November 2019



Missio Dei The mission of God

³⁵ Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "The

harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸ therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." Matthew 9:35-38

How is your harvesting going? Are your gardens done for the year? Tomatoes canned. Corn frozen. Cucumbers pickled. As the vines begin to wither and die, the pumpkins and gourds are becoming more visible in the fields. It's soon time to dig the potatoes. Maybe you are beginning to make the soil ready for those winter crops: collards, mustard greens, turnips, etc.? The writer of Ecclesiastes declares: *a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;* 3:2b We are well past the time of plucking up the summer vegestables and nearing winter planting.

We are also now moving into a new season of our lives. Daylight savings time ends. The days are shorter and the nights are longer. Our season of being a disciple continues to move in an ebb and flow of hearing and doing and being. We will soon complete the "green" season of hearing how to be a better follower of Christ. We celebrated the boldness of Martin Luther on Reformation Sunday and then celebrate the lives of those who have passed from this world during the year on All Saints Sunday. Soon after that, we will celebrate Thanksgiving and then move into the Advent season, where we look for the return of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Are you in a season where you are ready to begin/continue to be in the harvest fields for the purpose of spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ to the world? Are you ready to put into action the gathering of those in the fields who are *"like a sheep without a shephard"* and are you ready to be *"sent out as laborers into his harvest"* for the sake of the gospel?

We are moving in that season of the church year and you are invited to come and be part of the movement to make the life of Jesus Christ known to the towns in which we live. Make a commitment to come and be part of this movement which began because there was a Mission and the church was where the mission was to be carried to the world. Come and be in the Missio Dei!

Sister in Christ,

Pastor Gina



Cantor's Corner

Many thanks for those who helped make our Fall Candlelight Dinner such a success! We were able to give our youth \$200 and \$1,024 to our Fund for the Arts.

We already have a signup

sheet in the breezeway for our Christmas dinner. If you happen to have an old Christmas tree that you won't be using, please let me know. I would like to have as many trees decorated and placed around the fellowship hall for the dinner as possible.



Our puppet ministry has been busy getting ready for the puppet musical 'Angels Aware", which will be presented December 15 during Sunday Christmas Candlelight Dinner & Music Saturday, December 21, 2019 6:00pm - 7:30pm RSVP: 794-6430 or Sign-Up Sheet Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church located in the Fellowship Hall 3011 Leaphart Road, Breezeway West Columbia SC All donations will support Mt. Hermon Funds for the Arts & Mt. Hermon's yout

School.

We have 15 puppeteers of all ages working together.

Please remember our tone chime group is every Sunday immediately after church for 15 minutes.



The Chancel Choir will present the cantata, "Winter Rose" during service on December 22. I hope you will support their efforts and join us on that Sunday. It is a beautiful celebration of both Advent and Christmas!



Obviously, December is busy at Mt. Hermon, but it will be fun for all!!!!

Ruthie

Congregational Council Mini Minutes for October 2019

ATTENDANCE: All were present with the exception of Devona Price and Bryce Addy (excused) **ADOPTION OF AGENDA:** The agenda for October was adopted with the addition of the following to New Business: Changes to Model Constitution for Congregations

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: The minutes for the September council meeting were accepted.

Member Care: Council members should be contacting their Care team. It would be a good time to give reminders for the October 27th safety meeting and congregational meetings.

REPORTS:

Pastor Gina- Report received for October. Correction made for the name Betty Keefe

Treasurer- Reports received for August and September.

Financial Secretary- Reports received for September and 3rd quarter year-to-date.

Team Report/Recommendations:

- 1. Team for Ministry- Met in September
- 2. Worship Team- Report received. Recommendation:

The Worship and Music Tam recommends that we have "Sundays" in Advent, beginning December 1st with the service at 4:00 pm with a meal to follow. This will replace the Wednesday evening Advent services.

