 - **Call the church in advance.**
 - Use the new **Ring Doorbell Camera** for two-way communication.
- **Jeff** will then come down and let you into the building.
- For any questions, please **call the church office.**



African Arts & Crafts Sale

~ Benefiting ~

Orma's Orphans

**Bricker Room at the Fire Station
410 Sheridan Avenue, Shenandoah, IA**

Friday, October 31, 2025 ~ 1:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Saturday, November 1, 2025 ~ 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Sunday, November 2, 2025 ~ 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Proceeds will help provide food, medicine,
clothing, and other necessities for orphans
in Eswatini (formerly Swaziland), Africa

Great Christmas Shopping ~ Unique Gifts

*We hope to see you at this African Sale!
Invite your friends and family!*



Dear Church Family,

This Sunday, we begin a new sermon series called "Rooted in Love," exploring passages from the Gospel of John and the First Letter of John. These Scriptures invite us to experience not just belief in Jesus, but a deep, abiding relationship with him; a life rooted in love.

In John 1:35–51, Jesus turns to two disciples who are following him and asks, "What are you looking for?" They reply, "Where are you staying?" and Jesus answers with an invitation: "Come and see." It's such a gentle and personal beginning. It's not a demand, but an open door. Jesus doesn't offer them a set of rules or a list of doctrines, but an invitation to relationship, to closeness, to shared life.

That same invitation still stands for us today. To "come and see" is to walk with Jesus daily, to let his love shape our hearts, and to discover that the closer we draw to him, the more we become our truest selves.

As we begin this series, may we open our hearts to that invitation: to come, to see, and to be rooted in the love that changes everything.

Grace and peace,

Pastor David Clark
308-258-7749 (cell)



