



Weekly Booster

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Multimedia & Website

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Sunday Media Booth

Alan Hutchison

Jeff Hiser

Sunday Facebook Host

Craig Harris,

Facebook Contributors

Pastor Oliver Fabros,

Craig Harris, Jeff Hiser

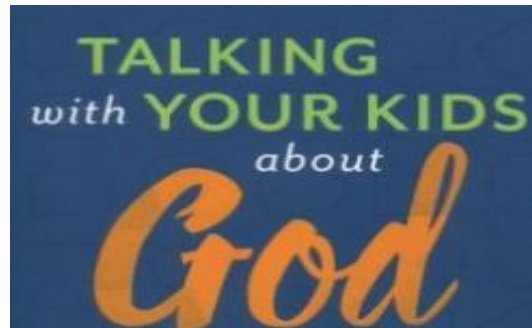
Sunday Praise Team

Terry Stafford, Linda Haldane,

Margaret Brady, Deb Finlay,

Jeff Hiser, Pastor Oliver

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



How to Turn Your Child's Questions into Meaningful Bible Conversations

"Is the Bible trustworthy?" "Is God fair?" "Are there three Gods?"

If you have children, you've probably heard questions like these and many more. Kids are naturally curious. Their questions often come when you're driving them to or from school, tucking them into bed, or eating dinner together. While some questions make us smile, others can leave us searching for the right words.

The good news is that you don't need to have all the answers to help your child grow in faith.

In fact, one of the greatest gifts you can give your child is not having every answer. It's creating an environment where asking questions about God is welcomed and where the Bible becomes the place you explore those answers together.

Every Question Is an Opportunity to Disciple

Children aren't just collecting facts when they ask spiritual questions. They're trying to understand who God is, how the Bible fits together, and what faith means for their own lives.

Instead of feeling pressured to provide an immediate answer, consider responding with curiosity. *Continued on page 2*

“Success is where preparation and opportunity meet.”
Bobby Unser

“I have not failed. I’ve just found 10,000 ways that won’t work.” **Thomas Edison**

Reminders

October 11th

Sunday Service 9:00 a.m.
PK-6 S.S. – after children’s message
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

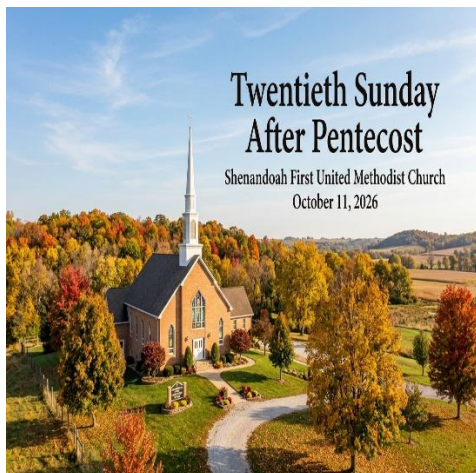
October 14th

Mat Making – 1:00 p.m.
Praise Team – 4:00 p.m.
Bell Choir – 4:30 p.m.
Chancel Choir – 5:30 p.m.
New members welcome!

Worship Assistant is needed each Sunday,
Sign up at the Welcome Center

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

After service each week, join us in Fellowship Hall for treats, coffee, and fellowship.



Child's Questions - continued from page 1.

You might say:

- “That’s a really interesting question.”
- “Let’s see what the Bible says.”
- “I’m not sure, but let’s discover it together.”

These simple responses communicate two powerful things: God’s Word is trustworthy, and learning about him is a lifelong journey (Psalm 119:105; 2 Timothy 3:16–17).

When children see parents turning to Scripture first, they learn that the Bible isn’t just a book for church on Sunday. It is an important guide for everyday life (see Joshua 1:8).

You Don’t Have to Be a Bible Expert

Many parents worry they won’t know the Bible well enough to answer difficult questions.

The truth is you don’t need a seminary degree to spiritually train your children. God simply calls parents to faithfully point their children toward him (Deuteronomy 6:6–7). God also promises to give wisdom to those who ask him (James 1:5).

Your willingness to open the Bible together often makes a greater impact than having the perfect explanation.

