

# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

March 2024



## THE GOSPEL OF MARK

<sup>1</sup>*The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.*

<sup>2</sup>*As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,  
"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way;*

<sup>3</sup>*the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
'Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight,'" Mark 1:1-2*

While the gospel of Matthew began with a long connection to the connection of Jesus the son of David, the son of Abraham, Mark's gospel begins with the preparations of John the Baptist introducing who Jesus Christ is in relationship to God.

Mark is the oldest gospel, i.e., Mark, thought to be written by John Mark, was the first written gospel. As you read through Mark you might be encouraged to read fast. That's how Mark wrote. Mark was on a mission to get the ink to the papyrus. He even uses the Greek word, εὐθὺς ~ pronounced yoo-thoos in his writings. εὐθὺς means immediately and Mark uses the word 41 times. That may not seem like many times, but when you realize the word was only used 51 times in the New Testament, it does make a difference.

As we read through Mark, mark your bibles when Mark uses "immediately" because Mark was in a hurry to write so that we might know the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Mark has three parts: Chapters 1-8a which takes place in Galilee. Chapters 8b-10 which takes place "on the way" to Jerusalem. Chapters 11-16 takes place in Jerusalem.

Mark also writes and understands Jesus to be a suffering servant. ***<sup>45</sup>For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.*** Mark 10:45.

The question for us is: Do you have urgency in your life to make the gospel of Jesus known to the world? Do you live like you want the world to know what you know about Jesus? What would the world look like if we lived in this manner – working diligently to make the gospel of Jesus known for generations and generations to come.

*Sister in Christ,*

**Pastor Gina**

#3011LeaphartRoad

#WeAreMtHermon

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## COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

***Reading through the New Testament in one year:***

	3/1	Mark 8:1-21		4/1	Luke 8:1-25		5/1	Luke 23:26-56
	3/2	Mark 8:22-9:1		4/2	Luke 8:26-56		5/2	Luke 24:1-35
	3/3	Mark 9:2-29		4/3	Luke 9:1-27		5/3	Luke 24:36-53
	3/4	Mark 9:30-50		4/4	Luke 9:28-62		5/4	John 1:1-28
	3/5	Mark 10:1-31		4/5	Luke 10:1-24		5/5	John 1:29-51
	3/6	Mark 10:32-52		4/6	Luke 10:25-42		5/6	John 2
	3/7	Mark 11:1-14		4/7	Luke 11:1-28		5/7	John 3:1-21
	3/8	Mark 11:15-33		4/8	Luke 11:29-54		5/8	John 3:22-36
	3/9	Mark 12:1-27		4/9	Luke 12:1-24		5/9	John 4:1-38
	3/10	Mark 12:28-44		4/10	Luke 12:35-59		5/10	John 4:39-54
	3/11	Mark 13:1-23		4/11	Luke 13:1-17		5/11	John 5:1-15
	3/12	Mark 13:24-37		4/12	Luke 13:18-35		5/12	John 5:16-47
	3/13	Mark 14:1-31		4/13	Luke 14:1-14		5/13	John 6:1-24
	3/14	Mark 14:32-72		4/14	Luke 14:15-35		5/14	John 6:25-71
	3/15	Mark 15:1-20		4/15	Luke 15:1-10		5/15	John 7:1-24
	3/16	Mark 15:21-47		4/16	Luke 15:11-32		5/16	John 7:25-52
	3/17	Mark 16		4/17	Luke 16		5/17	John 7:53-8:11
	3/18	Luke 1:1-38		4/18	Luke 17:1-19		5/18	John 8:12-59
	3/19	Luke 1:39-80		4/19	Luke 17:20-37		5/19	John 9:1-17
	3/20	Luke 2:1-24		4/20	Luke 18:1-17		5/20	John 9:18-41
	3/21	Luke 2:25-52		4/21	Luke 18:18-43		5/21	John 10:1-21
	3/22	Luke 3:1-22		4/22	Luke 19:1-27		5/22	John 10:22-42
	3/23	Luke 3:23-38		4/23	Luke 19:28-48		5/23	John 11:1-44
	3/24	Luke 4:1-30		4/24	Luke 20:1-19		5/24	John 11:45-57
	3/25	Luke 4:31-44		4/25	Luke 20:20-47		5/25	John 12:1-19
	3/26	Luke 5:1-16		4/26	Luke 21:1-19		5/26	John 12:20-50
	3/27	Luke 5:17-39		4/27	Luke 21:20-38		5/27	John 13:1-17
	3/28	Luke 6:1-16		4/28	Luke 22:1-38		5/28	John 13:18-38
	3/29	Luke 6:17-49		4/29	Luke 22:39-71		5/29	John 14
	3/30	Luke 7:1-35		4/30	Luke 23:1-25		5/30	John 15
	3/31	Luke 7:36-50					5/31	John 16:1-15

# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

## CHURCH COUNCIL HAPPENINGS

### Motion from the Council meeting

February Council motions: N/A

### Congregational Council Minutes January 2024

### CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

**ATTENDANCE:** Absent – Jeff Price

**CARES AND CONCERNS:** Pray for Jeff Price with his recent respiratory illness.

**MEMBER CARE:**

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:** Accepted with the following correction: Support Team meets at 6:30pm, not 6:00pm.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES:** Minutes for December 2023 were accepted as presented.

#### **REPORTS:**

- Pastor Gina: Report for January 2024 was submitted.
- Treasurer: Budget Report for December 2023 and Treasurer's Report for December 2023 were submitted.
- Financial Secretary: Funds Report for December 2023 and all of 2023 were submitted.
- Executive Committee: None

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

##### **Team for Ministry:**

**Care:** Oral report given. The next Jesus and Java will be Friday, February 23, with Mitch McVicker providing the entertainment. The cost for the concert has been covered and a love offering will be collected.

**Outreach:** No report submitted.

**Support:** No report submitted.

**Finance:** No report submitted.

**Teach:** No report submitted.

**Worship:** Written report submitted.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. None

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. None
2. Next Meeting: February 11, 2024, at 11:30am
3. 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>
January 28	109	98	207
February 4	99	98	197
February 11	101	98	199
February 18	127	103	230

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## CARE TEAM HAPPENINGS

*The Care Team meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of every month at 5:30 pm in the conference room. If you would like to serve on this team, please contact Allison Swygert, or any team member and attend the next meeting!*

### Grief Support Group

Our next grief support group is scheduled to meet on the **2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month** starting **April 11 at 6 pm**. We will meet in the **Gathering Room** where you can share stories, vent, ask questions, and grieve in a safe and supportive environment. We are looking for 5 to 10 people to participate for 8 weeks. If you would like to join us, please email, call or text **Sheila Starkey** at [starkey.sheila@gmail.com](mailto:starkey.sheila@gmail.com) or **803-315-2990**.

**HeBrews Dinners** will be held every-other month. The next Hebrews dinner will be **March 23<sup>rd</sup>**. If you have not participated in a dinner yet, you are missing out! Sign up either by calling the office, on the paper in the breezeway, or by using the online button. If you would like to coordinate the group, please indicate that when you sign up. Those who sign up will be placed in groups and the group can decide where and what time you are meeting. It is a wonderful time to get to know your fellow disciples in a different space than at 3011 Leaphart Road.



## OUTREACH TEAM HAPPENINGS

*The Outreach Team meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month at 6:00 pm in the conference room. If you would like to serve on this team, please contact Bonnie Bouknight, Melanie Jackson, or any team member and attend the next meeting.*



With the help of the children's Sunday School classes, we will decorate and prepare bags to provide an Easter Meal for people we serve in the Food Pantry. We fill the bags with canned hams, canned sweet potatoes, green beans, oil, eggs, etc. Donations are always needed, and we appreciate your generosity.

Mark your calendar for **June 1<sup>st</sup> for Make a Difference Day**.

