

This Month at a Glance

Monday, February 5

5:30 p.m. Constitution Team

Wednesday, February 7

6:30 p.m. Member Care Meeting

Sunday, February 11

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:15 a.m. Sunday School

11:30 a.m. Communications Team

Monday, February 12

5:30 p.m. Executive Committee

6:30 p.m. LMM

Tuesday, February 13

6:30 p.m. Shrove Tue Pancake Supper

Wednesday, February 14

6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service

Sunday, February 18

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:15 a.m. Sunday School

6:00 p.m. Council Meeting

Tuesday, February 20

6:30 p.m. Pub and Pray Event

Wednesday, February 21

6:00 p.m. Lenten Service & Meal

Thursday, February 22

5:30 p.m. Finance Committee

Saturday, February 24

11:00 a.m. LMM Annual Chicken Stew
and WELCA Bake Sale

Sunday, February 25

9:00 a.m. Worship

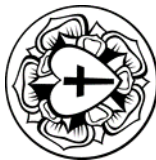
10:15 a.m. Sunday School

11:30 a.m. Acolyte Training

Wednesday, February 28

6:00 p.m. Lenten Service & Meal

Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church
3011 Leaphart Road
West Columbia, SC 29169



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Around the Mountain

MT. HERMON LUTHERAN CHURCH

3011 Leaphart Road, W. Columbia SC 29169

Phone: 803-794-6430

Email: office@mthlc.org



My View From the Mountain

(With Pastor Mary Anderson)

Dear Mt. Hermon Community:

The elected and appointed leaders at Mt. Hermon have been going on an annual retreat for many years to discuss the key needs and opportunities for the congregation in the coming year. This was my first opportunity to attend with this group at our retreat January 26-28. I was really impressed by the dedication of these leaders. Everyone understood that they were expected to attend, and all understood that they would need to cover their own costs. Our church budget

does not provide any funds for this annual retreat. We worked hard. The only free time was after evening prayer at 8:30 pm. So, I offer my thanks to the members of the Council and Call Committee who attended as well as those who came to keep us fed.

This will be such an important year for Mt. Hermon. Y9u are searching for key staff leaders, both a new Pastor and new Director of Music. The long time Pineview Elementary School will be closing in May as it merges and moves to a new site. That

Continued on page 2



Sunday Worship

9:00 a.m.

Sunday School

10:15 a.m. (Classes for all ages)

Lenten Services

6:00 p.m. (Each Wednesday during Lent)

**February
2018**
www.MTHLC.ORG

STAFF AND LEADERSHIP

Interim Pastor

Rev. Dr. Mary Anderson

803-210-5757

mwanderson140@gmail.com

Church Secretary

Catherine M. VanCleave

Sextons

*Ricky Bouknight, Terry & Allison
Swygert*

Congregational Officers

President: *Danny Scott*

V. President: *Terry Swygert*

Secretary: *Alyson Price*

Treasurer: *Emily Morris*

Financial Secretary:

Annette Price

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday

8:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Friday

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

My View From the Mountain (continued from page 1)

will change our neighborhood and cause us to access our own Homework Center as well as other outreach efforts with those school families.

At the retreat we discussed both our congregational assets and liabilities. We spoke of missed opportunities for mission and ministry. We talked about places of conflict and things that are giving us hope and confidence. We did that from 9am to 4:30pm on Saturday. On Sunday morning after worship, we did the hard, yet fruitful, work of determining what our leadership goals would be for 2018. We settled on two. I applaud these goals because one is very internal and practical and the other external and open to the Spirit's guidance.

- Goal 1 is "Getting our Administrative House in Order"
- Updating the Constitution (team is in place and meeting Feb 6)
 - Updating our Parish Records and Archives (team is in place and working)
 - Adjusting our Organizational structure for greater mission (on-going assessment throughout the Spring)

- Goals 2 is "Engaging in Community Conversations"
- Engaging in conversation with our Mt. Hermon leaders who have been deeply involved in the Free Garage Sale and the Homework Center and who have relationships with our neighbors in poverty to determine other ways we might support them in faith and life. (On the March Council agenda)
 - Making use of the information the Call Committee will discover in its required conversations with community leaders. They will report their findings in the March Council meeting following their conversations with the Principal of Pineview Elementary, with the Police department, and with the City of West Columbia. Our questions to these leaders are: What are your needs? How can we help?

