



Weekly Booster

CHURCH STAFF:

Pastor

Luke Fillmore

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Office Manager

Jeff Hiser

churchs3cr3tary@gmail.com

Pianist

Terry Stafford

Choir Director

Sue Jones

Bell Choir Director

Nancy Bonefas

Multimedia & Website

Jeff Hiser

Sunday Facebook Host

Craig Harris

Sunday Praise Team

Terry Stafford, Linda Haldane,
Margaret Brady, Eric Whipple,
Drew Morelock, Deb Finlay,
Robin Hensen, Jeff Hiser,
Jodi Anderzhon

**** Praise team practices each Wednesday night beginning at 5:00 for instrumental and 5:30 pm for the singers. If you would like to join the Praise Team come and join us on Wednesday evening!**



This is the seventh Sunday of Easter: the final “of.” It is time to turn back to the one who is “chosen and precious,” except, as you’ll see, he turns it back to us. Even when talking about himself, his glory, he turns back to us. It’s amazing. At this moment, you’d think he would be focused on himself. But even in the final moments on this earth, we’re the objects of his attention and his prayer.

Sunday is also observed by some as Ascension Sunday. Ascension Day is a minor observance, at the best of times. It is part of the mystical element of Jesus, supernatural, hard to understand, hard to see how it applies to our lives. Except that it is a part of the Creed: “Ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of the Father.”

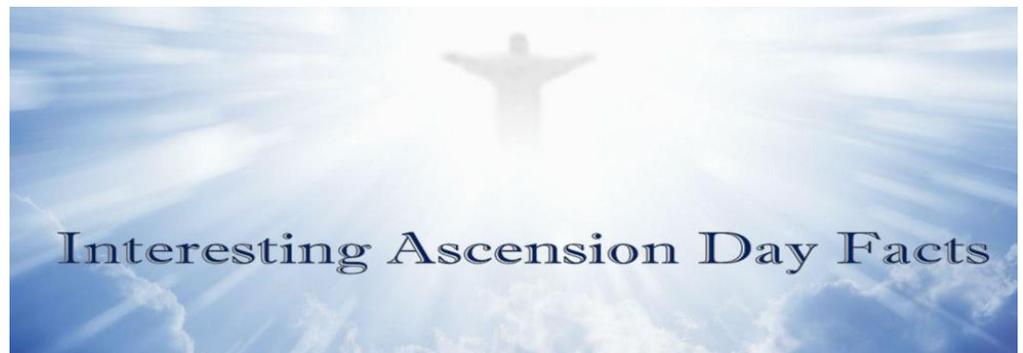
It is part of the story of Christ. It might not be our story, but it is his. Except, he always turns it back to us. Always. So, you could choose the Ascension Day Gospel text, [Luke 24:44-53](#), which is a retelling of the Ascension at the very end of Luke’s Gospel. There Jesus connects his story with ours as he recounts the purpose of his mission and ministry on earth. “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day and that repentance and forgiveness of sins are to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things” (Lk. 24:46-48). From there, he promises the Spirit to empower those who now we’re called to bring to fulfillment this promise, repentance, and forgiveness to all nations.

If you look at John’s Gospel, it would be possible for the Ascension to be a theme. But whether you choose Luke’s retelling of John’s preparation, the theme is glory. You could even argue that the two texts present the spectrum of the glory of Christ. In Luke, we have the post-Resurrection appearance and commissioning before Christ ascends to take his place at the right hand of God the Father. In John, we have the pre-Passion Jesus about to suffer and be killed for the sins of the world, and he prays for those called to follow. Both are ends of a crucial timeline, the scope of salvation.

Reference: Rev. Dr. Derek Weber, Director of Preaching Ministries, served churches in Indiana and Arkansas and the British Methodist Church. His Ph.D. is from the University of Edinburgh in preaching and media. He has taught preaching in seminary and conference settings for more than 20 years.

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*Body piercing
saved my life.*



Reminders

May 12th – 15th

Wed-Sat
City Wide Clean-up

May 15th

Summer clothing, bedding
& kitchen items accepted
(must call the office)

May 19th

Praise Team
5:30 p.m.

Choir
7:00 p.m.

May 20th

T.O.P.S.
4:30 p.m.

May 23rd

New Members, Transfer
Memberships, Baptism

June 13th

Communion Sunday
Pastor Luke's last sermon

June 14th

Moving day, Pastor Luke
and family

It is believed that after Jesus' resurrection, he spent the next 40 days teaching his disciples how to continue his teachings. On Ascension Day Jesus took his disciples to the Mount of Olives, where they watched him ascend to heaven.

Ascension Day marks the end of Easter's season.

Ascension Day is 10 days before Pentecost.

Ascension Day is celebrated with various symbolic events. Some countries celebrate Ascension Day with a procession while others chase a 'devil' through the streets. They dunk the 'devil' in a pond or burn it in effigy. This is meant to symbolize Jesus' triumph over the devil.

On Ascension Day in England the belief is that eggs laid that day will never rot and they will provide good luck if put on the roof. Some believe that sunny weather on Ascension Day guarantees a long, hot summer.

Some believe that rain on Ascension Day will result in bad crops and diseased livestock.

Welsh superstition dictates that it is unlucky to do any work on Ascension Day. Ascension Day in Portugal is said to be associated with prosperity and peace.