When you admit, “I’m not sure. Let’s find out together,” you’re modeling humility, dependence on God’s Word, and a love for learning. Those are valuable lessons your child will carry long after they’ve forgotten the specific question.

Make Bible Conversations Part of Everyday Life

Meaningful faith conversations don’t have to happen only during family devotions. Look for natural opportunities throughout the day:

- During a walk, admire God’s creation and talk about his power (Psalm 19:1).
- At bedtime, ask if your child has any questions about God or the Bible.
- After church, discuss something they learned, and encourage follow-up questions.

Continued on page 5

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
Oliver Fabros - Pastor

Church Office Hours

**** Children & Jr.-Sr. High
Sunday School –
PK-6 & Jr/Sr High
After Children's Message**

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
Mat Making
1:00

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.



Through whom did the veil remain unlifted when they read the covenant taken away?

- a) Moses
- b) Christ
- c) Paul
- d) The Apostles

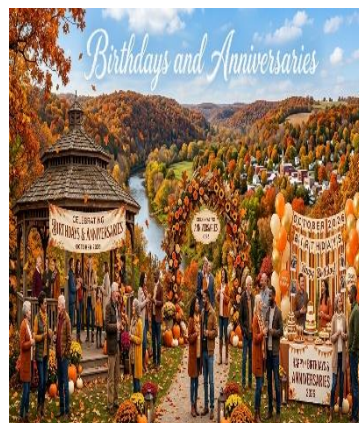
When the third of the seven seals is opened, what will be in the hand of the black horseman?

- a) scale
- b) sword
- c) flag
- d) trumpet

How old was Eli when he died?

- a) 65 yrs old
- b) 73 yrs old
- c) 98 yrs old
- d) 110 yrs old

Check page 4 for answers from the previous week.



11th – Al Moore, Sally Mueller
13th – Spencer Lauman, R'Donya
14th – Al Armstrong
15th – LeRoy & Lorene Whitehill
16th – Chris & Molly Wiebold
17th – Sue Burchett
18th – Dennis & Kathy Bayless
19th – Bennett Blane, Brian Blank
20th – Andrea Robison Kelso, Paige Wiebold, Dennis & Sandra Bailey
21st – Brielle Blank, Rita Rorebeck

**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: God is present here, among ordinary people gathered in faith.

People: We come to worship in spirit and in truth.

L: God is present in our prayers, our songs, our silence, and our praise.

P: We open our hearts to the living God.

L: God is present as we seek the way forward together.

P: Teach us to listen, trust, and follow.

L: Come, church. Let us live in God's presence.

P: Let us worship and pray.

“Overcoming Obstacles”

Scripture Reading: Joshua 6:1-27

Songs

How Great is Our God #3003

I Surrender All #354

He Has Made Me Glad #2270

God Be with You till We Meet Again #2244

Last Week's Attendance

In-Person Worship – 80; Online Worship – 12

Our Vision:

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

**Answers for October 4th are a) Tamar c) Fig tree a) Ezekiel
Quiz hints – Q1) 2 Corinthians Q2) Revelation Q3) 1 Samuel**



October 2026

Whole Kernel Corn, Microwave popcorn, Hot Chocolate Packets, Muffin, Cake, and Brownie Mixes, Spices (any type), Wide Egg Noodles, Pumpkin, Sweet Potatoes, Spinach, Sauerkraut, Taco Shells, Taco Seasoning, Bar or Liquid 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 contact Jeannine K. Liljedahl at 712-215-2488.

Children's Questions - continued from page 2.

- While reading a Bible story, pause to ask, "What do you think God is teaching us in this story?"

Small conversations, repeated over time, often shape a child's faith more than one long lesson.

Encourage Questions Instead of Shutting Them Down

Sometimes parents unintentionally discourage curiosity because they're afraid that difficult questions signal doubt. But questions are often evidence that a child's faith is growing.

Children who feel safe asking honest questions are more likely to develop a faith that becomes their own rather than one they simply inherit. Instead of worrying when your child asks, "Why does God allow bad things?" or "Does God love me even when I've been bad?" celebrate their desire to understand God more deeply. These conversations can become some of the most meaningful moments you'll share together.

