

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

March 2023



POST-COVID BUSY

*⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.*

*⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.*

*⁶The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.*

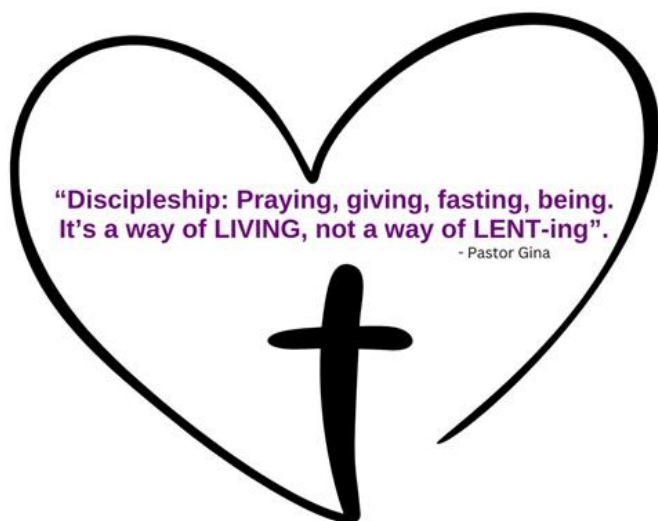
*⁷The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.*

During the covid-19 shutdown, it seems that many of us, reevaluated what was important and many of us decided to take away some of the distractions in our lives. We asked questions like: Do we really need to sign up for all these sports teams? Do we need to constantly be involved and participating every night in an extra activity? OR can we perhaps select one activity that we enjoy and just do that one?

Personally, I asked many of those same questions about my life and about my extra activities. I was focused and aware in the first months as the world began to get back to normal. I must admit, I have become busy and have lost my focus on those things that I had deemed important and center of who I was. Perhaps you have become “Post Covid busy” too.

During this season of Lent, we will focus on “being still” and “listening to God” for his directions to us in his world. Lent worship will include times of quiet reflection and repetitive, chanting, thought provoking singing.

Come and journey to the cross with our Lord as we pray, give, fast, and be.



Sister in Christ,

Pastor Gina

#3011LeaphartRoad

#WeAreMtHermon

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS



A big thank you to the LCY Youth who helped the regular team successfully complete the Leaphart Road Adopt-A-Highway pick-up on February 11th.

Mt Hermon Lutheran Men Chicken Stew

Saturday, March 4th. 11am-2pm in fellowship hall. Plates include chicken stew, coleslaw, pickles, and bread. Plates are \$7 and quarts of chicken stew is \$9. You make take out or eat in the fellowship hall. Advanced tickets are preferred. See any of the Lutheran Men or Women. If you have any questions contact Wynne Price, Joel Price, Sr., or Ronnie Fulmer.



If you are interested or signed up to Bake for the Bake Sale in conjunction with the Lutheran Men chicken stew, please have baked items in the fellowship hall by Saturday March 4 @ 10:00 am for pricing and placing. Thank you for participating!

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

CHURCH COUNCIL HAPPENINGS

Motion from the February Council meeting

In February council minutes:

- The Support Team recommends that a camera, monitor, and doorbell be purchased and installed in the Education Building. The camera would be mounted so it is facing the interior Education Wing doors near the office. A monitor is to be installed in the nursery and a doorbell is to be installed outside the nursery door so that a parent may notify the nursery that they are ready to pick up their child. Funding to come from the Building Improvement Fund and the anticipated cost is \$200. **PASSED**

**CHURCH COUNCIL
HIGHLIGHTS**

Congregational Council Minutes January 20, 2023

ATTENDANCE: Absent – Mary Koon

CARES AND CONCERNS: Cyndi Leaphart's friend, Shawanda Williams, who has both Type I and Type II diabetes, Thomas and Nichole McDonald, Sheila Starkey's sister-in-law, Linda Starkey, and her family at the death of her husband, Hayes Cooper who is back in the hospital, and Pastor Gina's neighbor, Susan.