Discussion included that we would be able to hold 4 services, not 3 during Advent if held on Sunday. It will also help those who do not like to drive at night participate. Pastor Gina will be participating with other local Pastors (Faith, Our Savior, Tabor) in Lenten services to be held at Faith on Wednesday nights in case members prefer the Wednesday night service. **Passed**

3. Outreach Team- Report received. Upcoming events include Trunk or Treat and the Fall Festival

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. Farming Church: Council participated in Urgency study before council meeting today
- 2. Cemetery Upkeep- Committee gathering information
- 3. Safety Committee- Will conduct a Sanctuary safety training session during Sunday school on October 27th
- 4. Parsonage Update- Robin Ellisor presented information she has gathered to address questions from congregation.
- 5. Will Willimon event to be held October 15th. 160 participants are registered.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Advent and Lent offerings. Discussion held to put this money towards the Synod Abuncancia Appeal, which is a way to honor the Bishop on his upcoming retirement. The Synod has set a goal of one million dollars, and the appeal has already raised several hundred thousand towards the goal. Christmas envelopes would still go towards Current Benevolence. Motion: **Money from Advent and Lent services and envelopes go to the Abundancia Appeal. Passed**
- 2. Fall Saxe Gotha conference will be held on November 10 at Mt. Hermon. This event will focus on procedures for the election of a new Bishop. Council will meet at 5:00 following this event.
- 3. Dedication Sunday for Grace Roof. Small committee has been discussing ways to honor Grace for her service in the nursery. A shadow box has been purchased and will be mounted outside of nursery in the hall of the Education building. Family will be invited to this service. Motion made: **Sunday, November 24**th **be set as a Dedication Sunday for Grace Roof. Passed**
- 4. Stephen Price fund recipient: Rebekah Swygert is the only candidate at this time. She will receive the scholarship money again next semester.
- 5. Nominations were held for church council
- 6. Congregational meetings: November 3 will be first meeting for the purpose of council nominations. November 10 will be used for run-offs if necessary. November 17 will be Congregational meeting in the Fellowship Hall following the service.
- 7. Finance committee presented Proposed 2020 spending plan. Motion for amendment was made: Increase the Synodical payment by \$1200 (for a total of \$3,200). Passed Motion: Accept the proposed spending plan as amended. Passed
- 8. Changes to Model Constitution for Congregations. The congregation will vote on this at the annual meeting. Motion: We accept model changes as presented in report. Passed

After Feedback, the meeting was adjourned with praying the Lord's Prayer. Alyson Price, Council Secretary

Outreach Happenings



Fall Festival - On Saturday, November

23 from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm, we are having a Fall Festival with games/activities for all ages. Great opportunity for Fun/Fellowship and Outreach. The meal (chili and/or soup) will be served around 12:00pm. We are inviting the community as well as the congregation.



Help Needed for Fall Festival -

We are looking for people to **cook** a pot of **soup or chili**, provide a dessert or donate prizes for bingo on **Saturday**, **November 23**. We plan to eat at noon.





Angel Tree – Interested in brightening a child's Christmas? The Angel Tree will be up by **Sunday, November 17**th. Select a child's angel ornament and then buy gifts for that child. The wrapped gifts will be due back at the church by **Dec. 10**.



Free Garage Sale – Donations are being accepted for our annual Free Garage Sale to help families in our community who are in need of assistance. **All items are needed**. There is a **HIGH** need for linens, dishes, pans, children's clothing, toys and chest-of-drawers. Please place your donated items in the room at the foot of the basement stairs. We will store them there until closer to the event. The garage sale will take place on **December 13**.





Reading/Math Buddies – We are looking for adults who can meet with a student in Grades $PreK - 3^{nd}$ grade for 30 minutes once a week to read with that child or help them with math skills. This would occur during the school day. Just 30 minutes a week can make a huge difference. Some volunteers may choose to work with two students back-to-back for one hour during the week to reach more students.

Help Build Cristo Rey –

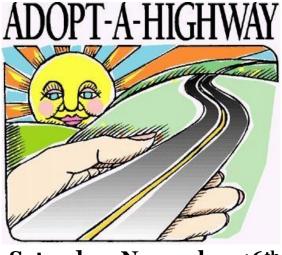
ELCA Mission Builders are interested in teaming with local volunteers to help with building Cristo Rey Lutheran Church on Oak Drive in Lexington, SC. There are many ways you can help even if you do not have building skills. Watch the bulletin for more details on how you can help.



