



Shenandoah First United Methodist Church

`Church Mission- Know and Serve God by Sharing Christ's Love.

`Church Vision- We will grow in holiness, our community will thrive, and we will make a difference in our World!

The “Booster” Newsletter **September 17, 2020**

Church News:

ATTENTION- Live “In-Person” worship service in the sanctuary on Sunday's at 9 a.m. Please do not come before 8:50 a.m. & maintain 6 foot social distancing between everyone at all times, we recommend that everyone wear a mask, (if you don't have one, we do provide one for you), hand sanitizer stations are available. There is **NO** Welcome Center or Fellowship time. If you are an “at risk” person due to age or underlying health issues, take care of someone with underlying health issues, or just don't feel comfortable to come out in any group setting yet, please do not feel that you *have* to come to the live services. We will *continue* to live-stream the service on our church Facebook page and it is also available on our YouTube link. If you have any concerns or questions please call or email the church office.

***Notice-** Pastor Luke does have a “Prayer” Time & update on Wed.'s at 7 p.m. on our church Facebook page and a “Study” Time *starting back up on Sept. 25 at 6 p.m.* And also on our YouTube link: www.youtube.com/channel/UC_zapfZGHY4G5FFYD6NKA

***REMINDERS-** All church news and information is posted on our church website (be sure to check out all the different links and activities that are there). And note the church Google calendar is available so any current happenings and/or changes are there and our website. **We are working on embedding our Facebook Page into our website.*

***Church Office-** The doors to the church remain locked at this time for safety & health precautions during business hours, M-F from 8:30 a.m.- 4 p.m. If you have a need to get in the church please call ahead and we will make arrangements. Thank you.

Church Connections:

Telephone: 712-246-2081

Email Addresses:

churchs3cr3tary@gmail.com
shenmethodist2018@gmail.com

Website: www.sheniafumc.org

Facebook: United Methodist Church Shenandoah

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 394
Shenandoah, IA 51601

Pastor Luke:

Telephone: 515-419-1179

Email: luke.fillmore@iaumc.net

Secretary Cindy Nelson

Telephone: 712-242-6143

Email:

cindy.nelson21@yahoo.com

Media Jeff Hiser:

Telephone: 712-310-5057

Email:

fumc002@gmail.com

Location: *200 Church Street*

***Offering/Giving-** You may put your offering in the “Offering Boxes” on Sunday mornings, or mail them to UMC, P.O. Box 394., Shenandoah, IA 51601. **Or** by going to our church website and look for the word **GIVE** at the top right hand side of your screen or the bottom right hand side of your screen and clicking on to it and following the prompts. Thank you.

***SPECIAL- PLEASE READ-** We are currently providing our live-streaming with media equipment that is “doing the job”, but as we progress with our abilities to provide better quality and more in-depth ways we will need to update our equipment. So If you would like to donate to this special cause, you may go to our website page to do so. (*\$4000 is our goal, so far we have \$1650.00*) (*You may also put them in the offering boxes*).

***Children's Sunday School Kick-Off-** Classes **will begin Sunday, October 4 at 10:30 a.m.** in the regular Sunday School rooms in Wesley Hall on 2nd floor “in-person” with 6 ft. social distancing & with masks recommended, with ZOOM also offered. **(Pres-school thru 5th grades).* **(Subject to change with variables, we will let you know if we need to change it).* Thank you.

***Youth Sunday School Class Kick-Off- Will begin on Sunday, October 4 at 10:30 a.m.** in the Wesley Hall downstairs Youth Lounge. **(6th-12th grades).* **(Subject to change with variables, we will let you know if we need to change it).* Thank you.

***REMINDER- We need your recipes** for our church “Sesquicentennial” (150 year anniversary) cookbook. Please send in your recipes **by October 13, 2020**. Each person may put up to 10 recipes in. Christmas is the official anniversary day & we want to have the book out by then. Thank you.

***NOTICE-** With continued **numerous** COVID-19 cases in Page County, **please** be sure to maintain social distancing and wear a mask when out and about and in group settings for yours and others safety and well-being. - Page County Public Health

***Quarter's (Adult) Sunday School Class - Are looking at starting up on Nov. 1.** Please watch for further updates. **(And please note that due to variables this is subject to change).* Thank you.

***Special Note-** If you have an idea for a small group please contact Ps. Luke or the church office. Thank you.

***Bell Choir- Will begin** practicing on Wednesday, **October 7 at 4:30 p.m.** in the Bell Choir Room in Wesley Hall.

***NOTICE-** The Mission Room is **not** taking donations at this time. Thank you.

***SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY-** If you would like to provide “Special Music” for the Sunday morning worship service, either in person (social distancing) or per-recorded during the week for play back, please call the church office. Thank you.