Jesus himself welcomed those who sincerely sought understanding (John 3:1-21), and God invites us to seek him with all our hearts (see Jeremiah 29:13).

Focus on the Conversation, Not the Answer

Sometimes we become so focused on giving the “right” answer that we miss the relationship being built. Your child will not remember every explanation you give, but they’ll remember sitting beside you, opening God’s Word together, and knowing that their questions mattered.

Those moments build trust, not only between parent and child but also between your child and God’s Word. Every conversation becomes another opportunity to help your child see that the Bible speaks to real life and that God welcomes those who sincerely seek him Matthew 7:7–8).

Start Today

The next time your child asks a question about God, resist the urge to rush through it.

Pause.

Listen.

Open the Bible together.

You don’t have to have every answer. You simply need a willingness to explore God’s truth alongside your child. Over time, those ordinary conversations become extraordinary opportunities to nurture a lifelong love for Scripture and a faith that continues to grow.

As you do, remember God’s promise: “Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding. In all your ways obey him. Then he will make your paths smooth and straight.” (Proverbs 3:5–6).

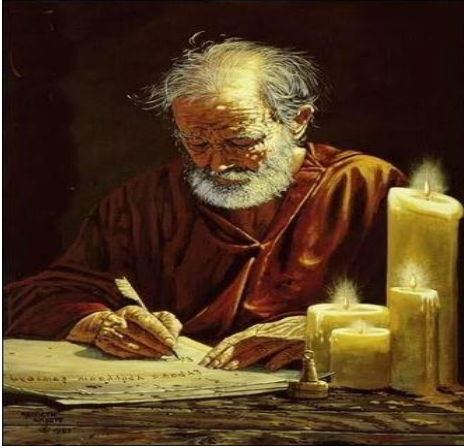
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This is Pastor Appreciation Month. Send a card, make a visit, or make a phone call and let Pastor Oliver know how much he means to you and to the church!

A colorful poster for a citywide cleanup event. At the top, a blue banner with white text reads "SHENANDOAH'S 4th ANNUAL". Below this, the main title "FALL CITYWIDE CLEANUP DAY" is written in large, bold, black letters, flanked by illustrations of autumn leaves. The date "SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10th" is prominently displayed. Below the date, a clock icon is followed by the text "From 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.". A green truck icon with a double arrow points to the text "CITIZENS ARE WELCOME TO HAUL MATERIALS TO:". Below this, the location "SHENANDOAH SANITATION" and "1207 West Ferguson Road" are listed. To the right of the text is an illustration of a person in an orange shirt and blue pants standing next to a green truck. A large orange box with black text lists "ITEMS THAT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED:". Below this box are eight icons, each with a red circle and a diagonal line through it, indicating prohibited items: an oil can (OIL), a paint can and brush (WET PAINT), a tire (TIRES), a battery (BATTERIES), a television (TVs), a warning triangle (ASBESTOS), and a computer monitor (MONITORS). At the bottom of the poster, the hashtags "#ShenandoahCleanup #CommunityDay #FallCleanup" are displayed. A small circular seal for the Shenandoah County is in the bottom right corner.



Paul

Name: Hebrew name Saul. Roman name Paul.

Meaning of name: Saul = “asked.” Paul = “little”

Ancestry and family life: A Benjamite, a Pharisee trained under the famous Gamaliel, circumcised the eighth day, a Roman citizen. Extremely zealous follower of Judaism (Php 3:5-6). Paul was a Hebrew of Hebrews.

When and where he lived: Paul lived during the time of the early church. His exact age isn’t known, but he was probably about the age of Peter. He came from Tarsus near the Northeast shore of the Mediterranean.

Events surrounding birth: No info.

Training and occupation: Paul was a Pharisee (Php 3:5-6). Therefore he was highly educated in that time period. He trained under another famous Pharisee named Gamaliel (Acts 22:3). He was a student of the Scriptures and knew them well. He was a skillful writer, debater, and public speaker.

Place in history: Paul was an apostle of Christ. He traveled extensively, spreading the gospel and establishing churches. He was a missionary to the Gentiles, yet deeply loved his brethren. He was the spiritual leader of many far-flung churches and trained pastors and elders to oversee those churches. He wrote much of the New Testament, giving us fundamental doctrines and teachings. Eventually, he was martyred.