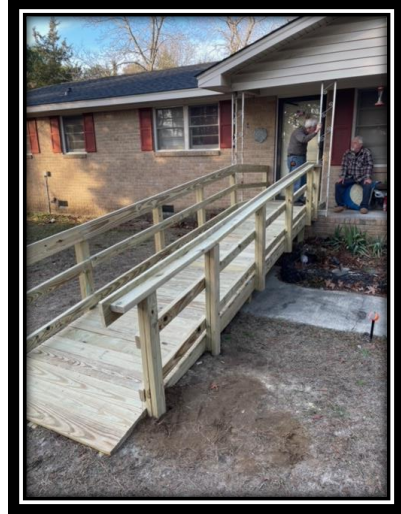
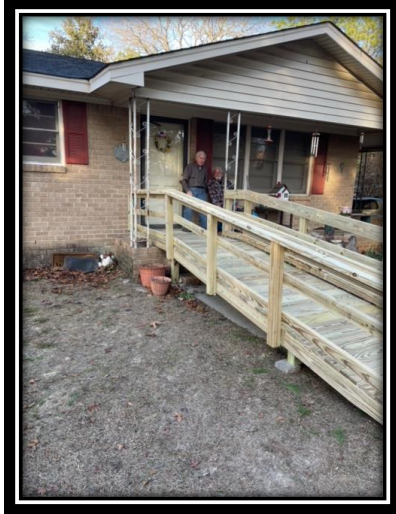


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## SUPPORT TEAM

*The Support Team meets on the fourth Tuesday at 6:30 pm in the conference room. If you would like to serve on this team, please contact **Ronnie Fulmer**, chairperson, and attend the next meeting.*

A group of our men members constructed a ramp for someone in the community. Most of the proceeds from the Chicken Stew goes towards these outreach ministries of the Lutheran Men.



## Lutheran Men Chicken Stew



**March 16  
11:00 - 2:00  
Fellowship Hall  
pick up or dine in**

Please contact any of the Lutheran Men for tickets. Tickets will be available immediately following worship February 18 and 25.  
You may also call the church office 803.794.6430

**Tickets are on sale now!**

Plates include stew, roll, and slaw. The cost of a plate is \$7.00

Quarts of stew are available for \$9.00

# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

## TEACH TEAM

*The Teach Team meets on the **third Sunday** at **11:30 pm** in the **conference room**. If you would like to serve on this team, please contact **Mary Koon** or **Cyndi Leaphart** and attend the next meeting!*



## WORSHIP TEAM

*The Worship Team meets on the **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday** at **11:30 pm** in the **conference room**. If you would like to serve on this team, please contact **Wynne Price** and attend the next meeting!*

### Easter honorariums and memorials will be listed in an Easter Bulletin

Spring flowers will  
decorate the sanctuary on  
Easter Morning.  
If you would like to make  
a financial contribution to  
purchase flowers and  
have someone name(s)  
listed in the  
memorial/honorarium  
bulletin, please make a  
donation by March 24th.

