



Weekly Booster

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor

Kelly W. Peavey
pastorkelly@shen.church

Office Manager

Jeff Hiser
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Pianist

Terry Stafford

Choir Director

Sue Jones

Bell Choir Director

Volunteer Needed

Multimedia & Website

Jeff Hiser

Sunday Media Booth

Kris Anderzhon, Alan
 Hutchison,
 Jeff Hiser

Sunday Facebook Host

Craig Harris, Michelle
 Morelock

Facebook Contributors

Pastor Kelly W. Peavey,
 Barb Cunningham, Craig
 Harris,
 Jeff Hiser

Sunday Praise Team

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

Walking Through Grief



Frank Luchsinger had upset his granddaughter. She asked him if she would see him this Christmas, and his response startled her.

"I said, 'Well, if God lets me live that long, yeah, maybe, who knows?'" recalled Luchsinger. "That messed her up, and my son told me they had to talk her in off the ledge. She thinks that I just ... want to die and be done with it."

Frank hasn't been his old self since his wife of more than 50 years, Marlies Luchsinger, died of pancreatic cancer on March 12, 2020.

"I'm not past it," he said, trying to maintain his composure.

Grieving together

Luchsinger and his longtime friend Dave Allen are reluctantly going through the experience of living longer than their lifelong companion. It's a challenge, and either can whiplash from wisecracks to tears at a moment's notice.

With their trust in God and the United Methodist faith, they are working through the grieving process. Both couples were longtime members and volunteers at Brentwood United Methodist Church in Brentwood, Tennessee.

Dave and Frank still are, but there's something missing.

"These men were married to unusually gifted, compassionate people," said retired Bishop Joe Pennel, former pastor at Brentwood. He called Sally "a rare and special gift to all who knew her" and Marlies "a very gifted person."

Dave and Sally, part of the extended family of this writer, were married for 58 years before Sally's death from respiratory issues, eight months after Marlies. The couples traveled extensively, attended the same Sunday school class, and enjoyed many other social events together.

Dave's acerbic sense of humor was leavened by Sally's kindness, forming a balanced union. Last Fourth of July, when Dave took offense to the fancy brewpub beer I was drinking, Sally wasn't there to shush her husband, which rarely worked anyways. She was missed. *(Continued on page 2)*

Dixie Dailey is looking for yarn you no longer need so she can make mittens and caps for children and adults. Please bring the yarn to the church or give her a call at 712-246-2416.

+ Men's bible study
Saturday mornings at 8:00 a.m.

+ Women's bible study at noon on Wednesdays.

Reminders

October 10th
United Methodist Women
meeting at 2:00 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

October 13th
Praise Team
5:30 p.m.
Choir Practice – 6:45 p.m.

October 14th
T.O.P.S.
4:30 p.m.

October 24th
9:00 a.m. Guest Speaker
Cheri Miner, MUMMs Director
(Mobile United Methodist
Missionaries)

****Worship Assistants needed**
for October 17th, 24th, 31st, sign
up on the counter in the
Welcome Center

**** Fellowship Volunteers**
Sign-up sheet on the counter in
Fellowship Hall

(Continued from page 1)

Gaining strength through faith and service

When Dave had surgery in July, he wondered if he might die.

"And the first thing I thought of was, 'So what?' You get to join Sally.' You don't have the fear of dying you used to."

Pennel advised Dave and Frank to maintain the spiritual disciplines of prayer, meditation, and searching the Scriptures as a way of gaining strength.

Dave's daughter Jodie Hudson sent him a quote from Elisabeth Kübler-Ross from her book "On Grief and Grieving," written with David Kessler. He says it has helped.

"The reality is that you will grieve forever," Kübler-Ross and Kessler wrote. "You will not 'get over' the loss of a loved one; you will learn to live with it. You will heal and you will rebuild yourself around the loss you have suffered. You will be whole again, but you will never be the same. Nor should you be the same, nor would you want to."

Frank and Dave spend their Tuesdays together, visiting church members on Brentwood's prayer list. Many of those they visit are also in mourning.

Relinquishing his sandcastles to the inevitable tides each day has taught Mulligan an important spiritual lesson.

"Nothing on earth is permanent, especially if you're building on sand," he says, referencing Jesus' parable of building on rock and not sand (Matthew 7:24-27). "When I started making that biblical analogy, it changed my outlook. I've come to the point now when I build it, I just enjoy it. I know the tide is going to destroy it. There's no point to try to protect worldly things."

They've visited 32 people, two or three each week since the coronavirus pandemic lifted enough to allow in-person visits. Despite some gallows humor centering on the coincidence of some of their charges dying shortly after their visit, they know they're being helpful.

"So it's probably 80 percent women that we go to," Dave said. "And we get these stories like, if you visit (a particular church member), she'll repeat 100 things back to you like she's started to lose her mind."

But when they visited the woman, she was waiting for them dressed to the nines, and spoke with them animatedly and coherently.

"She knew we were coming that week," Allen said. "She has her best necklace on and it was hard to cut [the conversation] off after 50 minutes because we had to go to the next person."

Frank said it's rewarding to help people who are also dealing with an important loss.

"Frankly, it helps me and I know it helps David to go and see people," he said. "I feel a great reward doing that for people, just to let them know we care." (Continued on page 3)

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After their Tuesday rounds, Dave and Frank retire to Luchsinger's deck to share a couple of cold beverages. That's where they recently got to talking about the traveling the couples have done together. They decided to continue.

"We're going to Alaska next May," Dave said. It's the first of three trips they're planning to take together and the first without Sally and Marlies.

"It's devastating, but what are you going to do?" Frank said. "I try my best to live my life. I mean, what choice do I have? Here I am. I'm still having conversations with God about this whole thing."

