

20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 25, 2020

10:00 a.m.

PRESERVICE MUSIC.....*"Great Are You Lord"*

WELCOME*Jim Loeffler*

INVOCATION*Pastor Keith*

PRELUDE.....*"A Mighty Fortress"*

PRAISE SONGS.....*"Only a God Like You"*
"Your Name"

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE*Adrianne Morton*

OFFERING A PRAYER OF OUR GIFTS & THANKS TO GOD

THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN #110.....*"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"*

SERMON.....*Pastor Keith*

"If My People ..."

NEHEMIAH – PRAYER TO ACTION

Nehemiah 1:1–2:10

SONG OF RESPONSE.....*"Great Are You Lord"*

BENEDICTION/BLESSING

Scriptures for Today's Worship Service: Nehemiah 1:1- 2:10

Please read the additional pages below on Nehemiah and Pastor's Keith's outline regarding Nehemiah's story – PRAYER TO ACTION.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL – *has begun*



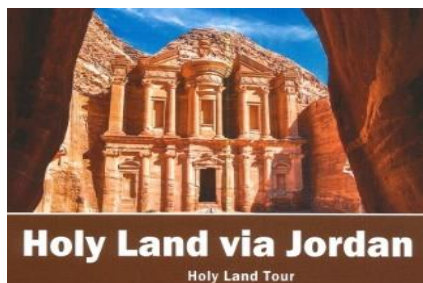
Welcome back to in-house Sunday school! Kids ages 4 yrs. to 5th grade can experience the joy of going to Sunday school again. Just drop your child off at the lower west side entrance – a teacher will come out and escort them to their classroom. After worship, pick them up where you dropped them off. Remember masks and all other safety protocol will be followed. There will be no snacks or drinks provided.



Book Club will start meeting again on Tuesday, November 17 at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to join them. They'll be reading *"The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend"* by Katrina Bivald. If you would like a copy of the book see Linda Morey or Diane Senger. Or call the church office.



**SHUMY Youth –
Dress warm for a
hayride and bonfire
as we'll be meeting
outside (weather
permitting).**



**Interested in a trip to the Holy Land
Nov. 2021 or Jan. 2022
You'll find more info on our website!
Also, you can call us at 899-5962 and
we'll send you a brochure.**

BIBLE STUDIES FOR FALL

Please call the church office @ 899-5962 as classes are limited because of COVID-19.

IN-PERSON BIBLE STUDIES in the Multi-purpose Room:

- Monday evenings @ 6:00 p.m. starting Sept. 21 with Sue Fuller – a Bible study for young mothers. If you'd like to join the group give Sue a call at 969-1649.
- Tuesday mornings @ 9:30 a.m. with Elna Morton. They will be studying the Book of Genesis.
- Tuesday nights Sean Gotham will begin a Bible Study for men to connect with the Lord and each other. The date and time have not been set yet – so keep watch!
- Wednesday mornings at 11 am – "The Battle Plan for Prayer" with Pastor Keith. The book is \$10 and you can contact the church office to purchase one.
- Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. Diane Senger will lead the Sweet & Salty Bible study on *Esther* by Beth Moore. They will be in the multi-purpose room. All are welcome to join in!

We've missed you! -- Are you ready to begin "in-person" worship??!!

We will, of course, be in full compliance with CDC Guidelines:

- Face Masks
- Sanitizing & Disinfecting
- Social Distancing
- Limiting our Capacity
- Temperature Check



If you would like to join us on any Sunday, please call the church office at 899-5962 by noon on Friday each week, to let us know. Please arrive around 9:30 a.m. in order to be seated by 9:55 a.m.

10-25-20

FROM PRAYER TO ACTION

NEHEMIAH 1:1 TO 2:10:

1The words of Nehemiah son of Hakaliah:

In the month of Kislev in the twentieth year, while I was in the citadel of Susa, ² Hanani, one of my brothers, came from Judah with some other men, and I questioned them about the Jewish remnant that had survived the exile, and also about Jerusalem.

³ They said to me, "Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire."