MEMBER CARE: Easton Donaldson who had another febrile seizure.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Accepted with the following changes: Add Parsonage Update to Unfinished Business and Finance Committee Chair and Pastor's Report to New Business.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Minutes for December 2022 were accepted as presented.

REPORTS:

- Pastor Gina: No written report was submitted.
- Treasurer: Budget Report and Treasurer's Report for December 2022 were submitted.
- Financial Secretary: Funds Report for December 2022, Fourth Quarter Report for 2022, and Yearly Report for 2022 were submitted.

Team Reports/Recommendations:

Team for Ministry: No report submitted

Care: No report submitted

Outreach: No report submitted

Support: Written report submitted

Finance: See below

Teach: No report submitted.

Worship: Written report submitted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Stephen Price Scholarship Update – A student with Saxe Gotha ties may have entered the seminary for the Spring semester, which means he/she will qualify to receive the scholarship over Ben Bernstein, the current recipient. This matter will stay on the agenda under Unfinished Business until we receive more information.

2. Parsonage Update – Ben and Erica Stogner and their child moved into the parsonage on January 15. Ben is the music minister at Green Hill Baptist Church. In preparation for their move-in date, Jeff Price and his crew replaced all exterior lights, installed a motion sensor light under the carport and a security light in the backyard, and a handrail was installed on the steps under the carport.

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 2022 Year in Finances – Reports were submitted by the Treasurer and Financial Secretary.
2. Finance Team Minutes – The Finance Team recommends that the Building Fund money be used only to pay the mortgage, for major capital improvements, or new construction. **PASSED**
3. **Tabled motion from last month. MOTION TO PAY THE EXTRA PAYMENTS**
The Finance Team recommends that we authorize the Treasurer to pay an additional \$20,000 toward the loan principal immediately with funds from the Building Fund. This will leave approximately \$25,000 (sufficient to cover five months of payments) in the Building Fund. **PASSED**
4. 2023 Council Meeting Date and Time – A motion was made to move the Council Meeting time to following Sunday School (approximately 11:30am) on the second Sunday of the month. **PASSED**
5. 2023 Mission Plan, Council Motions 2019-Present, Next Month Devotions and Lock Up – Please include these papers in your Council notebook.
6. Finance Chair – Marion Leaphart is the Finance Chair and Frankie Jackson is on the committee. Since Marion is not on Church Council, he does not have a box in the office to receive information so one will be created for him.
7. Pastor's Report – Pastor Gina will be in Disney World February 3-10, 2023. Dallas Shealy will preach the sermon and a service leader will be determined.
8. Next Meeting: Sunday, February 12, 2023
9. Next Month's Devotions and Lock Up – Sheila Eargle

Sheila Eargle, Council Secretary

ATTENDANCE REPORT

	<u>In-person</u>	<u>Live Streaming</u>	<u>Total</u>
February 5	93	74	167
February 12	82	83	165
February 19	107	74	181
February 26	109	64	173

TREASURER REPORT

Year to Date January 2023

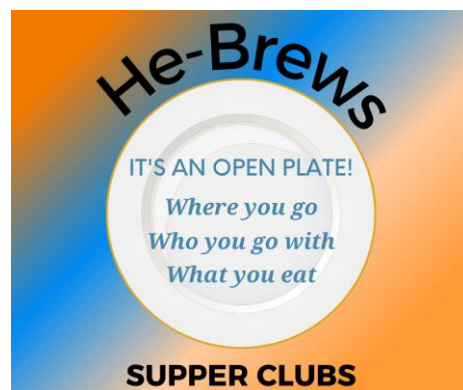
	<u>Actual</u> <u>Income</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>Expenses</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Current & Benevolence	\$29,014.54	\$16,735.66	\$12,278.88
Building Improvement	3,373.13	632.00	2,741.13
Building on Holy Ground	7,075.00	4,954.48	2,120.52

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

CARE TEAM HAPPENINGS

The care team meets on the first Monday at 5:30 in the Conference Room. If you would like to serve on this team, please contact Terry Swygert and attend the next meeting!