Jim Patterson is a Nashville freelance writer. Contact him by [email](#). This content was published on August 20, 2021.



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ at the First United Methodist Church of Shenandoah,

This is a busy week in the life of your church. It's time for our Charge Conference to meet. As a refresher, the Book of Discipline has this to say about Charge Conference: 1. The church council and all other administrative and programmatic structures of the local church shall be amenable to the charge conference...Members of the charge conference shall be persons of genuine Christian character who love the Church, are morally disciplined, are committed to the mandate of inclusiveness in the life of the Church, are loyal to the ethical standards of The United Methodist Church set forth in the Social Principles, and are competent to administer its affairs. It shall include youth members chosen according to the same standards as adults. All shall be professing members of the local church... The pastor shall be the administrative officer, and as such shall be an ex officio member of all conferences, boards, councils, commissions, committees, and task forces, unless restricted by the Discipline.

The membership of the charge conference shall be all members of the church council or other appropriate body, together with retired ordained ministers...

The district superintendent shall fix the time of meetings of the charge conference. The charge conference shall determine the place of the meeting.

The district superintendent shall preside at the meetings of the charge conference or may designate an elder to preside.

The members present and voting at any duly announced meeting shall constitute a quorum.

The charge conference shall be the connecting link between the local church and the general Church and shall have general oversight of the church council(s).

The primary responsibilities of the charge conference in the annual meeting shall be to review and evaluate the total mission and ministry of the church (¶¶ 120-124), receive reports, and adopt objectives and goals recommended by the church council that is in keeping with the objectives of The United Methodist Church.

The charge conference may establish a limit to the consecutive terms of office for any or all of the elected or appointed officers of the local church, except where otherwise mandated. It is recommended that no officer serve more than three consecutive years in the same office.

There shall be elected annually, by the charge conference in each local church, a committee on nominations and leadership development that is composed of professing members of the local church. The charge of this committee is to identify, develop, deploy, evaluate, and monitor Christian spiritual leadership for the local congregation.

It is the committee on nominations and leadership development who nominates the membership of the other committees, the admin council, and their chairs (excluding Trustees who elect their own chair), and it is these nominees, as well as potential nominations from the floor, which will be voted on to fill the committees for the coming year(s).

This is an important event in the life of the church. As I type this, I am in the middle of notifying the nominees of how we are calling them to serve, and partly because of Covid, we had many positions to fill. That proved to be a great challenge for a brand new pastor, and I relied heavily on the remaining members of the nominations and leader development committee to advise me. Until the vote of the charge conference, however, none of the nominations are official.

I ask you to be in prayer for us as we meet this Tuesday. Charge conference members, I encourage you all to be there.

In Christ's name,

Pastor Kelly

Church Office Hours

**No children or adult Sunday School at this time. <u>Ask how you can help</u>	Monday 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.
**Bell Choir – Volunteer needed	Tuesday 9:00-11:00 12:00-3:00	
**Chancel Choir – Wednesdays, 6:45 p.m. Sunday 8:30 a.m.	Wednesday CLOSED	
The front door to the church will be unlocked during office hours and closed only for errands and lunch.	Thursday 9:00-11:00 12:00-3:00	
	Friday 9:00-11:00 12:00-3:00	



Jesus is the light; we are the bulb.

Goodness speaks in a whisper. Evil shouts.



What is the first of the Ten Commandments?

- a) You shall not murder.
- b) You shall not commit adultery.
- c) You shall have no other gods before me.
- d) Honor your father and your mother

Check next week's Booster for answers to the three trivia questions.

Which of the following disciples was not with Jesus when He was arrested at Gethsemane?

- a) Andrew
- b) Peter
- c) James
- d) John

The book of Nahum prophesies the fall of what city?

- a) Babylon
- b) Tyre
- c) Susa
- d) Nineveh

Oct 3rd answers
d) fishers of men a) better than great riches d) the body of Moses

Book Your Appointment Online



Would you like to chat with Pastor Kelly, maybe over coffee, tea, or soda? Need to get something on the church calendar or need something brought to our attention? You can book an appointment online with Jeff or Pastor Kelly by going to the following link <https://bit.ly/3sm5lyY> (click on the link or copy and paste into your browser). You may also use a QR reader.



Birthdays and Anniversaries



- 10th – Theresa Bacon
- 11th – Al Moore, Sally Mueller
- 12th – Delores Fischer
- 13th – R'Donya Nelson
- 14th – Al Armstrong
- 15th – Anniversary LeRoy & Lorene Whitehill
- * October 17th Marlyn Perry (Elinor Sharp's sister) will be celebrating her birthday. Marlyn is in Accura Healthcare, 213 Halland Ave, Stanton, IA 51573. Family members say she enjoys receiving cards.

**Shenandoah First United
Methodist Church**

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Phone 712-246-2081

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office@shen.church

We're on the Web!

<https://shen.church>



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>

*Prelude/Postlude/Accompanist: *Terry Stafford*

Call to Worship

Leader: Listen, for the voice of God comes near!

People: Listen, for God's voice is not obtrusive.

L: We come to worship the God who became one of us,

People: Who calls us by name,

L: Who is Love Incarnate,

People: Who is!

L: Let us gather together in joy and hope-

People: Let us worship the God of Love.

All: Amen!

"ALL THINGS"

Old Testament Scripture: *Job 23:1-9, 16-17*

New Testament Scripture: *Hebrews 4:12-16*

Gospel Reading: *Mark 10:17-31*

Songs

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God #110 (Hymnal)

Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone) #3104 (Green Book)

God Leads Us Along #3031 (Green Book)

I Surrender All #354 (Hymnal)

Last Week's Attendance

In-Person Worship – 78

Online Worship – 17

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."