

Seasons are changing

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

*6 a time to seek, and a time to lose;
a time to keep, and a time to cast away;
7 a time to tear, and a time to sew;
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
8 a time to love, and a time to hate;
Ecclesiastes 3: 1, 6-8a*



How many times a day do you check to see what time it is? Some years ago almost everyone wore a watch. Then cell phones appeared on each of us and the cell phone became our time device. Then some of us went back to a wristwatch that mimics our cell phone. ... a time to wear a watch and a time to use your phone as a watch.

It's now October and it would be a time for Harvest Festivals, Pumpkin carvings, trunk-or-treat, and cool weather. I believe the only one we get to enjoy this year would be some cool weather.

As tough as it is to continue to be separated, we continue to monitor that which has caused this separation and we are moving towards the process of re-opening for in-person worship. Without an end to the virus, there will be a time when we will gather in a new way. Maybe even necessities like "call ahead seating" (though we have far better food and drink than LongHorn). Maybe even adjustments to entering and exiting the sanctuary. Possibly even communion after worship rather than during worship. We are continuing to work on those details.

One thing is for certain in all of these times. *God is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow.* Hebrews 13:8. Another thing that is certain, is we will continue to LiveStream worship. We will be moving towards the new software and we hope to begin using it on the October 18th service. We will keep our fingers crossed on that one! A third thing that is certain, we are beloved disciples of Christ who call Mt. Hermon 'Home' and we will continue to be faithful and true to the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

I can't wait to see your faces in the pews and I can't wait to hear you sing and worship our Lord!

Sister in Christ,

Pastor Gina

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

Congregational Council Mini Minutes August 16, 2020 via Zoom

ATTENDANCE: All were present

CARES AND CONCERNS: Praying for David Hydrick, Buddy Hydrick's cousin who had heart valve replacement surgery, Lisa Palmer (Joel Price Jr.'s employee) who has a sinus mass, and Ann and Clifton Addy

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Approved with no additions

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: The minutes from the July 12th and August 2nd meetings were approved

REPORTS:

- Pastor Gina: Written report received. SC Synod elected Ginny Aebischer to be our new bishop. Frank and Bonnie Bouknight will join church on August 30th.
- Treasurer: Written report received for July 2020 and all of 2020. A council member discovered that the parsonage facility usage and utilities had not been reported in the Facilities Usage category. Parker agreed that there was an error and will correct and redistribute July report.
- Financial Secretary: Written report received for July.

Team Reports/Recommendations:

1. Worship: Written financial report submitted by Audio/Video Committee for receipts and expenditures for Live Streaming Project. Project final cost \$14,475.98 which is \$524 below estimate.
2. Outreach: Written report received from July meeting. They are debating both reducing food pantry hours to two hours and changing service days to Wednesday and Saturday. We will again collect school supplies to donate to local schools.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Cross on Sanctuary: No update
2. Health & Safety Task Force: Written reports received for July 29th and August 3rd meetings. Buildings are being sanitized and entry control procedures initiated as approved at last council meeting. Concerns raised by council member that we have a box of masks at church entry but nobody is using them. Also, food pantry workers would like to enter door by bus shed instead of front of church education building. They request access to the door with a log sheet added there which would minimize walking thru the educational building. Motion made to add a second sign log sheet for food pantry door entrance. Key to door to be distributed to volunteers who don't have one, tape would be replaced over door's lock at end of food pantry shift, and log in sheets would be replaced weekly for privacy. **APPROVED**

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 2021 Spending Plan: Finance Committee will meet to present budget recommendations to council at October meeting. Council members to think about what we should base budget on for 2021 due to no attendance in person for last 5 months and how congregation will vote to approve budget.
2. Similarly, how will we nominate and vote for church council and conduct our annual meeting in November if the church is still closed for in person gatherings?
3. Next council meeting will be September 13th at 6 pm with devotions by Jenny Scott

Robin Ellisor, Council Secretary

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

Treasurer Report January 2020 - August 2020

	<u>Actual Income</u>	<u>Actual Expenses</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Current & Benevolence	152,465.68	141,740.46	10,725.22
Building Improvement	9,444.90	7,193.67	2,251.23
Building on Holy Ground	46,359.12	47,000.00	(640.88)

Tithe.ly Online Giving.