*Continued on page 3
Reference: softschools.com*

Offertory Giving

Giving is easy to do on our website! In the upper right-hand corner click "GIVE" and it will walk you through how to make a one-time, weekly, or monthly offering or donation. It is private and secure.



You can mail your offering to:

First United
Methodist Church
PO Box 394
Shenandoah, IA
51601



Jesus talks about his glory not by talking to the disciples, but to God. He had a long discourse for the disciples, helping them understand what he was trying to do all the time he had been with them, and trying to prepare them for what was coming next. Now, in chapter 17, Jesus turns to God to pray. We should offer prayers of thanksgiving for what Jesus has done through suffering and death and what God has done through the Resurrection.

The prayers are not prayers of desperation, though we may feel desperate. They are not prayers of hopelessness, though we have walked in those shadows and maybe there still. These prayers are prayers of glory. They are prayers of thankfulness for the glory we have seen and the glory in which we share because we are followers of Jesus. These are prayers of those who know that when Jesus was on the brink of death, he still prayed for us, for His disciples, for those present, and those to come. He prayed that they might be one with Him and with one another.

Ascension Facts continued from page 2

In rural communities in Portugal, people make olive branch bouquets with daisies, poppies, and sheaves of wheat. The wheat and the olives symbolize an abundant harvest, the daisy symbolizes money, and the poppy symbolizes peace. Wheat is also often kept inside the home throughout the rest of the year to symbolize prosperity.

In many countries, Ascension Day is also celebrated with special services at churches.

Some countries celebrate Ascension Day (Thursday) as a public holiday, which results in many workers taking a long weekend from work.

Ascension Day is also referred to as Holy Thursday, and Ascension Thursday.

Ascension Day is a public holiday in Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Indonesia, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, and Vanuatu.

In the countries where Ascension Day is a public holiday, schools, banks, government offices, and many businesses are closed.

On Ascension Day in 1503, an island was discovered in the middle of the South Atlantic Ocean. It is a volcanic island named because of the day it was discovered.

In the United States, the Amish go fishing on Ascension Day, and Italians used to bring grapes and beans to church for blessing.



Are you finished with your many things you do to keep your home running in tip top shape? Gutters! Windows! Cleaning carpets! Painting! Electrical updates! Insulation! Lighting updates! Kitchen improvements! Bathroom improvements! Flooring!

How many of us have made simple improvements like updating a light fixture? If you are like me, we are always finding something that needs a little attention and improving throughout the years.

In preparation of our new pastor arriving, sometime in late June to early July, we are looking for volunteers for cleaning and needed updates/ improvements to our parsonage.

We need your help. If you, or a couple of people, are willing to help organize specific tasks, like a "PROJECT MANAGER", we are looking for you too! There are inside projects and outdoor projects. Some projects can be started on as soon as possible. We will build teams for good communication!

Please call the church office at 246-2081 and leave your name and what your gift will be to help, we will contact you soon with more information.

If you are not able to physically help, we are taking donations of snacks and drinks for the crews on work days (to be determined). Prayers and monetary donations are always welcome.

Look for more details so you can get involved! Thank you!

SPPRC, Trustees and other Caring Congregates

Church Office Hours

**No children or adult Sunday School at this time.

**Bell Choir – TBA
 **Chancel Choir – 7:00 p.m.
 Wednesday Nights

The front door to the church will be unlocked during office hours and closed only for errands and going to the post office.

Office Hours

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.



Volunteer...

This past year has been unpredictable and stressful for everyone. As we try to return to our regular routines the church is in need of volunteers. There are many ways you can volunteer in your church. What is your calling/ministry within the church? Here are a few suggestions:

- Worship Assistant
- Usher
- Hospitality Team
- Children's Church Leader
- Greeter
- Tech Team



Jesus had his palms red so we could know our future

Birthdays and Anniversaries



- 16th – Jean Stribling
- 17th – Rainn Mayer
- 19th – Darrell Jones, Anna Peterson
- 20th – Shelly Hutchison
- 21st – Sue Kinney
- 22nd – Amanda McIntosh, Hillary Rodewald

When you have exhausted all possibilities, remember this: you haven't

**Shenandoah First
United Methodist
Church**
200 Church St.
Shenandoah, IA 51601

Phone 712-246-2081

Church E-mail
churchs3cr3tary@gmail.com

We're on the Web!
www.sheniafumc.org



United Methodist Church,
Shenandoah, IA

www.facebook.com/methodist.church.shenandoah



Click on the link below by holding down the Ctrl button and click on the link

<http://bit.ly/3skF0p9>

Order of Service

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

Call to Worship

L: Christ has said, that in grace and glory, he will return

**P: And that we have not been left orphaned,
that He will be with us**

L: God has sent the Spirit, who will teach and encourage us

P: And where the Spirit leads, we will follow

L: Christ has risen!

A: He has risen indeed !

“Staring at the Sky”

New Testament Scripture: Acts 1:1-11

New Testament Scripture: Ephesians 1:15-23

Gospel Reading: Luke 24:44-53

Songs:

Raise A Hallelujah (words on the screens)

I Surrender All - #354 (Hymnal)

Chancel Choir – The Potter’s Hand

Sweet, Sweet Spirit– #334 (Hymnal) Offering

Benediction Hymn #3182 (Green Book)

May 2nd Attendance

In-Person Worship – 109

Online Worship – 25

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.”