



Weekly Booster

CHURCH STAFF

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Pianist

Terry Stafford

Bells & Choir Directors

Dan & Linnea Shook

Multimedia & Website

Jeff Hiser

Sunday Media Booth

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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, Drew Morelock,

Pastor David



Seeing the Unseen God

We long to see the ones we love. Yet we can't see God (John 1:18; 1 Tim. 6:16). We can't lock eyes with him. We can't experience what his hugs feel like. That can make it difficult to feel his love and love him in return.

The good news is God is not hiding from you. He wants to be found. He is constantly saying, *Look at me! I'm right here.* We just need to learn how to look.

God has saturated our sight with signs. He has built billboard after billboard advertising his beauty. The problem is most of us aren't paying attention. Our modern world has made it increasingly easy to distance ourselves from nature, while simultaneously making it harder for many to find a peaceful slice of it.

This has led us to believe we don't need creation to connect with God. We have plenty of other avenues. But God has covered creation with what we're craving. God uses nature as a flashing arrow that points to his existence, power, character, and appearance.

Nature is a crucial way God shows us himself and his love. We need creation to connect with our creator.

Continued page 2.

*“When you have a dream,
you’ve got to grab it and
never let go.” Carol Burnett*

*“Never allow a person to tell
you no who doesn’t have the
power to say yes.” Eleanor
Roosevelt*

Reminders

November 10th

PK-6 S.S.– After Children’s Message
Jr/Sr High S.S. – 10:30 a.m.
Growing Youth - 10:30 a.m.
Confirmation Class – 6:00 p.m.

November 12th

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

November 13th

Bible Study – 11:00 a.m.
Praise Team - 5:00 p.m.
Choir Practice – 5:30 p.m.
Bell Choir Practice – 6:30 p.m.

November 14th

T.O.P.S.
Meals-On-Wheels Deliveries

****Worship Assistants are needed
for November**

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

Unseen God - Continued from page 1.

Seeing God in Nature

King David, the famous king of God’s people, Israel, told us what God can be seen in creation when he wrote a song that we call Psalm 19.

“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge.” (v. 1). Clouds and stars, trees and grass, animals and atoms are all talking to us. Constantly and without prompting from us, all of these and more are saying something about God.

We long to see what we love. Psalm 19 says God reveals aspects of himself to us in creation. God uses creation to show us his glory, handiwork, and knowledge.

The Hebrew word *kabod*, often translated as *glory*, means “weight.” You have surely felt the meaning of this weight when walking into a grand cathedral or eating a masterful meal or seeing an unbelievably talented individual perform a feat you previously thought impossible. You feel in awe, dumbstruck, lost for words, and baffled.

God does this endlessly in every corner of creation. Boundless galaxies and microscopic molecules, treacherous mountains and calm creeks, fearsome storms, and warm spring days all have the capacity to grab our attention, drop our jaws, and leave us fumbling for an explanation.

How could this beauty, strength, complexity, and solemnity have come to be? How can creation be expansive enough for a supernova but intimate enough for a gopher hole? How can the sun feel this good, the rain this refreshing, the wind this soft, and the grass this sweet? These questions and their answers are spoken by creation every moment of every day. The heavens declare the glory of God.

Seeing God’s Handiwork

Creation also shows us God’s handiwork. The world displays what God has made in the same way a museum displays art. At the edges of science and space, in the depths of unexplored seas and unplumbed quarks, creation says, “God made me.”

In the balance of the earth’s axis and the fine-tuning of our solar system, creation says, “God did this.”

Continued page 7.

25th Sunday After Pentecost

*November 10, 2024
Colossians 3:12-17*



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 –
PK-6 during service,
Jr/Sr High 10:30 a.m.**

**Wednesday
**Choir –5:30 pm
Bell Choir –6:30 pm

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.



How many counselors did King Artaxerxes have in the book of Ezra?

- a) 3 counselors
- b) 7 counselors
- c) 9 counselors
- d) 12 counselors

In how many cities were the elect exiles dispersed to whom apostle Peter wrote his epistle?