*Please call the church office  
if you have any questions.  
803.794.6430*





# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN



**Palm Sunday  
Worship**

**March 24, 2024  
9:00 am**

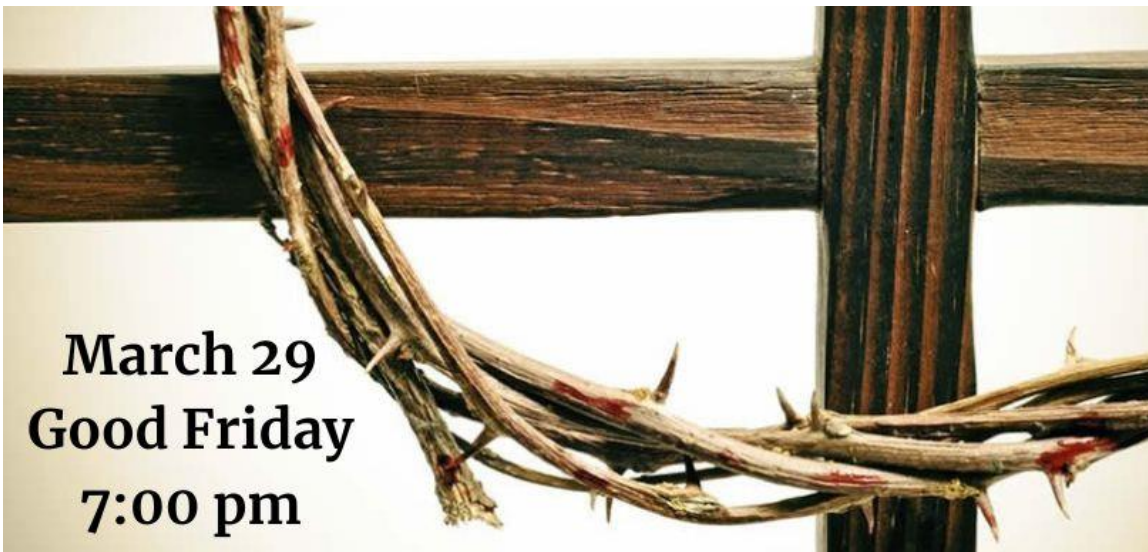
3011 Leaphart Rd  
West Columbia



**Christ  
IN THE  
Passover  
Seder**

Maundy Thursday Meal and  
Worship and Stripping Altar

In-Person & Live Streaming  
March 28, 2024 6:00 p.m.



**March 29  
Good Friday  
7:00 pm**

# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

## SERVING IN WORSHIP

MARCH 2024

	3/3/2024	3/10/2024	3/17/2024	3/24/2024 Palm Sunday
Ushers:	Dylan Whitaker	Larry Amick	Arron Kinard	Frankie Jackson
	Brayden Rutherford	Kay Bryant	Elyse Kinard	Melanie Jackson
Crucifer:	Josh Koon	Lawson Morris	Tanner Addy	Connor Eargle
Acolyte:	Chanler Coppens	Sydney Bucknam	Brayden Morris	Avery Rawl
Lector:	Zachary Head, Connor Eargle	Larry Amick	Charlene Corley	Diane Boulware
Communion Assts:	Sam Koon	Larry Amick	DJ Plummer	Frankie Jackson
Communion Assts:	Mackenzie Burns	Kay Bryant	Tanner Addy	Melanie Jackson
	Brayden Morris	Lawson Morris	Arron Kinard	Connor Eargle
	Sydney Bucknam	Sydney Bucknam	Elyse Kinard	Diane Boulware
	Hayden Eargle	Kathy Cooper	Charlene Corley	Parker Boulware
Nursery:	Melanie Jackson	Noah Swygert	Alyson Price	Leah Rawl
	Katie Donaldson	Cassie Swygert	Brittany Allen	Brittany Allen Brayden Morris
Flowers:	Sheila Frame & Susan Busby	Lynn Bouknight	Wynne & Mary Price	Herb Bucknam

## SERVING IN MARCH

COUNCIL MEMBER LOCK-UP: Mary Koon

ALTAR GUILD: Mary Frances Sease, Diane Boulware

TABULATORS: Ann Addy, Mary Frances Sease

USHERS: Marion Leaphart, Susan Busby, Dennis Thurman

AUDIO/VIDEO TEAM: Breanne Metze, Sheila Starkey

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

*Please also notify the church office of the change.*



# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

	<b>Easter Sunrise</b>	<b>9:00 am</b>
Ushers:	Marion Leaphart	Herb Bucknam
	Cyndi Leaphart	Ronnie Fulmer
Crucifer:	Quentin Kinard	Josh Koon
Acolyte:	Walker Kinard	Dylan Whitaker
Lector:	Wynne Price	Sam Koon
Communion Assts:	Marion Leaphart	Sam Koon
	Cyndi Leaphart	Hayden Eargle
	Wynne Price	Connor Eargle
	Mary Price	Chanler Coppens
	Quentin Kinard	Josh Koon
Nursery:	n/a	Charlene Corley
	n/a	DJ Plummer
Banner Bearer:	n/a	Sam Koon
Torch Bearer:	n/a	Hayden Eargle
Torch Bearer:	n/a	Connor Eargle
Bible Bearer:	n/a	Chanler Coppens
Flowers:		