I'm excited and honored to be a part of this process with you!

Our Search Team for a Director of Music continues its work and we are in conversation again with a well-qualified candidate. This Spring I continue my work at the Lutheran seminary as their Coordinator for Contextual Education. I'm at the school all day Wednesday this semester and other times as required. As much as possible, I plan to be on site at Mt. Hermon on Tuesdays and Thursdays. My continued thanks for your understanding as I serve in these two positions. Please know that I am always available to you by text or call on my cell phone. Yes, I'm very busy, but you are my business! While I might not be able to attend every meeting or event to which I am invited due to this schedule, your pastoral care concerns will always be responded to as quickly as I am able. Thanks for your continued support, feedback, and prayers.

New to Mt. Hermon?

If you are a newcomer to our congregation, please know that you are most welcome to anything, any time. Pastor Anderson will visit with you and will continue to be in conversation about your journey of faith and life. In addition to that, here is a resource to support your journey and a request to help us build a better platform for the faith formation of those new to Christianity or new to the Lutheran church. (Longtime members, all of this is open to you as well!)

Help us Write a Web Page

We would like to create a pilot page on our website called "New to Mt. Hermon." The purpose of this page is to provide a digital spot for newcomers to visit and find resources to help them grow in their faith. This page could have short videos to watch, things to read and questions to reflect on. Pastor Anderson wants to hear about what might be most helpful to those entering our community from non-Christian or non-Lutheran backgrounds. Contact Pastor if you'd like to be a partner in this effort!



Mt. Hermon's LCY Service Project

As a service project for our church, the LCY will be cleaning out and organizing the Kitchen. Please support this cause with your monetary donations. We will be collecting funds from

February 4—March 4

Please drop your donations in the LCY Mailbox in the breezeway or see a youth advisor.

Thanks for your support!



Homebound and Care Facility Members

Pearl Dennis
Margie Hook
Lib Swygert

William & Lois Watson
Lena Wessinger

Mt. Hermon Members

Alberta Berry
Hazel Bockus
Jimmy Bouknight
Connie Bucknam
Nell Buff
David Butts, III
Shirley Cooper
The Family of James Corley
Lynwood Crout
Jerry Ellisor

Georgianna Gray
Marie Kleckley & Family
Betty Lindler
Dot Mathias
Jerry Price, III
Grace Roof
Glenn Smith
Cyndi Thurman
Mike Watford

Family and Friends

The Family of Lisa Hydinger (Catt/Bucknam)
The Bledsoe Family (Wattenbarger)
Jim & Vickie Burcham (Thurman)
Scott Coleman (Thurman)
Jason Thurman (Thurman)
Thomas Riley (Shirley Riley)
Brian Thompson (Joel Price, Jr.)
Megan Sease (Earl & Mary F. Sease)
Patrick Cunningham (Abby Dugan)
Aurora Schmitt (Abby Dugan)
Bonnie Parshall (Abby Dugan)
Charles Aull (Jay Corley)

Chip Wilson (Ryan Price)
Mike Merck (Ellisor)
Richie Tallent (Danny Scott)
Kathryn & Don Bergeron (Bucknam)
Stephanie Johnson (Jennifer Miller)
W.A. "Buddy" Keller (Marion & Cyndi)
Ben Nicholson (Karen Nicholson)
Rose Little (Marie Kleckley)
Tressa Oswalt (Angie Hydrick)
Matthew Price (Angie Hydrick)
Jimmy Mills (Tommy Mills)
Nellie Gantt (Mary Price)

February 5, 1966

Earl & Mary Frances Sease

February 17, 1979

Jim & Kathy Whitaker

If you would like to add a birthday or anniversary to our list or if there is a correction to be made, please contact the church office at 803-794-6430 or office@mthlc.org



Welcome to our New Members!