He_Brews Supper Club has been such a great success that we plan to meet every other month in 2023 on May 13, July 15, September 9, and November 11. Sign-up sheet is in the breezeway, and the deadline to sign up is January 8th. **The next He-Brews date is March 11th!**



OUTREACH TEAM HAPPENINGS

The outreach team meets on the third Monday at 6:00 in the Conference Room. If you would like to serve on this team, please contact Bonnie Bouknight and attend the next meeting!



Food Pantry Easter Bags

The Outreach Team is collecting canned hams for Easter bags for our Food Pantry patrons. Please contribute what you can. There is a collection box in the foyer. Monetary donations also accepted.

Holy Casseroly- There are 17 casseroles in the freezer ready to be used by members of the congregation and the community who are in need of a meal. These may be used for illness, injuries, surgeries, or death in the family; anytime that a meal might be needed. We just ask If you will please sign the "Sign Out" sheet on the freezer so we know when the supply gets low.



Angel Tree- This year, we were happy to help 49 students and 26 parents. Most of the families that we sponsored attend Riverbank Elementary, Wood Elementary, Oak Grove Elementary, Cayce Elementary, or Batesburg-Leesville Elementary.

Free Garage Sale- We served 61 families. The date has been set for this year's Free Garage Sale. It will be held on December 1st

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN



Food Pantry- The numbers of people served has increased. We appreciate all the help from the congregation. If you would like to help work the Food Pantry, it is open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9:00 to 11:00. Contact Diane Boulware or Bonnie Bouknight if you would like to be trained to work.

Blood Drive- The next blood drive is scheduled for April 2, 2023 at 4:00pm. More information will follow.



Community Meal- We plan to resume the meals but now we will go out in the community rather than feeding people at the church. We can serve more people that way because transportation has been a problem for some people.

TEACH TEAM

The teach team meets on the first Sunday at 4:00 in the education building in a classroom near the church nursery. If you would like to serve on this team, please contact Daryl Leigh Anthony and attend the next meeting!



Mt. Hermon as a safe place for children.

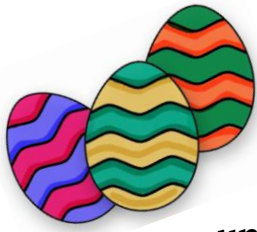
If Mt. Hermon has run a security report (SLED check) on you in the past year then you will need to attend a Safety Training Class. If you missed signing up for the Feb.26 Safety Training Class, please sign up for the one on March 26 at 3:30 in the conference room. Contact Daryl Leigh Anthony if you have any questions and to sign up for a class.

Sunday School for all ages.

There are currently 7 adult classes. Come and find a class to learn together. You will never know everything about the Bible, but you can begin your journey today. Wherever you are in your theology “understanding of God and God’s plan for you” today is an opportunity for another day to journey. Come and study together.



AROUND THE MOUNTAIN



Easter Eggstravaganza

The Easter Eggstravaganza will be held March 25th at 11am. Your help will be needed as we again open this event to the public. Sign up sheets will be out soon.

Nursery Volunteers

We need your help in the nursery during Worship and Sunday school. Please sign-up in the breezeway or contact Brittany Allen 803-206-7588.