⁴ When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven. ⁵ Then I said:

"LORD, the God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments, ⁶ let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer your servant is praying before you day and night for your servants, the people of Israel. I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father's family, have committed against you. ⁷ We have acted very wickedly toward you. We have not obeyed the commands, decrees and laws you gave your servant Moses.

⁸ "Remember the instruction you gave your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the nations, ⁹ but if you return to me and obey my commands, then even if your exiled people are at the farthest horizon, I will gather them from there and bring them to the place I have chosen as a dwelling for my Name.'

¹⁰ "They are your servants and your people, whom you redeemed by your great strength and your mighty hand. ¹¹ Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of this your servant and to the prayer of your servants who delight in revering your name. Give your servant success today by granting him favor in the presence of this man."

I was cupbearer to the king.

2 In the month of Nisan in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was brought for him, I took the wine and gave it to the king. I had not been sad in his presence before, ² so the king asked me, "Why does your face look so sad when you are not ill? This can be nothing but sadness of heart."

I was very much afraid, ³ but I said to the king, "May the king live forever! Why should my face not look sad when the city where my ancestors are buried lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?"

⁴ The king said to me, "What is it you want?"

Then I prayed to the God of heaven, ⁵ and I answered the king, "If it pleases the king and if your servant has found favor in his sight, let him send me to the city in Judah where my ancestors are buried so that I can rebuild it."

⁶ Then the king, with the queen sitting beside him, asked me, "How long will your journey take, and when will you get back?" It pleased the king to send me; so I set a time.

⁷ I also said to him, "If it pleases the king, may I have letters to the governors of Trans-Euphrates, so that they will provide me safe-conduct until I arrive in Judah? ⁸ And may I have a letter to Asaph, keeper of the royal park, so he will give me timber to make beams for the gates of the citadel by the temple and for the city wall and for the residence I will occupy?" And because the gracious hand of my God was on me, the king granted my requests. ⁹ So I went to the governors of Trans-Euphrates and gave them the king's letters. The king had also sent army officers and cavalry with me.

¹⁰ When **Sanballat** the Horonite and **Tobiah** the Ammonite official heard about this, they were very much disturbed that someone had come to promote the welfare of the Israelites.

OPENING STORY:

CONTEXT:

THE STORY PART #1 – NEHEMIAH PRAYS

CARED ENOUGH TO ASK (1:1 – 3)

CARED ENOUGH TO WEEP (1:4)

CARED ENOUGH TO PRAY (1:5-10)

- + NOTE NEHEMIAH'S RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD
- + NOTE NEHEMIAH'S WILLINGNESS TO BE FORMED & MOVED
- + NOTE NEHEMIAH'S WILLINGNESS TO BE A WORLD CHANGER

CARED ENOUGH TO BEGIN (1:11)

THE STORY PART #2 – NEHEMIAH MOVES FROM PRAYER TO ACTION

FAITH ENOUGH TO WAIT (2:1-3)

FAITH ENOUGH TO ASK (2:5-6)

FAITH ENOUGH TO ACT (2:6-11)

APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

WHAT KIND OF SHAPE ARE THE WALLS OF YOUR LIFE?

WHAT KIND OF SHAPE ARE THE WALLS OF SHUMC?

WHAT KIND OF SHAPE ARE THE WALLS OF OUR COMMUNITY & OUR WORLD?

DO WE CARE? DO WE PRAY?

ARE WE MOVED TO PREPARE & TO SHORE UP THE WALLS OF OUR LIVES & OUR WORLD?

SO, WHAT ARE WE TO DO?

ACTION PLAN:

1. RETHINK THE WAY THAT WE LOOK AT OUR WORLD

- + ITS PRIORITIES, PURPOSES, AND MEANING
- + THE WAYS WE THINK
- + THE THINGS WE DO

2. RESTORE THE MOST IMPORTANT BUILDING BLOCKS FIRST

- + CONNECTIONS WITH GOD
- + CONNECTIONS WITH ONE ANOTHER

3. PRAY FOR CLARITY, DIRECTION AND VISION

4. PRAY FOR COURAGE TO ASK AND TO SHARE THE VISION

5. PRAY FOR THE COURAGE AND STRENGTH TO BEGIN – TO ACT