

25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015

11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* Bach / Young

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

INTROIT *Come, Father, Son And Spirit*

+CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

One: Turn your thoughts to God, who is our Creator.

All: The Lord is the mainstay of our lives.

One: Turn your thoughts to God, who is our Helper.

All: The Lord is our rock and our fortress.

One: Turn your thoughts to God, who is our Redeemer.

All: The Lord is our life and our salvation.

+HYMN *Immortal, Invisible. God Only Wise* #263, vv. 1-3

+PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Good News, you have created us to be in relationship with you and with one another. You gave us the Law and your Son, Jesus, to teach us how to live in right relationship with you. You gave us the Church and the Covenant to learn to live in right relationship with one another. We confess that we have not meditated on your Law with delight, nor have we listened to your Son. We see the Church not as a place of relationships, but a place for religious goods and services, and we have understood our Covenant more like a contract, something which is easily broken. We have acted selfishly and do not stand in a right relationship with you or with one another, nor can we make it right. We beg your forgiveness. Extend to us your grace, that we may be restored in our relationship with you. Send us out with grace that our relationships with others may be restored. Help us love your Law, your Son, your Covenant, and your Church, that we may bear the fruit of the Spirit in our lives. In Jesus' name, Amen.

+ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

+RESPONSE *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* #263, v. 4

Thou reignest in glory, Thou rulest in light  
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight  
All praise we would render, O help us to see  
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!

+PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

MINUTE FOR MISSION – Luwerezhi Drought Offering

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

All children are invited to come forward for the Time for Young Disciples. Afterward, children ages 5 thru 3<sup>rd</sup> grade may go to Worship Our Way (W.O.W.) while children in 4<sup>th</sup> grade and older are invited to worship with their families.

+HYMN *How Firm a Foundation* #361

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

GOSPEL READING Ephesians 3:14-19 p. 170 NT

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *The Image of God* Boersma/Courtney

HEBREW BIBLE READING Psalm 1 p. 452 OT

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED Tim Reynolds

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERING OUR LIVES TO GOD

Offertory *I am Thine, O Lord* arr. Raney

+Doxology *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* #592

+Prayer of Dedication

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from *The Confession of 1967*

The new life [in Christ] takes shape in community in which we know that God loves us and accepts us in spite of what we are. We therefore accept ourselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace. The new life finds its direction in the life of Jesus, his deeds and words, his struggles against temptation, his compassion, his anger, and his willingness to suffer death. The teaching of the apostles and prophets guides us in living this life, and the Christian community nurtures and equips us for our ministries.

+HYMN *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* #438

+BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE *Go Into The World*

+POSTLUDE *Gloria from Twelfth Mass* Mozart

+THOSE WHO ARE ABLE PLEASE STAND

THIS MORNING...

- the liturgist is Richard Cano
- the acolytes are Wiley Leidig and John Godfrey
- the bell ringer is Audrey Morrell
- the W.O.W. leaders are Jason & Becky Pittman
- the nursery volunteers are Liz Edelman and Nissa Morrell
- the sound board tech is Seth Reynolds

*The Lord watches over the way of the righteous.*

*Psalm 1:6*

WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION  
Elders: Matt Crum & Joey Lamie

VISITORS: We are delighted to have you with us this morning and hope you feel at home. Please let us know a bit about you by filling in your information in the Friendship Register. A Nursery is available for infants and children through age 4. If you need directions an usher can assist you.

HEARING DEVICES are available for the hearing impaired from an usher.

SERMONS IN SEPTEMBER will be drawn from the Hebrew Scripture lectionary selections. Beginning in October Pastor Tim will present a new sermon series, *Seussical Spirituality*, which will explore the spiritual relevance of some of Dr. Seuss' most beloved stories.

UPCOMING SERMON TEXTS AND TOPICS:

Sept 27	Psalm 124	Our help is in the name of the Lord
Oct 4	Ephesians 2:5-9	<i>Seussical Spirituality: The Cat in the Hat</i>
Oct 11	Gen 3 / Rom 6	<i>Seussical Spirituality: The Lorax</i>
Oct 18	TBD	Pastor Tim out of town

MARK SERMON SERIES RECORDINGS: The entire Gospel of Mark sermon series is available on a flash drive for anyone who wishes to have one. The files are mp3 files, playable on most computers. If you would like to have one, please email or call Donna in the office and let her know.

SERVICE AND OUTREACH  
Elders: Alicia Arney, Kay Bunn & Mimi Hull

PASTOR LEWIS MWAZEMBE and wife Abbey are thankful for the prayers and assistance provided to the Luwerezhi Church of Central Africa Presbyterian through our Sister Congregation relationship. The Session approved a **Special Hunger Offering on September 27<sup>th</sup>** for Luwerezhi to purchase much-needed grain due to major drought conditions across Malawi. Please pray for Luwerezhi and give generously to save lives and provide hope to their congregation. Please note "Luwerezhi Hunger Offering" on your check or offering envelope. Yewo chomeni! Thank you very much!

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRY  
Elders: Georgia Crews & Rachel Fowlkes

THE STEPHEN MINISTERS will be attending three classes this coming week totaling almost 8 hours of training. They will be learning the difference between passive, assertive and aggressive behavior and practice relating gently and firmly to their care receivers. They will also develop skills in maintaining appropriate boundaries and study exactly what happens when a person goes through a crisis. We thank God for the continuing dedication of our Stephen Minister Trainees, and ask your continued prayers for them and for God's blessings upon their ministries.