# 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.  
office@WeAreMtHermon.com or 803.794.6430*

## TREASURER REPORT

YTD January 2024	Income	Expense	Over (Short)
Current Mission Plan	\$32,591.54	19,483.75	13,107.79
Building Fund	\$6,397.00	4,954.48	1,442.52
Bldg Improvement	\$2,660.00	45.00	2,615.00

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## MT HERMON PRAYS

### **Continual Prayers**

Patricia Bachman,  
Alberta Berry, *home*  
Lauvenia Butts, *Lakeside Place*  
Bobby & Doris Carver, *Presby Home*  
James Hallman, *Lakeside Place*  
Marie Kleckley, *Lex Ext Care*

Gene & Jane Sexton, *Phoenix Asst Living*  
Gloria Mathias, *home*  
Jean Shealy, *Lakeside Place*  
Tom Roof, *home*  
Cyndi Thurman, *home*  
Linda Waters-Hamilton, *home*

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

Missy Addy	Bonnie Bouknight	Chris Carroll	Easton Donaldson
Georgianna Gray	Dot Mathias	Kelli Mills	Gene Schofield, <i>Home</i>
Jim Whitaker	Sharon Keefe		

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

Paul Garner, *friend of Robert Haygood*  
Debbie Browning, *sister of Donna Kirkpatrick*  
Mrs. William L. Coleman Jr (Carolyn), *friends of Marion & Cyndi Leaphart*  
Jaimie Womack, *friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price*  
Dale Miller, *son-in-law Wynne and Mary Price*  
Iris Wellborn, *sister of Earl Sease*  
John Catoe, *family of Ellisors*  
Dawn McIlwain-Merck, *friend of Robin Ellisor*  
Molly Kate Shealy, *friend of Jean Shealy*  
Chuck Bachman, *nephew of Jean Shealy*  
Jeff Tarlton, *friend of Michelle Gantt*  
Carleton Morse, *father of Cyndi Leaphart*  
Martha Williamson, *sister of Frank Bouknight*  
Jay Sox, *Papa of Brayden Rutherford and Dylan Whitaker*  
Ann Piercy, *friend of Kathy and Jim Whitaker*  
Jeff Reid, *friend of Jan Schofield*  
Stetson Cooper, *grandson of Shirley & Dan Cooper*  
Cindy Maples, *mother of Jennifer Miller*  
Lewis Turner, *friend of Jo Leach*  
Dr. Kay Moore, *friend, and co-worker of Cyndi Leaphart*  
Josh Jackson, *friend of Joel Price, Jr.*  
Brannon Yonce, *friend of Michelle Gantt*  
Katy Madigan, *friend of Marie Carroll*  
Billy Huckabee, *friend of Danny Scott*  
Jamie Spell, *friend of David Marsh*  
Logan Wittwer, *friend of Jessica Goodwin & Cameron Blakely*  
Louise Cooper, *Kelli Mills*  
Hayes Wingard, *grandson of Kathy and Sam Cooper*  
Nigel Tetley, *friend of Sherwood Garrett*  
Paula Miller, *friend of Brittany Allen*  
Wayne Kneece, *uncle of Michelle Gantt*  
Derwin Rish, *friend of Michelle Gantt*  
Jody & Libby Ortmann, *lost their daughter, Sallie, on Christmas Day, Sallie was the "adopted daughter" of Fran Bouknight*  
Roger Spires, *friend of Chris Carroll*  
Quentin Oswalt, *Angie Hydrick's nephew, deploying to Iraq*  
Phil Dennis, *brother of Lavonne Roof*  
Sandra Watson, *aunt of Courtney Bucknam*  
Joyce & Doug Gilbert, *coworkers of Courtney Bucknam*

*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](mailto:office@WeAreMtHermon.com)*



