

ONLINE

IN-PERSON SUNDAYS @ 10AM & 6PM

POSTED BY

SAT. 5PM



Luke 15:1-10 "Finding Lost Things"

The best thing about being found is knowing God was *looking* for us.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

CEL=Celebration Hymnal GTG=Glory to God Hymnal

OPENING SENTENCE

Luke 15:2 (CEB)

The Pharisees and legal experts were grumbling, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

"As We Gather" by Mike Fay and Tom Comes

PRELUDE

"All Hail the Power of Jesus's Name" arr. Melody Bober

CALL TO WORSHIP

Whether a decision we made

Or a circumstance that overwhelms from an unbearable loss

Or a victory blinding us to our need We might be lost to so much

But God will still be looking for us

SING "What a Fellowship,What a Joy Divine" GTG #837

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us begin with silent prayer...

Holy God, you are always looking for who we are meant to be. You are looking past the masks we hide behind, the words we use for cover, the pasts we we use as excuses, the walls we put up for others, the sins we think might be beyond your grace. Lord, forgive us for not always believing it: nothing is beyond you, nothing remains hidden from you. Help us embrace the truth about ourselves before you. That we might realize once again that you think we are worth looking for. Help us know this about ourselves and each other. May we come to reflect your generosity as enthusiastically as we receive it. Thank you for listening, God. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

God's love can change everything, even the power of our sins over us. And it is God's will that we have this power:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

The Peace of Christ be with you And also with you.

SING

"Gloria Patri"

Glory be to the Father and to the Son And to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning. It is now and ever shall be world without end: Amen, amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

The Word of God doesn't just inform: it reveals. The Word of God doesn't just tell us the truth, it empowers us to live our true path. The Word of God, by God's own Spirit, teaches us to live. Let us be open to this gift of God and ask for help to understand. Let us pray...

PRAY/SING

"We've Come This Far by Faith" GTG #656

We've come this far by faith, Leaning on the Lord, Trusting in the holy Word; God's never failed us yet. O, can't turn around, We've come this far by faith. We've come this far by faith.

Listen closely to the Word of God to us all and our ongoing place in God's story...

READ: Luke 15:1-10 (CEB)

Occasions for Celebration.

All the tax collectors and sinners were gathering around lesus to listen to him. ²The Pharisees and legal experts were grumbling, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." 3 Jesus told them this parable: 4 "Suppose someone among you had one hundred sheep and lost one of them. Wouldn't he leave the other ninety-nine in the pasture and search for the lost one until he finds it? 5 And when he finds it, he is thrilled and places it on his shoulders. 6 When he arrives home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Celebrate with me because I've found my lost sheep.' 7 In the same way, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who changes both heart and life than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need to change their hearts and lives.

⁸ "Or what woman, if she owns ten silver coins and loses one of them, won't light a lamp and sweep the house, searching her home carefully until she finds it? ⁹ When she finds it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Celebrate with me because I've found my lost coin.' ¹⁰ In the same way, I tell you, joy breaks out in the presence of God's angels over one sinner who changes both heart and life."

One: For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us...

All: Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN'S SERMON

"Lost and Found"

ANTHEM "To God Be The Glory"

arr. Cindy Berry

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

SING

SERMON

"God of the Sparrow" GTG #22

"Finding Lost Things"

OFFERING & OFFERTORY

"Glory Bound" by Sally Albrecht and Jay Althouse Soloist: Lora Melton

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly hosts; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

BLESSING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: The Lord be with you. All: and also with you.

Let us pray...

"I Love You, Lord"

CEL #78

I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice, To worship you, O my soul, rejoice! Take joy, my King, in what you hear: May it be a sweet, sweet sound in Your ear.

...Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy

kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

SONG OF SENDING

CEL #434

"Revive Us Again"

SENDING & BENEDICTION

Let us say together the Benediction...

The best thing about being found is knowing God was looking for us.

SING

GTG #765

"May the God of Hope Go with Us"

May the God of hope go with us everyday, Filling all our lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of justice speed us on our way, Bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Praying, let us work for peace; Singing, share our joy with all; Working, for a world that's new, Faithful, when we hear Christ's call.