He is Risen

**Place flowers in the cross at the
steps of the sanctuary
Anytime on Sunday**

6:30am Sunrise Service

7:45am Easter Breakfast

9:00am Resurrection Worship

Easter Sunday April 9, 2023

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

SERVING IN THE COMMUNITY

March 2023

COUNCIL REP: Mary Koon

ALTAR GUILD: Mary Frances Sease & Diane Boulware

TABULATORS: Ann Addy & Mary Frances Sease

USHERS: Marion Leaphart, Susan Busby, Dennis Thurman, additional usher below

AUDIO/VIDEO TEAM: Brandon Donaldson & Marie Gardner

<u>Altar Flowers</u>		<u>Ushers</u>	
5	Sheila Frame	5	Youth Sunday
12	Sherwood Garrett	12	Danny Scott, Jenny Scott
19	Herb Bucknam	19	Terry Swygert, Herb Bucknam
26	OPEN	26	Marion Leaphart, Blake/Jack Allen
<u>Crucifer</u>		<u>Acolyte</u>	
5	Youth Sunday	5	Youth Sunday
12	Jackson Price	12	Chanler Coppens
19	Quentin Kinard	19	Brayden Morris
26	Spencer Price	26	Adelaide Bryant
<u>Greeter</u>		<u>Lector</u>	
5	Youth Sunday	5	Youth Sunday
12	Jenny Scott	12	Diane Boulware
19	Herb Bucknam	19	Allison Swygert
26	Blake Allen	26	Emily Morris
<u>Communion Assistants</u>			
5	Youth Sunday		
12	Jackson Price, Jenny Scott, Danny Scott, Connor Eargle, Hayden Eargle		
19	Quentin Kinard, Brayden Morris, Terry Swygert, Allison Swygert, Joel Price, Sr.		
26	Emily Morris, Brayden Morris, Quentin Kinard, Breanna Metze, Dion Metze		

** If you are unable to serve, please ask someone to serve in your absence.*

Please also notify the church office of the change.

*If you are serving during worship, please arrive no later than 8:30am
for sound check or updates to responsibilities during worship.*

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



Mar 02	Sheila Frame
Mar 08	Ann Bouknight, Dot Mathias
Mar 18	Scarlett Bryant
Mar 20	Larry Amick
Mar 22	Dan Cooper, Lauren Donaldson
Mar 27	Baxley Rawl
	♥ Mar 27 Joe & Mary Koon
Mar 28	Joshua Ellisor, Kim Fulmer
Mar 30	Daryl Leigh Anthony, Sherwood Garrett



Please let the office know if your information is not printed in this listing.



AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

MT HERMON PRAYS

**family of Faye Sox*

**family of Ann Gantt*

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

Continual Prayers

Patricia Bachman, *Generations*

Becky Koon, *Laurel Crest*

Alberta Berry, *home*

Tom Roof, *home*

Nell Buff, *NHC*

Cyndi Thurman, *home*

Lauvenia Butts, *Lakeside Place*

Linda Waters-Hamilton, *home*

Doris & Bobby Carver, *Presby Home*

Pastor Derald Edwards, *home*

Members in Special Need of Prayer

Ann Addy

Easton Donaldson

James Hallman

Dot Mathias

Gene Schofield

Jane Sexton

Jean Shealy

Family and Friends Who Have Requested Prayers

Iris Wellborn, *sister of Earl Sease*

Martha Eastwood, *sister of Marie Kleckley*

David Hydrick, *family of Angie Hydrick*

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 Ellisor*

John Catoe, *family of Ellisors*

Cindy Maples, *mother of Jennifer Miller*

Lewis Turner, *friend of Jo Leach*

Billy Huckabee, *friend of Danny Scott*

Stan Weber, *husband of Debi Weber*

Keith Saxton, *friend of Cyndi Leaphart, serving our country*

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

Josh Jackson, *friend of Joel Price, Jr.*

Brannon Yonce, *friend of Michelle Gantt*

Joe & Barbara Cooper, *friend of Herb Bucknam*

Jean Boswell, *stepmother of Michelle Gantt*

Jason Holt, *friend of Ryan Price*

Greg Cantrell, *friend of David & Audrey Whitaker-Jennings*

Logan Wittwer, *friend of Jessica Goodwin and Cameron Blakely*

Paul Garner, *friend of Robert Haygood*

Sister of Donna Kirkpatrick

Leah Walker, *friend of Wayne and Charlene Corley*

Mr. & Mrs. William L. Coleman Jr., *friends of Marion & Cyndi Leaphart*

Jaimie Womack, *friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price*

Dale Miller, *son-in-law Wynne and Mary Price*

Steven & Dee Howell, *friends of Kathy Whitaker*

Mike Ondera, *friend of Sherwood Garrett*

Please note that this prayer list will be updated soon and those who you wish to remain on the list, please send an email to office@WeAreMtHermon.com