You may download the Tithely app and select Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church 3011 Leaphart Road

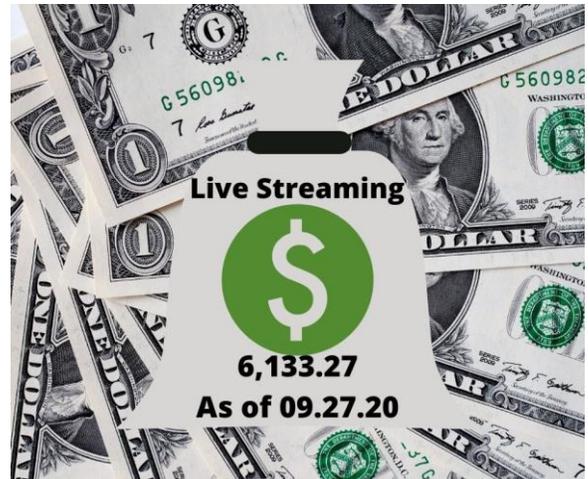
Or you may give from our website at www.mthlc.com and select *Online Giving*

<http://www.WeAreMtHermon.com/online-giving.html>



Your continued financial support to the work of God at Mt. Hermon is both appreciated and needed to continue ministry. You may drop your check in the US Mail: 3011 Leaphart Road, West Columbia, SC 29169. You may also drop it in the locked box on Leaphart Road. Some of you have taken advantage of banks mailing a check straight to Mt. Hermon. Many of you are taking the opportunity to use online giving. Thank you for your financial and spiritual support to Mt. Hermon!

~ * ~ *Live Stream Totals* ~ * ~



AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

Outreach Happenings . . .

Back to School Supply Drive

Thank you for your generous response to our school supply drive. We had enough donations to give each of the six schools we sponsored two boxes of supplies. Your donations are helping many students start the year off on a positive note. Please keep students and educators in your prayers.



Food Pantry

Our Food Pantry is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9:00 am – 11:00am. Our new location at the end of the Education Building is working well. This month was a little slower than most because it has taken a little while to get the word out that we are open on Saturdays. This past Saturday was quite busy though. This month we helped almost 60 families through the Food Pantry. We expect that October will be even busier. Thank you to all who have donated food, money and time to make this ministry possible.

Current Items Needed in the Food Pantry

We are wanting to expand the items that we provide to the community to include more items that SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) will not cover such as: paper products, deodorant, laundry detergent and other cleaning supplies. If you can add some of these to your grocery list and drop them by the church, we would appreciate the donations.



Prayer Request Boxes – One of the procedures that has changed in the Food Pantry since COVID 19 is that we no longer use a notebook for the guests to sign. In that notebook, they had an opportunity to write prayer requests. So, we have installed two Prayer Request “mailboxes” in which the community members can let us know specific needs/concerns for which they would like for us to prayer. The congregation is welcome to use these also. The Prayer Request Boxes are located in the grass parking lot by the Little Free Library and at the corner of the cemetery nearest the Education Building and Food Pantry pickup. Members of the Outreach Team check these boxes regularly to make sure that any requests are prayed for in a timely manner. These requests are prayed for by the Outreach Team and given to Pastor Gina to be included in her prayers.



Face Masks

Our face mask ministry continues. We have distributed over 275 face masks to members of the community through the Food Pantry. These masks are all handmade and donated to this ministry. If you are in need of a face mask, please let us know. We want to do our part to slow the spread of COVID 19 and spread God’s love into our community.

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

Please continue to visit The Little Free Library

We have loaded the Little Free Library with books for all ages. We want to help strengthen literacy skills and inspire a love of reading in our community. You can borrow and return, replace with another book, or if you just loved the story, keep it! The Little Library is open to all!



Outreach Team Members: Angie Hydrick, Allison Swygert, Lynn Bouknight, Jenny Scott, Mike Rawl, Leah Rawl, Mitch Stevens, Laura Stevens, Jo Leach, Mary Koon, Nancy Addison, Eric Carroll, Pastor Gina, Diane Boulware, Chair.