If you are interested in volunteering for any of these events, please let the Outreach Team know. Our email is MTHOutreach@gmail.com

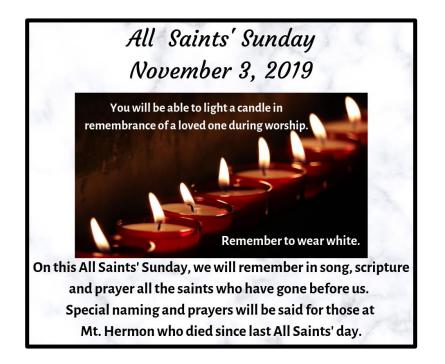


Wednesday, November 20th Catered Thanksgiving Lunch 12:00 pm Fellowship Hall Please sign up!



Saturday, November 16th 9:00 am Church Parking Lot *"Keeping the Midlands Beautiful"* Next pickup February 8, 2020







*Information packets have been mailed...



Congregational Meeting Sunday November 17, 2019 10:15 am Fellowship Hall



Homebound and Care Facilities

Nell Buff, *Home* Patricia Bachman, *Carolina Gardens* Hazel Bockus, *Home* Lynwood Crout, *Home* Margie Hook, *Home* Lois Watson, *Lexington Place* Lena Wessinger, *Presby*. *Home*

Members in Special Need of Prayer

| Alberta Berry | Linda Waters-Hamilton | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Tom & June Roof | Ernie Swygert | Jim Whitaker |
| Mary Price | Lila Catt | Eddie Ellisor |
| Jeff Bucknam | Doris Maddox | Connie Bucknam |

Family and Friends Who Have Requested Our Prayers

Dawn McIlwain-Merck, friend of Robin Ellisor Gary & Linda Hodgin, friends of Herb & Connie Bucknam Lois Moore & family, family of Dennis & Cyndi Thurman Bill Harrell, friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price Jake Harris, co-worker of Jennifer Price & Allison Swygert Don Morris, father of Keith Morris Jason Wardlaw, friend of congregation Lynn Zarpentine, friend of Susan LaCons Cheryl Coureville, friend of Herb & Connie Bucknam Mary Frances Hamilton, friend of congregation Iris Wellborn, sister of Earl Sease Jimmy Mills, father of Tommy Mills Linda Rea, cousin of Marion & Cyndi Richie Tallent, friend of Danny Scott Mandy McLemore, co-worker of Amanda Boyd, Kim Addy, & Alyson Price John Catoe, family of Ellisors Jenifer Gooding, co-worker of Joel Price Jr. & Mary Price Todd Hewitt, friend of Missy Addy Megan Sease, granddaughter of Earl & Mary Frances Sease Jane Park, friend of Pastor Gina & Dion Doris Landry, sister of Buddy Hydrick

Serving Schedule: November 2019

<u>COUNCIL REP:</u> Joe Koon <u>ALTAR GUILD:</u> Angie Hydrick, Jennifer Price <u>TABULATORS:</u> Larry Amick, Angie Hydrick, Linda Waters-Hamilton, (Barbara Corley) <u>USHERS</u>: Larry Amick, Kay Bryant, Marion Leaphart, Tom Stahl

Altar Flowers:

- 3 Fulmer & Gardner
- 10 Karen Nicholson
- 17 Price Families
- 24 Ronnie Willbourne

Greeter:

- 3 Jim Whitaker10 Spencer Price17 Jean Shealy
- 24 Cindy Price

Lector:

- 3 Kay Bryant
- 10 Joel Price Sr.
- 17 Larry Amick
- 24 Terry Swygert

Acolytes:

- 3 Brayden Rutherford Brayden Morris
- 10 Josh Koon Hayden Eargle
- 17 Connor Eargle Sam Koon
- 24 Mackenzie Burns Spencer Price

Nursery:

