



Sinking Spring Presbyterian Church

136 East Main Street
Abingdon, VA 24210

(276) 628-3361

March 25, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

I am writing to you in advance of our interactive and virtual worship service this Sunday using Zoom. This is certainly an exciting and new experience for us. In order to help us to prepare for Sunday's worship service, I want to provide you with the following information and instructions.

First, to be able to participate in the service you will need to download Zoom to the device that you would like to use. This may be a desktop, a laptop, an iPad, a kindle, a smartphone, etc. You may download Zoom, which is free, one of two ways: 1) download by going to the Zoom website, or 2) download Zoom using the link in the invitation to join a test call or the worship service that I will be sending to you tomorrow.

Here is link for a quick tutorial on You Tube: https://youtu.be/oT_cKqadmCE

Second, tomorrow you will be receiving three Zoom invitations from me. Two of the invitations that you will be receiving are invites and instructions to participate in test calls to make sure that we are comfortable using Zoom before Sunday's worship experience. The third invitation that you will be receiving is the invite and instructions for joining worship on Sunday.

Third, the first test call is scheduled for Friday, March 27th, at 11am. The second test call is scheduled for Saturday, March 28th, at 4pm. Both test calls will be very brief. No more than ten minutes in length. It is not necessary to participate in both test calls. Please choose which test call best fits your schedule and join that call. Of course, it is not necessary for you to participate in a test call to join in worship on Sunday. The test calls are scheduled to help people who are new to Zoom to become comfortable and familiar with the setting. If you are already familiar with Zoom, then you may not want to participate in the test calls.

Fourth, if you are planning to participate in Sunday's Zoom worship service, it would be helpful for you to download a copy of the order of service from the church website. You will be able to download the worship bulletin for our worship service no later than Friday afternoon.

Fifth, please be aware that our church's Zoom subscription allows for up to 100 devices to connect and to join our worship service. Therefore, and if possible, we are asking that couples and families try to join the worship service by gathering around and using one household device. This would allow for more people to join and to participate in our worship experience and service.

Lastly, I am also aware that a Zoom worship experience may not be your cup of tea or that you may have difficulty joining to our Zoom worship service because either you having connectivity issues or the worship service is full and you are unable to join. If that is the case, please know that our worship



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service will be recorded, and a video of our worship service will be posted to the church website on Monday, March 30, 2020.

We are cutting new cloth as a congregation with our Zoom worship service. I am certain that there will be a glitch or two on Sunday. Nonetheless, I am excited that we are doing two things: 1) We are experimenting with a new way to worship that will allow us to be together, to connect by having a shared virtual worship experience during this time of social distancing. 2) We are creating choices. We are creating options for worship. We are paving multiple paths for people to experience the love and grace of Jesus Christ at Sinking Spring Presbyterian Church.

I know that the Coronavirus pandemic is presenting us with some very difficult challenges. Difficulties and obstacles that we never imagined. However, I think those challenges are giving us the opportunity to rediscover what it means to be the Church, the people of Jesus, in new and fresh ways. Indeed, this is an exciting time to be a disciple of Jesus.

I look forward to being with you on Sunday.

In the joy of the Lord, I am faithfully yours,

Rev. Kevin M. Campbell
Interim-Transitional Pastor