Your prayers & online presence are requested on

Sunday, October 4, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

(The preludes and stream will begin at 2:30 p.m.)

for the

Service of the Word

with the

Rite of Installation

of the Bishop of the South Carolina Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The Reverend Virginia Solveig Aebischer

at Ebenezer Lutheran Church
1301 Richland Street Columbia, South Carolina 29201

In person participation is limited and by Invitation only.
The Service will be live streamed on our website (<https://scsynod.com/installation>),
on our Facebook page (<https://facebook.com/scsynod>),
and our YouTube Channel (<https://youtube.com/scsynodcom>).

Bishop Aebischer encourages everyone online to join in the Procession
by posting a selfie using
#SCSynod #Procession

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

Lutheran Men Wheelchair Ministry September 23, 2020



AROUND THE MOUNTAIN



We welcomed Matt Hansen to Mt. Hermon on Sunday, September 13th. Matt is studying at the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary and comes to us from Andrews, NC. He will help lead us and our community for the next 2 years.

On Sunday, September 20th, he helped Pastor Gina during drive through Communion and Blessings.



***Reformation Sunday
October 25, 2020***

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN



Daily Devotions
6:35 pm

Join the Facebook community for a time of daily reflection with Pastor Gina

Communion Distribution and Blessings
on Sunday
October 18th



Enter paved parking lot near the bus and loop in front of the church office.



Sunday School
on Zoom
2nd & 4th Sundays
10:30 a.m.

To join the group, please email pastorgina@WeAreMtHermon.com

~ * ~ **Reminder** ~ * ~



Sunday, October 4
Mark your Bibles:
Isaiah 5:1-7
Philippians 3:4b-14
Matthew 21:33-46



Sunday, October 11
Mark your Bibles:
Isaiah 25:1-9
Philippians 4:1-9
Matthew 22:1-14



Sunday, October 18
Mark your Bibles:
Isaiah 45:1-7
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 22:15-22



Sunday, October 25
Mark your Bibles:
Jeremiah 31:31-34
Romans 3:19-28
John 8:31-36

MT HERMON PRAYS ...

Homebound and Care Facilities

Patricia Bachman, *Carolina Gardens* Rev. Everette Price, *home*
Alberta Berry, *home* June Roof, *Rapha*
Hazel Bockus, *Carolina Gardens* Tom Roof, *home*
Nell Buff, *home* Lois Watson, *Lexington Place*
Lila Catt, *home* Lena Wessinger, *Presby. Home*
Margie Hook, *home*

Members in Special Need of Prayer

Bryce Addy Becky Koon Gene Schofield
Suzie Wattenbarger Rodney Oswald Jeff Bucknam

Family and Friends Who Have Requested Our Prayers

Bob Eastwood, *brother-in-law of Marie Kleckley*
Harold & Mary Prater, *parents of Ray Prater*
Molly Kate Shealy, *friend of Jean Shealy*
Chuck Bachman, *nephew of Jean Shealy*
Floyd Fuller, *uncle of David Marsh*
Dawn McIlwain-Merck, *friend of Robin Ellisor*
Gary & Linda Hodgins, *friends of Herb Bucknam*
Lois Moore & family, *family of Dennis & Cyndi Thurman*
Bill Harrell, *friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price*
Don Morris, *father of Keith Morris*
Cheryl Coureville, *friend of Herb Bucknam*
Iris Wellborn, *sister of Earl Sease*
Jimmy Mills, *father of Tommy Mills*
Richie Tallent, *friend of Danny Scott*
Mandy McLemore, *co-worker of Amanda Boyd, Kim Addy, & Alyson Price*
John Catoe, *family of Ellisors*
Sherri Crapps, *sister-in-law of Linda Waters-Hamilton*
Megan Sease, *granddaughter of Earl & Mary Frances Sease*
Tommy Roof, *son of Tom & June Roof*
Martha Eastwood, *sister of Marie Kleckley*
Eric Powell, *friend of Kim Fulmer*
Jason Wardlaw, *friend of congregation*
Andrew & Candice Coleman, *friends of Erica Conklin*
David Hydrick, *cousin of Buddy Hydrick*
Clara Shultz, *friend of Sheila Starkey*
Debbie Smith & family, *niece of Dennis & Cyndi Thurman*
Sarah Hiltz, *granddaughter of Buddy & Angie Hydrick*