- 3 Haley Addy, Karen Nicholson
- 10 Brittany Allen, Alyson Price
- 17 OPEN
- 24 Emily Arroyo, OPEN

Food Pantry:

- 6 Diane Boulware
- 13 Renee Greenbaum
- 20 Jim Whitaker
- 27 Jo Leach

Crucifer:

- 3 Wynne Price
- 10 Perry Bouknight
- 17 Skyler Miller
- 24 Jackson Price

Children's Sermon:

- 3 Mary Koon
- 10 Mary Koon
- 17 Pastor Gina
- 24 Ruthie Brannen

Communion Assistants:

3 Wynne Price, Emily Morris
10 Perry Bouknight, Trudy Bouknight, Danny Scott
17 Skyler Miller, Ronnie Fulmer, Angie Hydrick
24 Jackson Price, Joel Price Sr., Wynne Price



Nov 05 Tom Roof Nov 08 Mary Koon Nov 11 Alberta Berry Lyle Bockus Karl Dugan Jerry Ellisor Becky Koon Nov 12 Joshua Koon Nov 13 Margie Hook Nov 16 Kathy Whitaker Nov 19 Marie Kleckley Nov 20 Lynn Bouknight Nov 21 Angie Hydrick Jon Kaylor Nov 23 Faye Sox Nov 24 Ainsley Allen Nov 28 Abram Kaylor Mary Price Nov 29 Addison Allen Bella Kaylor



Nov 28 Preston & Kay Bryant

If your birthday or anniversary is missing from this list, please contact the church office at 803.794.6430 or send an email to <u>office@mthlc.org</u>. We are sorry we did not have the information in time of printing!



November 2019

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | | Saturday |
|--|--------|--|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Junuay | monuay | Tucsuay | weunesuay | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 Daylight Saving Time ends 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 10:15 am Tonechimes 3:30 pm Confirmation 5:00 pm LCY Meeting | | 5 1:00 pm Staff meeting | 6 5:30 pm Executive committee 6:00 pm Handbells 6:30 pm Chancel Choir | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Angel Tree Up 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 10:15 am Tonechimes 12:00 pm FH - Reserved | 11 | _ | 13 6:00 pm Handbells 6:30 pm Chancel Choir 6:45 pm Fall Festival planning 7:30 pm Outreach Team Mtg- Conf Rm | 14 | 15 | 16 9:00 am Adopt-A- Hwy 11:00 am Nancy Addison (Dugan) B-day FH |
| 17 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 10:15 am Tonechimes 10:30 am Annual Meeting 3:30 pm Confirmation 5:00 pm LCY Meeting | | 19 1:00 pm Staff meeting 6:00 pm MJS- Oakwood Commons-FH | 20 10:00 am FH: Young at Heart 12:00 pm Young @ Heart Thanksgiving Lunch 6:00 pm Handbells 6:30 pm Chancel Choir | 21 | 22 FH: Fall Festival | 23 FH: Fall Festival 11:00 am Fall Festival |
| 24 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 10:15 am Tonechimes | 25 | 26 1:00 pm Staff meeting 7:00 pm Community Thanksgiving Service @ Congaree Presbyterian-Cayce | 27 6:00 pm Handbells 6:30 pm Chancel Choir | 28 Thanksgiving Day | 29 | 30 |



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON PROFIT ORG US POSTAGE PAID PERMIT # 958 COLUMBIA, SC

Rev. Gina D. Metze, Pastor 803.951.3784 Ruthie Brannen, Cantor Susan LaCons, Parish Administrator Megan Landers, Seminarian PastorGinaMetze@gmail.com RuthieBrannen@gmail.com office@mthlc.org Megan.Landers@my.lr.edu

3011 Leaphart Road West Columbia, SC 29169 <u>office@mthlc.org</u> 803.794.6430 Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm Pastor Gina 803.951.3784

Table of Contents

| Letter from Pastor | 1 |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Letter from Cantor | 2 |
| Council Minutes | 3 |
| Community News | 4-8 |
| Serving Schedule | 9 |
| Birthdays and Anniversaries | 10 |
| Calendar | 11 |