Special traits: (1) Poor eyesight? (2) Unimpressive appearance (2 Co 10:10). (3) Roman citizen. (4) Miraculous gifts (healing, tongues, etc.)

Weaknesses:

1. Temper/Pride – Paul sometimes struggled with pride and had a hot temper. He says that God sent a thorn in his flesh to keep him humble (2 Co 12:7). On the second missionary journey, Barnabas wanted to take Mark, but Paul disagreed because of a previous mistake that Mark had made. Evidently, Barnabas was right because Mark went on to be a faithful missionary. Paul also grew angry with the servant girl who was a fortune teller and cast that spirit out, apparently in anger (Acts 16:18). He wouldn’t leave the prison in peace when he was wrongfully jailed with Silas, wanting an apology (Acts 16:37). He also was disrespectful of the high priest (Acts 23:3).

Strengths:

1. Whole-hearted- Paul was an “all-or-nothing” kind of guy. He was never lukewarm. He either zealously persecuted Christianity or zealously proclaimed it. That zeal was a very good quality when he finally

focused his energy on serving Christ. He was highly educated and could have done many other things, but he gave his life to Christ. See Philippians 3:3-14.

2. Endurance- Paul faced continual opposition to his goal of sharing the gospel and building churches. The Jews opposed him every step of the way, often stirring up riots, throwing him in prison, getting help from the local authorities in persecuting Paul and his companions, and forcing them from town to town. Paul also faced many false teachers who spoke out against his teachings and criticized him behind his back. Even other Jewish believers were sometimes against him for some of his teachings. He persevered in his mission (Acts 13:47) until the end of his life (cf. 2 Timothy 4:6-8, Acts 20:24).
3. Gave all glory to God (cf. 14:12-20) – Paul never tried to get credit or glory for himself. He gave it all to God. He was consumed with the glory of God. It disturbed him seriously when people gave glory to him instead of God. He often pointed out his own sins and blasphemies. He called himself the “least of the apostles” (1 Corinthians 15:9).
4. Boldness – Paul was routinely bold for the gospel as when he said. His motto could be Romans 1:16, “I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ for it is the power of God...” He stood up for the truth in front of authorities, kings, Romans, Jews, the emperor of Rome, and even Pete. He did not compromise God’s Word.
5. Contentment (Acts 16:19-31, Philippians 4:11-13, 2 Corinthians 11:23-28) – Paul faced more persecutions and difficulties than any other believer in history that I can think of. It was unjust. He was beaten and whipped and stoned and imprisoned for the name of Christ. Yet, in all of these situations, he didn’t complain. Even in a dirty, filthy jail, he was singing praises to God!
6. Sincere love and sensitive heart (Acts 17:16, Romans 9:3) – Paul’s sensitive spirit was provoked when he saw Athens full of idols and all the people blindly following falsehoods. He hated sin, and he hated to see people separate from God. His conscience didn’t allow him to stand by and do nothing. He even said he would go to hell forever if it would help to save his countrymen.
7. Industrious (Acts 18:1-3) – Paul was a worker for God, and he deserved wages from the church. But in order to not be a burden on others and further the gospel, he willingly worked by making tents to support himself.
8. Leader/strategizer – Paul was a great leader. He gathered disciples, worked with them, trained them, and sent them out. He established churches, maintained contact with them through letters, sent messengers and workers to them, and revisited them. He led by example and by service. Strategically he accomplished a tremendous amount of work in his ministry, establishing churches and spreading the gospel over a large area. Many of his ministry methods are still followed today. The phrase “tent-making” comes from Paul’s ministry.

9. Sharp mind (23:6) – Paul’s thinking was very logical and sharp. He knew how to give a good defense to others.

Important acts and events:

Important acts and events:

1. Conversion (Acts 9) – Paul was a zealous persecutor of Christianity. He went from place to place dragging believers from their homes to prison. He witnessed and supported Stephen’s stoning. Jesus miraculously intervened in his life to save him and transform him completely. Notice how fast he is baptized and starts proclaiming Jesus.
2. First Missionary Journey (Acts 13:2-15:35)
3. Second Missionary Journey (Acts 15:36-18:22)
4. Third Missionary Journey (Acts 18:23-21:14)

How he died: In his last epistle, 2nd Timothy, Paul was a prisoner in Rome approaching execution. He was martyred there. Tradition says he was beheaded. (2 Timothy 4:6-8).