- a) 3 cities
- b) 5 cities
- c) 7 cities
- d) 12 cities

How many days did Jesus spend with his disciples from after his resurrection until his ascension?

- a) 15
- b) 20
- c) 30
- d) 40

Check page 4 for answers from the previous week.



- 10th – Mike Briggs, Michelle Morelock, Hernan & Lisa Rengifo
- 11th – Chuck Oxenford, Matthew Volker
- 12th – Randall MacDonald
- 13th – Keith Allely
- 14th – Drew Bayless, Sallie Brownless, Derke Howard, Ginger Vermillion
- 16th – Jack Murren, Jimmy John Scott

**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: Sing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

People: The word of Christ lives in us.

L: You are God's holy and beloved people.

P: We seek to live with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

L: You each have gifts to share. So, whatever you do,

P: We do it in the name of Jesus and give thanks.

“The Practice of Living with Purpose: Vocation”

Scripture Reading: Colossians 3:12-17

Songs

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing #57

Shout to the Lord #2074

I Surrender All #354

Last Week's Attendance

In-Person Worship – 87

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 November 3rd are c) 5 d) 70 b) 9 cubits

Quiz hints – Q1) Ezra Q2)1 Peter Q3) Acts

November 2024



Jelly, Granulated Sugar or flour, Green Beans, Corn, Mandarin Oranges, Pineapple, Chili (canned), Microwave Popcorn, Hot Chocolate Mix, Cereal, Instant Mashed Potatoes, Additional Boxed Potatoes, Gravy Packets, Shampoo, 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 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.

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 know of 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 **Adopt-A-Family**.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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

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" 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 \$16.00. 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 20 poinsettias are left**) and appreciate your kindness in helping make our sanctuary colorful for the Christmas season.



Join us Sunday, November 24th, at 11:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall for our Harvest Dinner. The menu will be announced soon. We ask that you bring a salad or dessert to share and your table service. **Volunteers are needed to help set up before dinner and to help clean up after the meal.** This will be a free-will donation.

Over 30 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 from the **Adopt-A-Family** committee regarding the size of the family and items on their wish list, that information will be listed in the Booster. This year Jr/Sr High Sunday School and Confirmation classes will take the lead as the go-to for questions. Thanks for your ongoing support for this important community project.



Information will be coming about the Hispanic Center Shoe Boxes Christmas. Please check future boosters for updated information.

Unseen God - Continued from page 2.

Our world is full of things that have been made. We live in an art gallery. Every day we walk past installations in the greatest museum of creativity. The sculptures of trees, the stretched canvas of the sky, and the detailed brushwork of a field crying out for us to behold the one who formed them. They call us to stop, enjoy, and revel in their composition and composer. God has hand-formed countless wonders to show us his artistry.

Finally, nature reveals knowledge. On a recent hike with a friend of mine, we came to a lookout point where we could take in the view of the peak we were attempting to summit. I read aloud the beginning of Psalm 19 and we prayed for the knowledge of God.

What we meant by that was that we wanted to know God. We wanted to see him on that mountain. What was it about God that he wanted to reveal to us about himself through this huge, permanent, and gorgeous mountain? Then we realized that's not what Psalm 19 primarily has in mind.

The mountain in front of us does provide us with knowledge about God, as we've seen in his glory and handiwork. But more than that, the mountain provided us with a glimpse of God's knowledge. It showed us what God knows.

How was this mountain made? God knows. Where were we when he made it? God knows. How many lizards were born on the mountain this year? What's the exact number of ants that now walk along its rocks? God knows all of this and more.

We didn't know any of this, of course. But God did. The mountain boasted of God's knowledge. Its rocks poured forth speech about how God formed it. Its cacti, bushes, and trees declared the brilliant mind of the one who dreamed them all up.