On January 14th, we celebrated the baptism of Sophie Amber Martin, daughter of Thomas and Danni Martin. Sophie's baptismal sponsors were Paul and Sarah Ramsey Smith, who are amazingly, longtime friends of the Martins and of Pastor Anderson. We also welcomed by Affirmation of Baptism,

Amanda Maria Smith. Amanda is the granddaughter of Marie Kleckley and the late Rev. Voight Kleckley. She came to Mt. Hermon as a young child with her grandparents and has come to know many folks here. She was a member of Incarnation Lutheran in Columbia during her younger years along with her mother and was confirmed there. She is now employed by Security Realty and is a big tennis fan and supporter of several community festivals around Columbia. Welcome Amanda and Sophie! We are a new congregation because you are here!



Communication Updates

Website Update

We are working on our website to improve it as a welcoming place for members, friends, and newcomers. Our hope is that it will not only be full of information about events and activities, but even more, a place where people can go to deepen their faith, to learn and to grow. As an example of what we mean by that, read the article, "New to Mt. Hermon." We encourage everyone to visit the website on a regular basis to see what's new and to make your suggestions. www.mthlc.com.

Come Follow Us on Twitter!

Mt. Hermon now has a Twitter page to share all of the wonderful events happening in our church. Follow us at @mthermon_church. Feel free to tag us in your photos of church happenings or email/text Devona Price with any events you would like her to post on the page. Most importantly, log on and follow us. The more followers we have, the more we can share the good news about our amazing church!

Devona Price's contact information:

Cell #: 803.201.9639

Email: jzplong@yahoo.com

Congregational Survey – Coming Your Way!

Before the month is out, we anticipate the distribution of a survey to everyone in the congregation that will help us accomplish several things. The Records and Archives Team, the Communication Team, and the Council all have questions for you. These will range from updating contact information, to asking how you prefer to receive information from the church, to questions about ways you feel equipped and called to serve the church and community. So, stay tuned!

Jesus Dollars for Toby's House

Brayden Rutherford, an elementary-school student and member of Mt. Hermon, has Council's approval to raise money for Toby's Place in a fun and engaging way. Brayden will be sharing more about this project on some Sunday mornings in February and March. Toby's Place is a new homeless shelter in Columbia serving women and children. It is sponsored by Oliver Gospel Mission, an agency that has been serving homeless men in Columbia for over 127 years. The number of homeless women, with and without children, is silently growing.

Did you know 6500 Families are on the waiting list for housing in Richland County?

Did you know the typical homeless family consists of a single mother with 2 children?

Did you know more than 11,072 of SC's children experience homelessness each year?

Did you know among homeless women, 60% have children under 18?

Here's how Brayden wants to encourage his congregation to support Toby's Place. He wants to use **J-Dollars!**

When you come to church, look at the \$1 bills in your wallet.

Check the serial number on those dollar bills.

If the letter J is on a dollar bill, that's a **J for Jesus!**

Take those J Dollars out and put them in the basket in the Narthex on the way out of church.

We'll collect these **J Dollars** during the 40 Days of Lent and send in one big contribution to Toby's Place on Easter.

***Thanks to Brayden for this great idea to support
the hidden homeless in our community.***

Honoring Our Neighbor's Faith is a great and very accessible book that has 32 little chapters all dedicated to describing the history and theology of a particular Christian denomination or a world religion. At the end of each chapter, they compare that faith community to the Lutheran Church, so you can see where they are similar or different. This is a helpful beginning to answer very common questions about the differences between faith groups. Pastor Anderson has five copies of this resource that you may either borrow or purchase from the church.



February 13 ~ Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras!

*On this last day before Lent (Mardi Gras)
we'll celebrate a last hurrah before the
Lenten fast begins.*

Join us on February 13 at 6:30 p.m. for a fun
night of pancakes, sausage & jazz music.
Following dinner, we will burn our palms in
preparation for Ash Wednesday Worship on
February 14 at 6:30 p.m.

The Season of Lent

The 40 Days of Lent begin on Ash Wednesday, February 14th, this year. Easter is April 1st. We will begin this season with our most solemn service of the year on Ash Wednesday at 6:30pm. On each of the Wednesdays in Lent we will come together as a worshiping community using another liturgy out of the Holden Village Community in Washington state. We will use one of the liturgies from the collection, "Prayers Around the Cross." This is a service that occurs in near darkness and calls worshipers to light candles as they pray around the wooden cross. We will use the liturgy "A Heart of Flesh" which is a prayer for renewal and mercy based on Ezekiel 36 and Psalm 51.