POSTLUDE

"I Love You, Lord" arr. Douglas E. Wagner



PRAYER CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

The following are prayer concerns & celebrations given to us through email, Prayer Notebook at the entrance, by phone or word of mouth. Please use this list in your prayers through the week.

- Staff of the month: Tom Bowden
- Afghanistan earthquake
- Bennie Covington—health concerns
- Traci Faubel—recovery from hip surgery
- Hawfields Child Care Center
- Gretchen Hayes—emphysema
- HPC Nominating Committee
- Tonya McClain—diagnosed with Lupus
- Shelby Perry—recovery from cancer surgery
- Dwayne Straughan—health concerns
- Helen Thomas—health concerns
- Jane Williamson—health concerns

Our prayers continue for:

Cindy Atkins, Ron & Pat Baugus, Rose Boderck (Liberty Commons, Rm #103), Susan Loy (Alamance House), Kevin Monroe (White Oak Manor), Betty Sykes & Carol Thompson (Compass Health Room, #A-9), Danny Thompson and Pat Webster

THE 2025 SESSION



GUEST READER PARTNERSHIP

We have a wonderful partnership opportunity with the Hawfields Childcare Center to provide guest readers for the children of the center. Check out the link below for more details on the guidelines, classroom size, and age range. This is a win-win situation for both the kids and the readers! Studies show that spending time with children and reading can have amazing benefits for adults too including a calming, shared experience that fosters well-being for both adult and child!

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/ 20F0C4FA5AC2DA3FB6-57564131guest#/

Benefits for the Adult Reader:

Stress Reduction: Reading can lower stress levels, reduce heart rate, and ease muscle tension, leading to a more relaxed state of mind.

Improved Concentration and

Focus: Regular reading strengthens neural networks in the brain, improving memory and the ability to focus.

Enhanced Mental

Stimulation: Reading keeps your brain active, which promotes mental fitness and can be linked to longevity.

Increased Knowledge and Vocabulary: Exposure to different topics and words expands your knowledge base and improves writing abilities.

Greater Empathy and Emotional Connection: Sharing stories with a child fosters empathy and provides a positive focus on the child's intellectual and emotional growth.

Additionally, adults engaging in healthy behaviors with children benefit from better mood, stronger bones and muscles, a lower risk of heart disease, type 2 diabetes, and some cancers, improved brain health, and potentially a longer life.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRIORITY IS FINDING

We teach and talk a LOT about patience. Wait for this. Wait for that. Give it time. Hang in there. Don't be in such a hurry. And these are in fact virtues. But when it comes to those times when we're lost. when we've strayed from the path we should be taking, God is decidedly impatient. When one of us is lost, God leaves the ninety-nine to come find us. When one of us is hidden, God clears the house looking for us. When one of needs to come home, God runs to greet us. As you move through the week, think about which things God wants you to have more impatience. What are some people or situations in which finding at all costs must become your priority?

QUESTIONS AS YOU WORSHIP THIS WEEK

- If God is trying to find you, how long do you think is ok to make God look for you?
- Why does God want to find you?
- Do you think God celebrates when you realize you're found?
- Do you think you are worth finding?

THANK YOU!

Thank you from Presbyterian Women to all of you who provided baked goods for Community Day. It was a very successful sale and helps provide funding for the year.

THANK YOU!

Jimmy Evans would like to thank everyone who sent cards, called, and offered prayers after his recent eye surgery. His recovery is going well and appreciates all the support he's received.

PUMPKIN PATCH IS COMING!

Starting October 4th (less than a month away!) we will unload a literal truckload of pumpkins and other gourds. Once set up, we will be selling the lots in the hopes of not just raising funds but also raising awareness of our congregation.

You can help! You can help unload. You can help run the sale by taking a shift or two (or five). You can post one of signs advertising the sale in your yard. Every small efforts adds up to a lot! You can sign up using the volunteer boards or contact Mandy Ealy for more information.

PUMPKIN PATCH SIGNS

Pumpkin Patch yard signs are here! We would love for you to take one and put it in your yard (or another place you think would be good!). If you would like to help offset the cost of these signs, you may donate \$9 per sign. This is not required! You may pick one up after worship on Sunday or from the church office during the week. Please plan to return it at the end of the pumpkin patch fundraiser.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEED

The Children's Sunday School Class is in need of paper towel tubes. You may give them to Sam Beaudry or Mandy Ealy.

