

# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

August 2021



## **Are you hungry? Are you thirsty?**

*Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. John 6:35"*

Pentecost was the establishment of the church and the beginning of our duty to worship God as this community. It's August and we are in the middle of the Time after Pentecost. We continue to learn and grow as disciples, we continue in this season, and we realize it is the perfect time for us to deepen our faith and commitment to God.

Worship is about God. It is not about the pastor, the director of music, nor is it about the choir. Worship is about the community worshipping God together. God is the center of our worship. When we worship as a community, it is important for as many of God's children to be involved in worship as possible. As we have re-opened and worship is back to the way we worshipped in January 2019, your involvement is needed. Don't wait to be asked, volunteer to be involved in leading God's people in worship! Sign up in the breezeway. Send an email or phone the church office to volunteer to be a part of worship. Where is God calling you to be involved in worship? Lectors, ushers, greeters, acolytes, crucifers, choir members, handbell ringers, sound operators, and video operators, etc. We worship to return thanks to God. Giving of ourselves, our talents, and our possessions is part of our worship and our offerings to God.

On August 1<sup>st</sup>, the gospel lesson ends with John 6:35. The next Sunday, on August 8<sup>th</sup>, the gospel repeats the ending verse: John 6:35. John 6:35 is our theme verse for Mt. Hermon. Because we are truly hungry, thirsty, and seek him and we are fed by Him.

Come to worship. Come to team meetings. Come and serve because we are thirsty, and we seek to serve God. Gather with Jesus followers where we are fed and be sent into the world.

Sister in Christ,

**Pastor Gina**

Remember to join FaceBook Live (or through [www.WeAreMtHermon.com](http://www.WeAreMtHermon.com)) for nightly devotions at 6:35 pm.

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Sunday August 8, is our outing at Palmetto Athletic Center immediately after church. I want to thank Erica Conklin for making this possible! As a frequent visitor to our church, she has reached out to help and I am so excited to see this kind of enthusiasm!

As we move into the fall and actually throughout the year, I would like to challenge our ministry teams to join forces and make greater things happen. We are not individual units, but a community of families and we are all working for the same goal(s). The fellowship that comes from being together makes the work so much lighter. Let's keep Mt. Hermon growing in size and spirit! We have a lot planned so come out, reach out, and support every chance you get. The blessings will flow!

Please look at your calendars for more upcoming events.



Joy in Christ!

Ruthie

## **REMINDER:**

**Candlelight Dinner, July 31 at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall**

**Proceeds support Funds for the Arts.**

**This Dinner features Ruthie and Ryan.**

**Original songs and a "Mullins Review."**

**Wear your Hawaiian shirts!**

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## Business of the Community

### **Congregational Council Minutes - June 13, 2021**

**ATTENDANCE:** All were present

**CARES AND CONCERNS:** Praying for Jenny Scott's son Ross and daughter-in-law Lindsay carrying baby to term with severe birth defects who isn't expected to survive, Buddy Hydrick who completed chemotherapy and radiation, Buddy Hydrick's cousin David, Sheila Starkey's sister Pam, and Mary Frances Sease.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:** Approved with no additions

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES:** Approved with no corrections

### **REPORTS:**

- Pastor Gina: Written report received. Mt. Hermon has received 25 new members since Pastor Gina was installed in October 2018. Memorial Day service held on May 31, 2021. Samantha Bucknam will be recognized on June 27<sup>th</sup> as a high school graduate. Pastor Gina will teach an adult class during Vacation Bible School July 20-22.
- Treasurer: No written report due to Parker out of town with no internet service.
- Financial Secretary: Written report received for May 2021 but April's report not included. We will ask Annette to provide for July council meeting. Mother's Day bulletin collected \$750.00 and Father's Day bulletin \$415.

### **Team Reports/Recommendations:**

**Worship:** Written report received from April 27<sup>th</sup> meeting but not May 25<sup>th</sup> meeting. A new hymnal supplement, "All Creation Sings" will be used in worship services. Ruthie would like to have two summer candlelight concerts in the Fellowship Hall but they will not be live streamed.

**Outreach:** Written report received from April and May Zoom meetings. The Red Cross changed the date of our next blood drive to August 1<sup>st</sup> from 11:30 AM to 4 pm. The Food Pantry received a donation of Bibles to share with families and also a donation of frozen food. The Free Garage Sale will be held Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> and the Angel Tree gift distribution will be held on Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to everyone who donated their time and energy for the Adopt-A-Highway cleanup and another one is scheduled for August 21<sup>st</sup>. The Outreach Team presented their new brochure for Mt. Hermon to Church Council for approval. Church Council reviewed the brochure and discussed corrections and changes to be made to the brochure. Church Council asks Outreach Team to address our recommendations and bring the revised brochure back to Church Council for approval.