Worship will begin each week at 6:00pm. An evening meal will follow in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30pm.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

"Pub and Pray" Event

Tuesday, February 20 at 6:30 p.m.

Location: British Bulldog Pub

(1220 Bower Pkwy, Columbia 29212)



Mt. Hermon members and friends are invited to gather for food, drink, fun & Bible Trivia with Pastor Anderson. We will have a semi-private room and will have a limited menu. If you have questions, please contact Alyson Price or Pastor Anderson. All are welcome. Bring your friends, co-workers, and neighbors.



Ash Wednesday Service

**February 14
6:30 p.m.**

Wednesday Lenten Service & Meal

**6:00 p.m.
February 21 and 28
March 7, 14, 21**

From the Mt. Hermon Call Committee

The Call Committee has had numerous meetings working on our required Congregational Profile for South Carolina Synod. We have researched our local demographics for our church and our community. Also, we have to conduct 5 interviews with people in positions of knowledge about our community and Mt. Hermon. We are in that phase of interviews at this time.

At our congregational meeting with the Bishop, we were advised we would not be getting any names until late January or early February. We have meetings scheduled with church council, call committee and Bishop Yoos for Sunday February 18. We should know more after that meeting as to future direction. I am sure our pace will increase as soon as we receive names and final input from the Bishop and church council.

Thanks
Ronnie Fulmer
Chair Call Committee

2018 Mt. Hermon Directory



**The 2018 Directory of
Members and Annual Reports &
Guidelines will be available for
pick up on Sunday,
February 18 for pick up.**

Fourteenth Annual LMM Chicken Stew and WELCA Bake Sale

Growing on Holy Ground

**Saturday, February 24
11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

\$7.00 per plate or \$9.00 per quart
eat in or take out
advanced ticket purchase desired



**You are invited to the WELCA
All Women's Meeting on**

Sunday, February 11 from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

Special program and refreshments provided

Monthly Servers

Council Representative:David Marsh

Altar Guild:Ann Addy, Diane Boulware, Annette Price

Tabulators:Angie Hydrick, Buddy Hydrick, Kay Little, Jo Leach, Linda Waters-Hamilton

Ushers:Jamie Addison, David Marsh, Al Stevens, Dennis Thurman

Weekly Servers

Sunday, February 4

Altar Flowers: The Mills Family

Greeter: Faye Sox

Lector: Mary Price

Ch. Sermon: Diane Boulware

Acolytes: Karly Addy & Mitch Stevens

Nursery: Grace Roof, Karen Nicholson

Sunday, February 18

Altar Flowers: Bryan & Missy Addy

Greeter: Herb Bucknam

Lector: Joel Price, Jr.

Ch. Sermon: Daryl Leigh Anthony

Acolytes: Jacob Marsh & Skyler Miller

Nursery: Grace Roof, Jamie Allen & Alyson Price

Sunday, February 11

Altar Flowers: Joel & Devona Price

Greeter: June Roof

Lector: Terry Swygert

Ch. Sermon: Mary Koon

Acolytes: Joshua Koon & Alyssa Stevens

Nursery: Grace Roof, Larry Amick & Kay Bryant

Sunday, February 25

Altar Flowers: Wayne & Sheila Eargle

Greeter: Bobby Carver

Lector: Scottie Marsh

Ch. Sermon: Sheila Eargle

Acolytes: Bryce Addy & Jackson Price

Nursery: Grace Roof, Parker & Diane Boulware

Wednesday Pantry Volunteers

A.M. Hours: 9 to 11 a.m.
P.M. Hours: 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.
February 7 A.M.—Angie Hydrick
P.M.—James Hallman
February 14 A.M.—Faye Sox
P.M.—Jo Leach
February 21 A.M.—Diane Boulware
P.M.—Marie Kleckley
February 28 A.M.—Angie Hydrick
P.M.—Barbara Corley



Wednesday Morning Pantry
Volunteers Needed!!

If you can assist with our community food pantry on Wednesday mornings from 9 to 11 a.m. please contact Angie Hydrick. Thank you!

Acolyte Training

Sunday, February 25 at 11:30 a.m.

All those wishing to be trained as acolytes, as well as those currently serving as acolytes, are asked to attend the training session. A lunch of pizza will be provided.