HELPING WITH WORSHIP!

The Session in particular (but all of you, really) are challenged to aid more in the leading of worship. As this effort kicks off again, I completely missed including Elder Morgan Covington as I was supposed to last Sunday. That was MY error and not hers and I do apologize. To the rest of you, please do not let this put you off from helping where you can with reading, praying and otherwise leading.

This week, thanks specifically to Elder Brody Cameron and to Director Danny Yancey for preaching in our services this weekend and for all the folks helping make sure our services unfold as they should. My family and I are taking the opportunity to spend time with my parents while we can. Please do pray for Brody, Danny and the other worship leaders. Thanks, David

FALL READING PLAN

The Fall Bible Reading plan link is listed below and covers the scriptures we use in worship each Sunday, September 7th through-November 23rd. The plan can also be found on our website home page or in the church office. https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/ 88062Ineq0hnw567cmwao/Fall-Sermon-Plan-2025.pdf? rlkey=0cjbys80iixyzcz34dwigh7hs&dl=0

THE STORY OF OUR CHURCH IS WRITTEN IN **OUR** CONNECTIONS

Whether we're talking about history or our ever-emerging present,

God's goal has always been to connect us with God's Spirit and each other. A big way this happens is through our stories. Linking Lives is an opportunity for folks to share their stories and in so doing help link us together with each other. Over the next 12 months, there will be opportunities for us to learn more about and, most importantly, pray for every family in our congregation. We will feature profiles and have times for personal prayer and chatting as well as bi-monthly opportunities for a podcast featuring faith stories (1st week of the month) and/or burning faith questions or theology (3rd week of the month). Invitation letters have already started going out.

YOUTH GROUP MEALS FOR FALL

If you are available to help provide meals for youth group meetings through the fall, please enter the below link into your browser to sign up. A few of our favorite meals include chicken nuggets, pizza, Bojangles, taco bar & subs.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/ 20F0D49AEA82EABFA7-58095792-fall

SAVE THE DATE!

The next Red Cross Blood Drive is scheduled for Saturday, October I Ith. More details and registration information will be announced soon. Save the date and save a life!



Fact: You don't need to know your blood type to donate. All blood types are needed!



Type O blood is most requested by hospitals and is often in short supply.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

This year's Christmas Cantata, "Mary, Did You Know?", will be on Sunday, December 21st during the 10:00 AM worship service. This choir is scheduled to begin rehearsals on Wednesday, September 17th, at 7:15PM. Every Wednesday thereafter we will dive into another fantastic work of art with the intent to celebrate the birth of a King! Please join the Cantata Choir and serve God through music!



THE WEEK AHEAD:

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

9:00 AMYouth Sunday School 9:15 AMCoffee & Treats (F. Hall) 10:00 AMTraditional Worship Service 11:00 AMYouth—Watercolor Workshop 1:30 PMCommunion @ Compass Health 6:00 PMFaith @ Night Service

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

7:00 PM "The Chosen" Bible Study (ED15)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

10:30 AMStaff Meeting & Prayer 4:00 PMManna Market 7:00 PMBoy Scouts Meeting (F. Hall)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

10:00 AMBusy Bees Workshop

1:30 PMHawfields Jammers
5:00 PMLinking Lives Prayer Chat
6:30 PMChoir Rehearsal
6:30 PMNarcotics Anonymous (Fleming)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

9:00 AMCoffee & Prayer @ Habit Coffee 10:00 AMCommunity Life Committee Mtg 6:30 PMAA Meeting (Fleming Room)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

II:00 AMBingo

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

8:00 AM........ Walking Group (church track)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

9:00 AMYouth Sunday School 9:15 AMCoffee & Treats (F. Hall) 10:00 AMTraditional Worship Service 11:00 AMYouth—Games 3:00 PMGirl Scouts Meeting 5:00PMHawfields Community Meal 6:00 PMFaith @ Night Service

BY THE NUMBERS	9/7/25
Giving Budget 2025	\$346,202.00
Gen. Fund YTD	
Needed monthly	\$28,850.17
G.F. Month to Date	
Needed weekly	\$6,657.73
Gen. Fund Last Week	
Building Fund	\$20.00
Youth	\$0.00
Helping Hands Balance	\$145.00

Leadership & Staff

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