March 2023

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 9:00am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 11:15am Children's Choir 4:00pm Women's Self Defense Class	27 6:30pm CR: Worship Team 7:00pm LMMDistrict Meeting (Emmanuel Lutheran)	28 6:00pm CR: Support Team	1 9:00am Food Pantry (Frank Bouknight & Angie Hydrick) 10:00am Meals on Wheels 6:30pm Lenten Service/Meal 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	2	3 FH: Lutheran Men World Day of Prayer	4 FH: Lutheran Men 9:00am Food Pantry (Swygerts & Carrolls) 11:00am Lutheran Men Chicken Stew
5 9:00am Worship (Youth Sunday) 10:30am Sunday School 11:15am Children's Choir 3:00pm Confirmation 4:00pm Teach Team	6 5:30pm CR: Care Team	7 6:30pm Executive Team	8 9:00am Food Pantry (Sherwood Garrett, Ann Bouknight, Sharon Keefe) 10:00am Meals on Wheels 12:05pm One Body Worship 6:30pm Lenten Service/Meal 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	9 PG: Vacation	10 PG: Vacation	11 PG: Vacation 9:00am Food Pantry (DJ Plummer & Youth) 6:00pm HeBrews Dinner Club
12 Daylight-Saving Time Begins PG: Vacation 9:00am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 11:15am Children's Choir 11:30am Council Meets	13 1:30pm CR: Dot Mathias 6:30pm Lutheran Men & Women	14 6:30pm Bod for God	15 9:00am Food Pantry (Diane Bouleware, Mary Frances Sease, Mary Price) 10:00am Meals on Wheels 6:30pm Lenten Service/Meal 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18 9:00am Food Pantry (Kinard Family)
19 9:00am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 11:15am Children's Choir 3:00pm Confirmation	20 First Day of Spring 6:00pm CR: Outreach Team	21 6:00pm CR: Finance Team 6:30pm Bod for God	22 9:00am Food Pantry (Bonnie & Frank Bouknight, Andrea Bowers) 10:00am Meals on Wheels 12:05pm One Body Worship 6:30pm Lenten Service/Meal 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	23	24	25 9:00am Food Pantry (Lynn Bouknight, Karen Nicholson) 11:00am Confirmation Class (Service) 11:00am Eggstravaganza
26 9:00am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 11:15am Children's Choir 3:30pm Safety Training	27 6:30pm CR: Worship Team	28 6:00pm CR: Support Team 6:30pm Bod for God	29 9:00am Food Pantry (Debra & Dave Butts) 10:00am Meals on Wheels 6:30pm Lenten Service/Meal 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	30	31	1 9:00am Food Pantry (Melanie & Frankie Jackson, Katie Donaldson)

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

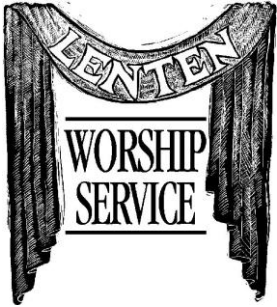
AROUND THE MOUNTAIN



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

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Wednesday Lenten Worship
6:30pm Worship in Sanctuary

7:00pm Meal in fellowship hall

Rev. Gina D. Metze, Pastor

803.951.3784

PastorGina@WeAreMtHermon.com

Svetlana Royal, Director of Music

Music@WeAreMtHermon.com

Cameron Blakely, Parish Administrator

803.794.6430

Office@WeAreMtHermon.com

Post-Covid Busy	1
Community Happenings.....	1
Church Council Happenings.....	3
Attendance Report	4
Treasurer Report	4
Care Team Happenings.....	5
Outreach Team Happenings.....	5
Teach Team.....	6
Serving in the Community.....	8
Birthdays and Anniversaries	9
Mt Hermon Prays	9