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN



Oct 02

Amanda Mills

Oct 09

Tanner Addy

Oct 11

Jennifer Price

Oct 17

Presley Miller

Aiden Thompson

Oct 18

Audrey Whitaker

Oct 19

Emily Arroyo

Oct 20

Jean Shealy

Oct 21

Denise Thurman

Oct 22

Sophie Martin

Oct 23

Mackenzie Burns

Oct 27

Lynn Card

Oct 28

Cody Kleckley

Jackson Price

Oct 29

Marion Leaphart

Emily Morris

Oct 31

Gable Jolly



Oct 02

Jon & Tiffany Kaylor

Oct 03

Jason & Kim Addy

Oct 20

Rick & Daryl Leigh

Anthony

Oct 26

Thomas & Danni Martin

If your birthday or anniversary is missing from these lists, please contact the church office at 803.794.6430 or send an email to susan@WeAreMtHermon.com.

We are sorry we did not have the information in time of printing!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 9:00 am 3:00 pm 6:35 pm PG: Vacation Worship Live Stream Installation SC Bishop Devotions	5 6:00 pm 6:35 pm PG: Vacation Worship Team Devotions	6 6:00 pm 6:35 pm PG: Vacation Executive committee Devotions	7 9:00 am 6:35 pm PG: Vacation Food Pantry (Andrea Bowers & Jo Leach) Devotions	8 6:35 pm PG: Vacation Devotions	9 6:35 pm PG: Vacation Devotions	10 9:00 am 6:35 pm PG: Vacation Food Pantry (Parker & Diane Boulware) Devotions
11 9:00 am 6:00 pm 6:35 pm PG: Vacation Worship Live Stream Council Meets Devotions	12 6:35 pm 7:00 pm PG: Vacation Devotions Zoom Health and Safety	13 6:35 pm Devotions	14 9:00 am 6:35 pm Food Pantry (Frank & Bonnie Bouknight) Devotions	15 6:35 pm Devotions	16 6:35 pm Devotions	17 9:00 am 6:35 pm Food Pantry (Lynn Bouknight & Karen Nicholson) Devotions
18 9:00 am 10:30 am 6:35 pm Pastor Convocation at Lutheridge Worship Live Stream Drive In Communion Devotions	19 6:00 pm 6:35 pm Pastor Convocation at Lutheridge Outreach Mtg via Zoom Devotions	20 6:35 pm Pastor Convocation at Lutheridge Devotions	21 9:00 am 6:35 pm Pastor Convocation at Lutheridge Food Pantry (Diane Boulware & Mary Frances Sease) Devotions	22 6:35 pm Devotions	23 6:35 pm Devotions	24 9:00 am 6:35 pm Food Pantry (Mike Rawl & Laura Stevens) Devotions
25 9:00 am 10:30 am 6:35 pm Reformation Sunday Worship Live Stream Sunday School ZOOM Devotions	26 6:35 pm Devotions	27 6:35 pm Devotions	28 9:00 am 6:35 pm Food Pantry (Ann Bouknight & Annette Price) Devotions	29 6:35 pm Devotions	30 6:35 pm Devotions	31 9:00 am 6:35 pm Food Pantry (Koon Family) Devotions

Please see “calendar of events” at WeAreMtHermon .com for updates.



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Rev. Gina D. Metze, *Pastor* 803.951.3784 PastorGina@WeAreMtHermon.com
Ruthie Brannen, *Director of Music* RuthieBrannen@gmail.com
Susan LaCons, *Parish Administrator* Susan@WeAreMtHermon.com

Table of Contents

www.WeAreMtHermon.com
3011 Leaphart Road
West Columbia, SC 29169
803.794.6430
Monday – Friday
9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Pastor Gina 803.951.3784

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