We long to see the God we love. Creation can begin to meet that longing. God uses it to make us feel his weighty glory. He has filled our world like an art museum, pointing us to the beautiful work of his hands. And he shows us how endless and staggering his knowledge is through the incredible things he has made.

Psalm 19 is only one place where the Bible teaches us how God reveals himself to us in nature. So much more could be said about how God is walking through the doorway of nature to show himself to you.

The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge. They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them. Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. In the heavens, God has pitched a tent for the sun.

It is like a bridegroom coming out of his chamber like a champion rejoicing to run his course. It rises at one end of the heavens and makes its circuit to the other; nothing is deprived of its warmth.

The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple. The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart. The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes. The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever. The decrees of the Lord are firm, and all of them are righteous.

They are more precious than gold than pure gold; they are sweeter than honey than honey from the honeycomb. By them your servant is warned; in keeping them there is great reward. But who can discern their errors? Forgive my hidden faults. Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me. Then I will be blameless, innocent of great transgression.

May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, Lord, my Rock, and my Redeemer.

–Psalm 19

Adapted from *Learning to Be Loved: The Everyday Believer's Guide to a Rich Relationship with God* by David Bowden and Mart Green. HarperCollins Christian Publishing. NIV Weekly Blog, All Rights Reserved 501 Nelson Place, Nashville, TN 37214, USA, November 4, 2024.



The election is over or will soon be over, and, boy oh boy, will I be glad. I simply detest all of the political rhetoric, spinning of the issues, and the constant, incessant, irritating ads! Regardless of whether our favorite candidate wins or not, and regardless of whether we think the country is headed in the right or wrong direction, there are some important things we need to remember after all of the dust has settled. We can glean them from the book of Daniel, who had to endure some wicked, ungodly rulers.

God is still in control. No matter who is elected, always remember that God is in charge. In the book of Daniel, four times we read that “the Most High rules in the kingdom of men” (4:17, 25, 32; 5:21). Daniel 2:21 says it best, “He removes kings and raises up kings.” Remember this: no election by man is going to thwart God’s almighty plan! Regardless of who is in office, God’s will still will be done.

God will make it so that we can remain faithful to Him. No matter how wicked the political leader, no matter how much the laws are changed for the worse, and no matter how oppressive the government, Christians can remain faithful to God. Despite servitude and persecution, Daniel was still able to remain faithful to Jehovah

God (Daniel 1:1-8, 6: 7-10). God will not let a situation happen to His people in which it is impossible for them to remain faithful to His will.

Because God is in control and because He will make it so that we can be faithful to Him, we can rest assured that He will reward our faithfulness. All good things come from God, and God can bring blessings into any situation. When Daniel remained faithful, God blessed him (Daniel 1:9, 15-20; 6:2:46-48; 4:29; 6:1-3, 22, 28). Regardless of who comes into political leadership and regardless of what laws are or are not created, we can have the certainty that if we remain faithful to God, He will bless us and reward us.

So, once the election is over, resolve to be a faithful Christian, a good citizen, and a caring human, and maybe it won't bother you so much just who did or didn't get elected! And always remember that God will always be God – nothing will ever change that!

Story adapted by author, Edd Sterchi, Broadway Church of Christ, Campbellsville, KY. November 2024, Bulletin Digest.

We are in the midst of the second week of our annual giving campaign. Please prayerfully consider how you might give of your time, talents, and treasures in support of the ministries at Shenandoah, First UMC.

Together we are growing, connecting, and serving in gratitude. This week I am encouraging you to try keeping a gratitude journal through the Thanksgiving holiday. A gratitude journal does not have to be complicated, and it is as simple as listing three people or experiences that you are grateful for each day. This can be something you do to start your day or to end your day. Pick a time that works for you and commit to thinking and writing about three people or experiences that you are grateful for on that day.

Grace and peace,

Pastor David B. Clark
308-258-7749 (cell)





This week is photo number 15 in a series of unique pictures from all over the world. For some pictures, you may need to squint and then you will see what the picture represents, others you will see it right away. I have found these amazing and wanted to share them.

#15