A NEW DIVORCE CARE GROUP is starting this Monday. Meetings will be every Monday from 7:00-9:00 at 155 Bogey Drive here in Abingdon. If you would like more information please contact Ann Cunningham at 276.356.1790 or by email at [acunningham@bvunet.net](mailto:acunningham@bvunet.net).

**STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY**  
**Elders: Danny Brown & John Legard**

**DOESN'T OUR CHURCH EXTERIOR** look nice with parking lots repaired, resealed, and striped, on-going landscaping work, including trimming, debris cleanup, weeding, painting, mulching, and TLC by many congregational members? Thanks also to the Sinking Spring Presbyterian Church Pre-School for their thoughtful, kind help and support. WE ALL SUPPORT OUR PRESCHOOL!! Please sign up on the form on table in Narthex if you would like to support the many Stewardship opportunities at our church.

**GO PAPERLESS WITH YOUR CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS!** We now have the capability to send your contribution statements via email rather than through the U.S. mail. If you would like to help the church be a good steward of its resources and save us the cost of postage, send Donna an email and let her know you would like to "go paperless" with your contribution statement. Those choosing to go paperless will receive a statement quarterly. If we do not hear from you then you will continue to receive your statements via U.S. mail annually.

**SPIRITUAL FORMATION & DISCIPLESHIP**  
**Elders: Danny Wilson & Kate Shockley**

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY:** We are studying the book of Daniel this fall in our Wednesday night Bible study. After being conquered by Nebuchadnezzar the Israelites learned that being a follower of God in Babylon was much different than it was in Jerusalem. The book of Daniel teaches what this difference is. Many scholars and theologians suggest that Christians in America face the same difficult lesson; that we must learn to be Christian differently in a pluralistic culture that no longer revolves around our belief system. We invite you to come explore the book of Daniel on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. in the Church Parlor and see what lessons it holds for us as we train to be disciples of Jesus in a changing world.

**MEET THE BUS!!** Can you spare 30 minutes on Wednesdays? After School is looking for an adult to meet the Abingdon Elementary school bus on Valley Street beside the Library and walk the children to the church for the After School Program. If you'd be willing to help, let Janet McGraw know! christianeducator@sinkingspring.org

**PLASTIC MILK JUG CAPS:** Please save your plastic milk jug caps for a project the children will be doing in After School. You can put your washed caps in the container on the Children's Worship Clipboard table. Thank you!

**ATTENTION WORSHIP OUR WAY VOLUNTEERS:** The Spiritual Formation & Discipleship Committee would like to invite any current leaders/helpers and any folks who are considering joining the W. O. W. team to our meeting on October 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. We want to hear from you to discuss the program and where we would like to take it to the next level! Lots of hands make light and fun work!

**IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH**

**TODAY, Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>**

10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary  
1:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training

**Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup>**

6:30 p.m. Session Meeting

**Tuesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>**

6:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training – Grant Room  
8:00 p.m. AA in Fellowship Hall  
8:00 p.m. Al Anon next to Fellowship Hall

**Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>**

3:00 p.m. After School  
5:00 p.m. Children's Choir  
6:00 p.m. Bible Study  
6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir  
7:30 p.m. Choir

**Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup>**

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study, Shoney's  
6:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry Training – Grant Room  
8:00 p.m. AA in the Fellowship Hall

**Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>**

10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

**STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY**  
**Elders: Danny Brown & John Legard**

**Stewardship & Attendance** for September 13, 2015

Attendance: 151  
Offering: \$8,464.00

**CHURCH BULLETINS** are now available on our website! The link to view is <http://www.sinkingspring.org/worship.html#ws>.

**WE ASK FOR PRAYERS FOR OUR HOMEBOUND MEMBERS:** Mazie Cook, Helen Napps, and Reed Cooke (Commonwealth Assisted Living), Hazel Warden (Abingdon Rehab) and Don Preston

**WE ASK FOR PRAYERS FOR THESE NEW CONCERNS:** Family of Margaret Peters

**WE ASK FOR PRAYERS FOR THESE CONTINUED CONCERNS:** David Thomas, Charles Henninger, Richie Hooker, Sherrye and Robert May, John Nowell and Richard Cano

**AND FOR THESE MEN AND WOMEN IN THE MILITARY:** Joseph McGraw, Nathan McGraw, Mark Widener, Walter Holcomb Jr., John Nowell II, John Nowell III and Dexter Bevis

\*Names remain on the prayer list for 4 weeks unless requested to keep them on longer

**Sinking Spring Presbyterian Church**  
**Organized 1772**

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)



**SINKING SPRING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

136 E. Main St. + Abingdon, VA 24210

Church Office: 276.628.3361

Email: [office@sinkingspring.org](mailto:office@sinkingspring.org)

Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

[www.sinkingspring.org](http://www.sinkingspring.org)

**Ministers: Members & Friends of the Congregation**

**Pastor:** Tim Reynolds [pastor@sinkingspring.org](mailto:pastor@sinkingspring.org)

**Director of Music:** Arch Snyder [agstonsilcoach@gmail.com](mailto:agstonsilcoach@gmail.com)

**Dir. of Christian Ed:** Janet McGraw [christianeducator@sinkingspring.org](mailto:christianeducator@sinkingspring.org)

**Office Administrator:** Donna Hale [office@sinkingspring.org](mailto:office@sinkingspring.org)

**Organist:** Joey Trivette [Joseph.Trivette@sw.edu](mailto:Joseph.Trivette@sw.edu)

**Preschool Director:** Gypsy Holt

**September 20, 2015**