Lessons from his life:

1. No one is “too lost” for God to convert (Acts 9). Paul wasn’t just apathetic to the gospel. He persecuted believers with a vengeance. God miraculously intervened in his life to save him. God can and does do the same today. Therefore don’t give up praying for and witnessing to your families and friends, even if it seems hopeless.
2. God sends trials into our lives for a purpose. Paul went blind, quite a trial! Yet God used this to get Paul’s attention and convert him, quite a goal! We need to rejoice in trials and, instead of seeking to get rid of them, try to see what God wants us to learn through them.
3. Paul kept a clear focus in his life on what was really important. He knew that money, esteem, fame, power, a home, and even a normal, secure, steady life and marriage are secondary to serving God. The chief purpose in life is glorifying God and Paul lived that out. Perhaps God has a steady home, job, and marriage planned for us, but if He doesn’t, we should still follow Him wholeheartedly. If we do have these things, will we realize they are from God and will we still set our heart on Him rather than earthly things?
4. Paul strove to become like God. He wasn’t perfect, but He constantly reached for perfection (cf. Php 3:12-14). He even commanded the Corinthians to follow his example of following after God (1 Co 11:1). Paul faced the same things we face. He had the same struggles we have. He went down the

same “life road” we will go down. He knows the way and shows us from his own experience how to get there. We can follow Paul’s example in racing after Christ.

5. Contentment – So often, we are not content in life. We complain about the little trials we face, and we think “everything is against us” in this world. We think we face trials worse than others. We think the grass is greener on the other side. If only we can get a good job, if only we can finish school, if only we can get a good marriage or home, then we can be happy. But this is not true. We must learn to be content in our present situation before we can expect to be content in a future situation.
6. Make use of every chance to share the gospel. No matter where he was, Paul shared the gospel. He did it even in prison in the middle of the night!
7. Paul was “all things to all men” as long as he could do so within Scripture. We need to live in a way that we will not offend others by our habits and actions. The only thing that should offend them is Christ in us, and Christ preached through us.
8. Wherever Paul went, he drew respect of those both above and under him. He was able to do this because he walked with Christ and showed compassion and respect to others. Whether in the world or in the church, we should behave in an upright way so that, like Paul, our conscience can be “clear before God and man.” (Acts 24:16)

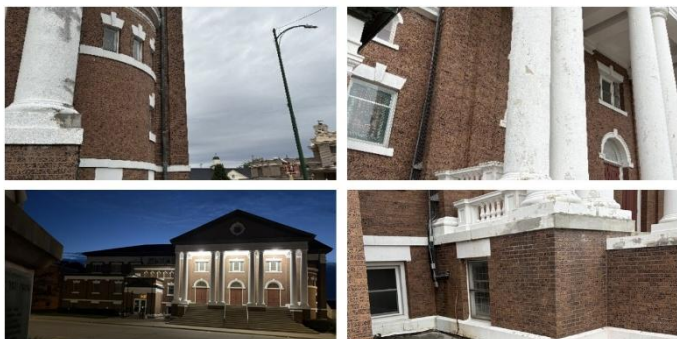
Adapted from Study and Obey, 2026



October Noisy Offering

This month’s Noisy Offering will support our local Hispanic Center in Wesley Hall. Last week, we handed out envelopes and passed the buckets, which caused a bit of confusion—so we want to clear that up! All donations from both the envelopes and the buckets go to the exact same place: the Hispanic Center.

To keep things simple moving forward, our kids will only pass the buckets. You can drop in your loose change, cash, or check directly into the bucket!



Our evening exterior lights are officially back on, and alongside our updated pillars, the church looks better than ever. Stop by and check it out!

Adopt a Pillar Update: We’ve extended the program for a few more weeks. You still have time to join in and make a contribution!