



# Weekly Booster

## CHURCH STAFF

### Pastor

Kelly W. Peavey

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### Office Manager

Jeff Hiser

[office@shen.church](mailto:office@shen.church)

### 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



*Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Harran. When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep. He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. There above it stood the LORD, and he said: "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. Genesis 28:10-13.*

In Jacob's dream, the messengers of God appeared passing between the realms in a portal to heaven. Such portals are envisioned as stairways – as opposed to ladders – in ancient mythology. These portals were considered sacred space. The link between heaven and earth provided passage for the deity from the gate of his heavenly temple-palace to the sacred space marked out on earth for his presence and worship. Such places were marked with temples once their location had been revealed to people living in the area.

Jacob had slept in what is in effect the antechamber of a temple and had seen the stairway leading to the gate of heaven (the inner chamber) with the messengers coming and going from the Lord's presence; therefore, he set up a standing stone either to mark the "Most Holy Place" at the top of the stairway or the place where Yahweh stood "above" or "beside" the stairway (see [verse 13](#)).

There is a continuum in space between the heavenly dwelling and the earthly one in the sense that they are like the upstairs and downstairs of the same building. The earthly temple can be thought of as actually existing in the heavenly realm. The temple is a place in both worlds, just as the grave is a place both on earth and in the netherworld.

*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.***

***+No Women's Bible  
study October 27<sup>th</sup>***

### Reminders

#### October 24<sup>th</sup>

9:00 a.m. Guest Speaker  
Cherie Miner, MUMMs Director  
(Mobile United Methodist  
Missionaries)

#### October 25<sup>th</sup>

No Women's Bible Study

#### October 27<sup>th</sup>

No Women's Bible Study  
Praise Team  
5:00 p.m.  
Choir Practice – 6:45 p.m.

#### October 28<sup>th</sup>

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

**\*\*Worship Assistants needed  
for November, sign up on the  
counter in the Welcome Center**

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

*continued from page 1*

Some temples featured a stairway from the antechamber up to the central cella – the temple's inner sanctum – where the deity dwelt, indicating perhaps that the deity's heavenly dwelling was there in the middle of the earthly temple. If this is so, the "gate of heaven" could be considered the entryway to the temple's inner sanctum, whether at the bottom of the stairway or at the top..

### ***Ziggurats in Mesopotamia***

These portals are also architecturally represented in the ziggurats of ancient Mesopotamia which were built to provide the stairway for the gods to come down and be worshiped in their temples.

Though they may resemble pyramids in outward appearance, ziggurats are nothing like them in function. Ziggurats have no inside. The structure was framed in mud brick, and then the core was packed with fill dirt. The facade was then completed with kiln-fired brick. Ziggurats were dedicated to particular deities. Any given deity may have several ziggurats dedicated to him or her in different cities and a given city may have several ziggurats, with the main one associated with the patron deity of the city. Archaeologists have discovered nearly 30 ziggurats in the Mesopotamian region, and texts mention several others. The main architectural feature is the stairway or ramp that leads to the top. There was a small room at the top where a bed was made and a table set for the deity. Ziggurats range in size from 60 feet (18 meters) per side to almost 200 feet (60 meters) per side.

The ziggurat did not play a role in any of the rituals known to us from Mesopotamia. It was sacred space and was strictly off-limits to earthly use. Though the structure at the top was designed to accommodate the god, it was not a temple where people would go to worship. In fact, the ziggurat was typically accompanied by an adjoining temple near its base, where the worship took place.

The structure was built to support the stairway and the stairway was a visual representation of what was believed to be used by the gods to travel from one realm to another. It was solely for the convenience of the gods and was maintained in order to provide the deity with amenities and to make possible his descent into his temple.

Jacob did not see a ziggurat in his dream, but rather the stairway portal between heaven and earth that ziggurats were designed to provide. The angels Jacob saw were not marching in procession down and up the stairway as often pictured in art. Rather he saw messengers – angels – going off on missions and returning from delivering their messages.

This article is edited from study features in the [NIV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible](#).

## Church Office Hours

**No children Sunday School at this time. Questers (Adults) 10:30	<b>Monday</b> 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	<b>Tuesday</b> 9:00-11:00 12:00-3:00	
**Chancel Choir – Wednesdays, 6:45 p.m. Sunday 8:30 a.m.	<b>Wednesday</b> CLOSED	
	<b>Thursday</b> 9:00-11:00 12:00-3:00	
The front door to the church will be unlocked during office hours and closed only for errands and lunch.	<b>Friday</b> 9:00-11:00 12:00-3:00	



The apostle Paul compared the Christian life to what sporting event?	What is the name of the fourth horseman in the book of Revelation?	Which of the following does the Bible not list as a gate in the wall of Jerusalem?
a) a wrestling match b) a race c) weight lifting d) gymnastics	a) Pestilence b) Death c) War d) Famine	a) Valley Gate b) Dung Gate c) Lion Gate d) Fountain Gate

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

Oct 17<sup>th</sup> answers  
c) 666 c) easy d) Noah

## Birthdays and Anniversaries



25<sup>th</sup> – Chris Collins, Toni Graham, Darlene Howard  
27<sup>th</sup> – Ashley Henderson  
29<sup>th</sup> – David Kinney, Karen Stanbrough  
30<sup>th</sup> – Jodi Anderzhon, Gary Milstead, Kim Smay  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Jourdan Perkins  
5<sup>th</sup> – Ameila McIntosh, Anniversary Don & Phyllis Allely  
6<sup>th</sup> – Richard Perry

*I would like to thank my church family for all the prayers and get well cards. I am getting along pretty good after my total knee replacement. Each day gets a little better.*  
**LuAnn Armstrong**

*I would like to thank everyone that sent my sister, Marlyn Perry, cards of comfort and her birthday.*  
**Elinor Sharp**

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.



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**We're on the Web!**

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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: Come, take refuge in the Lord, for God is good.**

**People: From the storms and struggles of life we come.**

**L: Come, rejoice in the Lord, for God will provide peace for you.**

**People: From fear and anxiety, we come to find peace.**

**L: Come, open your hearts to the Lord and you will be given blessing.**

**People: Thanks be to God for the many ways in which we are blessed.**

**All: Amen!**

**Guest Speaker – Cherie Minor  
MUMMS, “Let The Children Come”**

Old Testament Scripture: *Job 42:1-6, 10-17*

New Testament Scripture: *Hebrews 7:23-28*

Gospel Reading: *Mark 10:46-52*

**Songs**

*I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me #2153 (Black Book)*

*Soul On Fire (words on the screens)*

*This Little Light of Mine #585 (Hymnal)*

*Jesus Loves Me #191 (Hymnal)*

**Last Week's Attendance**

**In-Person Worship – 64**

**Online Worship – 12**

**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.”**