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

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Rev. Gina D. Metze, <i>Pastor</i>	803.951.3784	<i>PastorGina@WeAreMtHermon.com</i>
Svetlana Royal, <i>Director of Music</i>		<i>Music@WeAreMtHermon.com</i>
Denise Wolfe, <i>Parish Administrator</i>	803.794.6430	<i>Office@WeAreMtHermon.com</i>

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# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

# March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>25</b> 9:00am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am CR: Worship Team	<b>26</b> 6:30pm CR: Support Team	<b>27</b> 6:30pm CR: Support Team	<b>28</b> 9:00am Food Pantry (Debra Butts, David Butts, Andrea Bowers) 10:00am Staff Meeting 12:05pm OneBody Worship 6:35pm Lenten Worship 7:00pm FH: Lenten Meals 7:30pm Choir	<b>29</b> 6:30pm Crave	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 9:00am Food Pantry (Lynn Bouknight, Karen Nicholson) 3:00pm National Choir at St. Stephens Lexington
<b>3</b> 9:00am Worship-Youth Sunday 10:30am FH: Coffee, Food, Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School 3:00pm Confirmation	<b>4</b> 5:30pm CR: Care Team	<b>5</b> 5:00pm Executive Team	<b>6</b> 9:00am Food Pantry (Fran Bouknight, Angie Hydrick, Sherwood Garrett) 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:35pm Lenten Worship 7:00pm FH: Lenten Meals 7:30pm Choir	<b>7</b> 6:30pm Life Group at the Jackson'	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 9:00am Food Pantry (DJ Plummer, Youth) 6:00pm Hebrews Dinner
<b>10</b> <b>Daylight-Saving Time Begins</b> 9:00am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am Council Meets 4:00pm FH: Nutrition & Wellness Seminar	<b>11</b> 2:00pm CR: Dot Mathias 6:30pm Lutheran Men & Women	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 9:00am Food Pantry (Ann Addy, Ann Bouknight, Sharon Keefe) 10:00am Staff Meeting 12:05pm OneBody Worship 6:35pm Lenten Worship 7:00pm FH: Lenten Meals 7:30pm Choir	<b>14</b> PG: Vacation	<b>15</b> FH: Men's Chicken Stew PG: Vacation	<b>16</b> FH: Men's Chicken Stew PG: Vacation 9:00am Food Pantry (Koon family)
<b>17</b> PG: Vacation <b>St. Patrick's Day</b> 9:00am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am CR: Teach	<b>18</b> PG: Vacation 6:00pm CR: Outreach Team	<b>19</b> <b>First Day of Spring</b> 6:00pm CR: Finance Team	<b>20</b> 9:00am Food Pantry (Diane Boulware, Mary Frances Sease, Mary Price) 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:35pm Lenten Worship 7:00pm FH: Lenten Meals 7:30pm Choir	<b>21</b> 6:30pm Life Group at the Jackson'	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 9:00am Food Pantry (Kinard Family) 10:00am Eggstavanganza 6:00pm Hebrews Dinner
<b>24 Palm Sunday</b> 9:00am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am CR: Worship Team	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 6:30pm CR: Support Team	<b>27</b> 9:00am Food Pantry (Debra & David Butts, Andrea Bowers) 10:00am Staff Meeting 12:05pm OneBody Worship 7:30pm Choir	<b>28</b> <b>Maundy Thursday</b> 6:00pm Seder Meal 7:00pm Worship	<b>29</b> <b>Good Friday</b> 7:00pm Worship	<b>30</b> 9:00am Food Pantry (Swygerts and Carrolls)
<b>31 Easter Sunday</b> 6:30am Sunrise Service - Outdoor 7:45am FH: Breakfast by Youth 9:00am Worship 10:30am Sunday School	<b>1</b> 5:30pm CR: Care Team	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 9:00am Food Pantry (Fran Bouknight, Angie Hydrick, Sherwood Garrett) 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:30pm Choir	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 9:00am Food Pantry (Mike Rawl, Jamie & Nancy Addison)

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