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## OLD BUSINESS:

1. Building Renovation & Repair Task Force: Our church received an anonymous gift of a lawn mower. Task Force has met and is brainstorming a list of repairs and renovations to bring to Church Council.
2. Health & Safety Task Force: Members of the task force will be recognized and thanked for their time during church service on June 20<sup>th</sup>.
3. Synod Convention: Pastor Gina, Terry and Allison Swygert will be our representatives on June 26<sup>th</sup>.

## NEW BUSINESS:

1. Director of Music, Live Streaming Research: Proposal to create a second check and line item in budget to be distributed monthly for Live Streaming research. Discussion by council felt that this was too confusing in the budget and all monies paid to Ruthie should be listed together as her salary in the budget. Motion made to leave Ruthie's salary as one line item of \$24,000 in the budget. **APPROVED**
2. Next meeting in person in Fellowship Hall on July 18<sup>th</sup> with devotions by Blake Allen

Robin Ellisor, Council Secretary

## Treasurer Report June 2021

	<u>Actual Income</u>	<u>Actual Expenses</u>	<u>Difference</u>
<b>Current &amp; Benevolence</b>	110,482.76	108,290.32	2,192.44
<b>Building Improvement</b>	14,553.53	8,604.34	5,949.19
<b>Building on Holy Ground</b>	28,011.45	30,000.00	(1,988.55)



### Live Stream Check-ins + In-person = Total

July 4 <sup>th</sup>	76	+	55	<b>131</b>
July 11 <sup>th</sup>	59	+	64	<b>123</b>
June 18 <sup>th</sup>	67	+	79	<b>132</b>
June 25 <sup>th</sup>	62	+	75	<b>139</b>

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## Living in the Community

Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church Family,  
Thank you so so so much for the personalized Bible! I am so blessed to have received it. Thank you so much for all of the love and support throughout the years!

Forever Thankful, *Samantha Bucknam*



Mt. Hermon LCY,  
Thank you so much for the \$50 gift card and balloon! I can assure you that it will be put to good use. Thank you all so much for the continuous love and support!

Forever Thankful, *Samantha Bucknam*

### Discovery on Adventure Island VBS – is a wrap!



We found all the Infinity Lanterns and had a great time doing so! We learned more about being that light for Jesus and met many new friends and faces this year. God is so good! **THANK YOU** to everyone involved! There are so many people responsible for making VBS a success and I appreciate each and every one of you. VBS is such a special week, and we are so thrilled we were able to have it this year! Now go and **BE THAT LIGHT!**

*Daryl Leigh Anthony*, TEACH Team Chair

### Fine Arts Ministry for Kids Kick-Off – August 8

Sunday, August 8 at 10:30 am at Palmetto Athletic Center.

The address is 1193 N. Lake Dr. in Lexington. All children ages 3-12

Welcome! Bring a friend or (2)!



### Eagle Scout Court of Honor – August 14 – Jackson Price

You are invited to attend the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Jackson Z Price on August 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:00. Reception to follow in the Fellowship Hall. Please rsvp to Joel Price at 803.479.0721 or [jzplong@yahoo.com](mailto:jzplong@yahoo.com)



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## Blessing of Backpacks – August 15



During worship, we will be blessing the students and all those involved in the education of our students as they prepare to return to school. Students, bring your backpacks, lunchbox, musical instrument, soccer ball, cleats, etc. for a special blessing. We will send you into the school year to be the light of Christ.

## School Supply Drive – until August 15

You have an opportunity to help local students get the supplies they need for school. We will be collecting school supplies through **Sunday, August 15** to be distributed to local schools for their students in need. Please place donated supplies in the box labeled school supplies located in the Education Building.

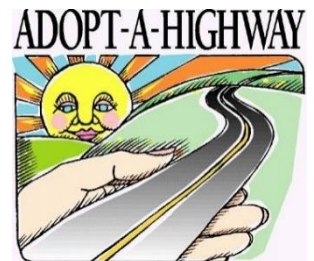
The supplies needed:

- Bookbags
- Earbuds, headphones,
- Wide rule notebook paper
- Composition notebooks
- Pencils, Pencil Pouches



## Adopt-A- Highway – August 21

Please make plans to help with the next Adopt-a-Highway, **Saturday, August 21**. Meet at 9:00 in the church parking lot. We work together to pick up the trash on a two mile stretch of Leaphart Road. **Many hands make light work**. Trash bags and safety vests are provided.



## American Red Cross Blood Drive – August 22

Mt. Hermon will host another Blood Drive on **Sunday, August 22** from 11:30 – 4:00pm. (Please note the date change.) Please make plans to donate if you are able. **The blood you donate could save someone's life.** If you are unable to donate, but would like to help with the event, please contact Laura Stevens. We need volunteers to help the day of the event. We also need everyone to spread the word and invite others to donate blood.



# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

## Dementia Through the Lens of Grace – August 29

### Community Education Speakers

The Outreach Team is interested in sponsoring some Community Education Events this year. Last Spring, Covid caused us to postpone the session on Dementia. We are excited to announce that we have been able to reschedule **Dementia Through the Lens of Grace** for **Sunday, August 29 at 4:00pm**. Bishop Carder will be leading this discussion. Bishop Kenneth Carder is a retired Methodist Bishop and Author of Ministry with the Forgotten. He shares insights he learned as he loved his wife through her battle with dementia. If you have a particular topic that we would be interested in learning more about, please let a member of the Outreach Team know.



## Food Truck – October 1



Mt. Hermon's 1<sup>st</sup> annual "being fed by a Food Truck" will be on October 1<sup>st</sup> in the church parking lot. This event will support Mt. Hermon's Funds for the Arts. There will be events for children and food for all ages. It will be a wonderful time to join with friends and neighbors in the church parking lot. More events and details to come.

## Trunk or Treat – October 30

Mt. Hermon will host a **Trunk or Treat** event for the congregation and the community. The event is planned to be from 5:00 – 7:00pm. Please make plans to participate and decorate your car for this event.



## Food Pantry – every Wednesday and Saturday 9:00 – 11:00



Our Food Pantry business is booming again. We are serving over a hundred families each month. Some of the most needed items in addition to food are **children's diapers, baby wipes and laundry detergent**. These are some of the



items that are not covered by Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The list of food and toiletries that we normally distribute is on the church website. If you can add any of these to your grocery list and drop them by the church, we will share them with those in need. **We are grateful to all who continue to give to make this ministry possible.**

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## Outreach Team Members



If you are interested in being involved in any of the outreach ministries, please let either Pastor Gina or an Outreach Team Member know. We would love to have your help. The Outreach Team members are: Laura Stevens, Mitch Stevens, Angie Hydrick, Allison Swygert, Jenny Scott, Sheila Starkey, Eric Carroll, Laura Carroll, Mike Rawl, Leah Rawl, Nancy Addison, Lynn Bouknight, Jo Leach, Mary Koon, Pastor Gina and Diane Boulware, chair.



**Aug 01**

Nancy Addison

Laura Carroll

**Aug 02**

Allison Swygert

**Aug 08**

Dianne Watford

**Aug 14**

Tiffany Kaylor

**Aug 17**

Kay Little

**Aug 20**

Doris Carver

**Aug 21**

Teddy Koon

**Aug 23**

Skyler Miller

**Aug 24**

Brayden Rutherford

**Aug 25**

Sam Koon

**Aug 26**

Wynne Price

Danny Scott

**Aug 27**

Jason Addy

Noah Swygert

**Aug 28**

Hayden Eargle

**Aug 06**

Tommy & Kelli Mills

**Aug 19**

Marvin & Gabrielle Bouknight

**Aug 20**

Johnny & Marie Lewis

**Aug 23**

Tom & June Roof

**Aug 24**

Noah & Cassie Swygert

We would love to keep our calendar up to date with your special occasions, but we need your help. If your birthday or anniversary is missing, please give us a call or email us at [office@wearemthermon.com](mailto:office@wearemthermon.com)



# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

## Praying in the Community

*\*Family of Margie Hook*

### **Continual Prayers**

Patricia Bachman, *Generations, Batesburg*

Alberta Berry, *home*

Hazel Bockus, *Lex Med*

Lyle Bockus, *Springdale Home*

Nell Buff, *OPUS*

Gennar Kiser, *home*

Rev. Everette Price, *home*

June Roof, *Rapha*

Tom Roof, *home*

Lena Wessinger, *Presby. Home*

### **Members in Special Need of Prayer**

Buddy Hydrick, *Lex Med*

Jo Leach

Jane Sexton

Jimmy Maddox, *Lex Med*

Jerry Price III

### **Family and Friends Who Have Requested Our Prayers**

Grayson Dykes, *friend of Angie Hydrick*

Martha Eastwood, *sister of Marie Kleckley*

David Hydrick, *cousin of Buddy Hydrick*

Debbie Smith & family, *niece of Dennis & Cyndi Thurman*

Charlotte & Paul Nelson, *friends of Herb Bucknam*

Richard Lindler, *friend of Marion & Cyndi Leaphart*

Robert Lindler, *father of Cassie Swygert*

Bob Eastwood, *brother-in-law of Marie Kleckley*

Molly Kate Shealy, *friend of Jean Shealy*

Chuck Bachman, *nephew of Jean Shealy*

Dawn McIlwain-Merck, *friend of Robin Ellis*

Gary & Linda Hodgins, *friends of Herb Bucknam*

Tressa Oswald, *sister of Angie Hydrick*

Don Freeman, *friend of Marion & Cyndi Leaphart*

Jessica Drigger's mother, *friend of Denise Thurman*

Iris Wellborn, *sister of Earl Sease*

Bill Harrell, *friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price*

Richie Tallent, *friend of Danny Scott*

Mandy McLemore, *co-worker of Amanda Boyd, Kim Addy, & Alyson Price*

John Catoe, *family of Ellisors*

Dr. Kay Moore, *friend and co-worker of Cyndi Leaphart*

Thomas McDonald, *son-in-law of Joel and Cindy Price*

Cindy Maples, *mother of Jennifer Miller*

Todd and Heidi Hills Grove, *nephew of Herb Bucknam*

Pam Layman, *sister of Sheila Starkey*

Carter Miller, *great-grandson of Mary and Wynne Price*

*\*Billy Keefe, Sr., Kim Addy's granddad*

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## Serving in the Community August 2020

**COUNCIL REP:** Sheila Starkey

**ALTAR GUILD:** Ann Addy, Diane Boulware, Annette Price

**TABULATORS:** Diane Boulware, Linda Waters-Hamilton, Ann Addy

**USHERS:** \*call the church office

<u>Altar Flowers</u>		<u>Greeter</u>	
1	Nancy Addison	1	*
8	Tommy and Kelli Mills	8	*
15	Andrea Bowers	15	*
22	Terry and Allison Swygert	22	*
29	**** <b>OPEN</b> ****	29	*
<u>Acolyte</u>		<u>Crucifer</u>	
1	*	1	*
8	*	8	*
15	Brayden Morris	15	Lawson Morris
22	Mackenzie Burns	22	*
29	*	29	Matt Hansen
<u>Lector</u>		<u>Children's Sermon</u>	
1	Danny Scott	1	*
8	*	8	*
15	*	15	*
22	*	22	*
29	Matt Hansen	29	Matt Hansen
<u>Communion Assistants</u>		<u>Nursery Workers</u>	
1	Danny Scott, Marion Leaphart	1	*
8	*	8	*
15	*	15	*
22	*	22	*
29	Matt Hansen, Marion Leaphart	29	*

**\* Call the church office to sign up for this way to serve during worship.**

# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

## August 2021

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Sunday School	2 10:00 AM Staff Meeting	3 2:00 PM Exercise class 6:00 PM Executive committee	4 9:00 AM Food Pantry (Frank and Bonnie Bouknight, Andrea Bowers)	5 2:00 PM Exercise class	6 9:00 AM Food Pantry (Lynn Bouknight and Karen Nicholson)
8 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Children's Fine Arts Ministry 6:00 PM Council Meets	9 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Lutheran Men meeting	10 2:00 PM Exercise class	11 9:00 AM Food Pantry (Annette Price, Ann Bouknight, and Sharon Keefe)	12 2:00 PM Exercise class	13 9:00 AM Food Pantry (Parker and Diane Boulware) 14 4:00 PM Eagle Scout Ceremony
15 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Sunday School	16 10:00 AM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Outreach Team (conf room)	17 2:00 PM Exercise class	18 9:00 AM Food Pantry (Diane Boulware and Mary Frances Sease)	19 2:00 PM Exercise class	20 9:00 AM Food Pantry (Koon Family) 21 9:00 AM Adopt-A-Highway
22 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Sunday School 11:30 AM FH: Blood Drive	23 10:00 AM Staff Meeting	24 2:00 PM Exercise class 5:00 PM FH Oakwood Commons Homeowners	25 9:00 AM Food Pantry (Frank and Bonnie Bouknight, Andrea Bowers)	26 2:00 PM Exercise class 6:00 PM Worship Team	27 9:00 AM Food Pantry (Terry and Allison Swygert, Laura Carroll)
29 FH: Dementia Presentation 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Sunday School 4:00 PM Dementia: Lens of Grace	30 10:00 AM Staff Meeting	31 2:00 PM Exercise class	Sep 1	2 2:00 PM Exercise class	3 4

\*\*\*Please see "calendar of events" at WeAreMtHermon.com for updates.\*\*\*



*Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church*  
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 WEST COLUMBIA, S.C. 29169

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 COLUMBIA, SC

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Rev. Gina D Metze, Pastor	803.951.3784	PastorGina@WeAreMtHermon.com
Ruthie Brannen, Director of Music		Ruthie@WeAreMtHermon.com
Lisa Crouch, Parish Administrator		office@WeAreMtHermon.com
Matt Hansen, Seminarian		Matthew.Hansen@my.lr.edu

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 West Columbia, SC 29169  
 803.794.6430  
 Monday, Wednesday – Friday  
 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

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