ATTENTION- Ladies, please come join us for an hour or so of fellowship at McComb Park (at the top of the hill on the south side) **on Thursday, September 24 at 1:30 p.m.** Bring your lawn chair & something to drink & we'll do our best to social distance ourselves. If you don't have a chair, call Jodi (712-579-9643) or Deb (712-270-6048) & we'll bring you one. It's been awhile since we've had a chance to talk & catch up with many of you. Also, please spread the word to others. We'll hope for a good day.

~Last Week's Record

Live (In Person) Worship- 25
“Live” On-Line- 34 views
Online/Facebook- 167 views

~Total Budget Offering:

\$108,053.89

~Media Equip. Fund:\$1650.00

~Total Budget Expenses to

Date: \$137,192.29

~Total Budget Expenses for

2020: \$192,773.00

~Birthdays & Anniversaries:

Sept. 18- *M/M Brandon Pease
& Duane Rexroth

Sept. 20- Dave Tackett

Sept. 21- Steve Stribling

Sept. 23- Tom Spears



“STUMP THE PASTOR”

I have three questions today, but they’ve been asked in a different way. They were, “how did Moses’ Mother save him from the wrath of Pharaoh,” “How many plagues did God punish Egypt with,” “What happened to the Red Sea with Moses?” I’ll let you ponder on those, maybe you know the answers to those questions, but what I want to highlight today is the way these questions were asked.

First off, it’s been a joy to write back and forth in this way with the community, so please feel free to write in about anything you can think of. However, the way these questions were asked was by giving the answer. So, to use the example in the email I received, if the answer is *Adam* what I would need to do is come up with the question by filling in the blanks. What I would do then is fill out “Who _____?” It seems to take some creativity, some playfulness, and a willingness to keep at it no matter how many different word combinations you need to go through. Have you figured it out yet? “Who was the first man?” Or maybe even, “Who did God make first?” Or perhaps, “Who was made from dust?”

It’s got me thinking on the ways we come to conclusions or even make decisions. Often times we have our own perspective and experiences that informs us what is right and what is wrong, or at the very least what will keep us out of trouble. And certainly, when we get to scripture it is easy to point to a single verse plucked out of the middle and say, triumphantly, that this is the word of God. (And technically and literally that is true). But sometimes it seems like there are different ways to go about getting the answer. When I “cherry-pick” from scripture like that, what I’m doing is coming with the answer already and in some ways closed off to the Word of God. I know what I want to find and I’ll find it! But I think what this little exercise of pulling the question from the answer, a la Jeopardy-style has taught me is that even if the answer is unknown and we’re willing to wrestle with discovering that there is still an incredible amount of creativity, perseverance, and playfulness that goes into hearing the Voice of God; in fact, I think God delights in that over and over again. Especially in scripture, when we dive into the text we find that there are imagery, wordplay, puns, and metaphors. That, in fact, God honors and maybe even seeks our engaging with the Word on a deeper, fuller level.

Now, I’m not saying that we all should be experts by tomorrow, but what I hope we walk away with this week is not only some appreciation for wiggle-room and creativity, but the permission to explore, poke, and prod our scripture. My hope and prayer for all of us is that we dive deep, live within the stories of God and his people, and come away from that transformed. Have you found the answers to those three questions yet? Have you found questions that bring you closer to God? May it be, and amen.

****Be sure to email or call in your questions for Ps. Luke and try and “Stump” him!!***



September 20, 2020

Order of Service

*Prelude:

Greeting & Welcome:

+ Call to Worship:

L: Good Morning, we invite you to pause, stand as you're able or center your hearts at home. And join us in the call to worship.

L: The first shall be last!

P: The valleys shall be filled.

L: Will you serve on another, will you kneel down so that others may be lifted up?

P: By the grace of God we will walk with each other, we will work side by side.

L: May it be, Hallelujah!

ALL: Hallelujah, amen!

*Opening Hymn: "Lord of All Hopefulness: #2197

+Prayer of Connection+

*Song: "Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone) #3104

+Old Testament Scripture: Exodus 16: 2-15

Dan Finlay

+Prayers of the People+

+New Testament Scripture: Philippians 1: 21-30

Dan Finlay

*Offering/Song: "What Does the Lord Require" #441

*Doxology: #95

+Prayer of Gratitude+ & "The Lord's Prayer" #895

+Gospel Reading: Matthew 20: 1-16

+Message: "The First Shall Be Last"

*Closing Hymn: "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing" #400

Announcements:

+Benediction+

Pastor- Luke Fillmore/ ***Pianist-** Terry Stafford/ ***Keyboard-** Linda Haldane/ ***Song Leaders-** Jodi Anderzhon, Deb Finlay, Jeff Hiser/ ***Media-** Pastor Luke Fillmore, Jeff Hiser, & Jodi Anderzhon/ ***Facebook Greeter-** Craig Harris.