

HOMECOMING

In late September 2018, Dion, Breanna, and I arrived with boxes and boxes and boxes of books and cherished office decorations at 3011 Leaphart Road. We officially began our ministry with you on October 1, 2018. Our first Sunday, was October 7th – Homecoming Sunday! How could it be 5 years ago? As we look back over our years together, we have certainly had our share of challenges opportunities for expanded ministries, especially with the restrictions during COVID. We made it through though! We are better today, having faced our challenges opportunities for sharing the gospel in this kingdom on earth.



In the gospel of Mark, Jesus is documented as being visiting a man who was possessed by an evil spirit. When Jesus casts out the evil spirit. *17Then they [the town's people] began to beg Jesus to leave their neighborhood. 18As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed by demons begged him that he might be with him. 19But Jesus refused, and said to him, "Go home to your friends, and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and what mercy he has shown you."*

Even in the goodness of Jesus returning the man to the community, others were afraid and maybe lost their source of income from the pigs. Sometimes we do the same thing. We are saddened by the short-term events without being overjoyed by the long-term gains. Many of us rebelled against locked doors, sign-in sheets, masks, distancing in the sanctuary, etc.; however, we gained much too. With an enhanced food pantry, we addressed increased hunger in the community. With limited gatherings, we used technology and social media to become a stronger beacon in this community. We fed the community both physically and spiritually.

Just last week, I met a couple who have not yet been in the sanctuary, yet, they admittedly said they know all about Mt. Hermon. They know because of what COVID forced us to do: use social media to *tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and what mercy he has shown you.*" Even post COVID, we can continue to be a beacon.

As we enter into a sixth year of ministry together on October 1 and then share Homecoming on October 8, we will continue to share what the Lord has done for us! Invite former members and neighbors to come and see and hear these stories of God's faithfulness to God's people.

Sister in Christ,

Pastor Gina

#3011LeaphartRoad #WeAreMtHermon

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

Home
is where
you hang
your hat



Homecoming

October 8, 2023

9:00 worship

covered dish

10:30

3011 Leaphart Rd
West Columbia



Bring a hat to be used in the decorations by October 5th or wear a hat on October 8th



AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

NEW MINISTRIES

and new opportunities for Community



WeAreMtHermon

Care Team

Would you be willing to call and check on some of our shut-ins? This would give you an opportunity to connect with those who built and invited us to become part of the ministry at Mt. Hermon.

Outreach Team

Would you be willing to help with fitting children with shoes at Cayce Elementary? This would give you an opportunity to see the children in our community who might not know what the hands and feet of Jesus looks like yet.



WeAreMtHermon



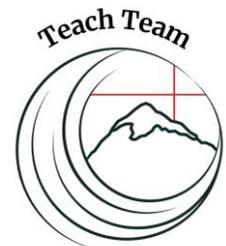
WeAreMtHermon

Support Team

Would you be willing to come to the church for several hours to assist with phone calls, greeting those who stop, etc.?

Teach Team

Would you be willing to be a teacher's assistant to our youngest children on Sunday mornings? There will be a lead teacher in the classrooms, and you will help with stickers on pages, setting up the space before the children arrive from music class and assist in the cleaning up after the children leave. This would give you the opportunity to connect with those who will be part of the ministry for years to come.



WeAreMtHermon



WeAreMtHermon

Worship and Music Team

Would you be willing to be trained by a professional voice teacher and then sing on Sunday mornings?



Community Thanksgiving Worship

*West Metro clergy and
joint choirs will lead
worship service.*

*Come and give thanks
to God together.*

Sunday, November 19 at 5 pm
Spaghetti meal to follow

Mt. Hermon Church

3011 Leaphart Rd
West Columbia

803.794.6430
wearemthermon.com



AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

CHURCH COUNCIL HAPPENINGS

Motion from the Council meeting

September Council motions:

- The Team for Ministry and the Worship & Music Team recommend to Council the following two services on Sunday, Christmas Eve 9:00 am Children oriented and 7:00 pm Candlelight Festival Service **APPROVED**
- The Care Team and Worship & Music Team recommend we fund the remaining \$500 from the Fund for the Arts with a love offering to go back into the Fund for the Arts to help offset the expense [of Randy Stonehill during Jesus and Java on October 14th.] **APPROVED**
- As information only: Gray Collegiate Academy requested permission for their students to use the parking lot on October 6th. Gray assumes all liability for the use of the parking lot.

**CHURCH COUNCIL
HIGHLIGHTS**

Congregational Council Minutes August 2023

ATTENDANCE: Absent – Tanner Addy, Blake Allen, Frankie Jackson, Jeff Price

CARES AND CONCERNS: Frankie Jackson's mother, Pat Jackson, Rocky (Andrea Bowers' family member), the family of Tom Robinson (friend of Danny Scott) who passed away, Cyndi Leaphart's father who has moved to a rehab facility, Bonnie Bouknight, Bonnie's grandson, Blaise's business was destroyed in the Maui wildfire, all the people killed in the Maui wildfires, and the students and families moving into college.

MEMBER CARE:

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Accepted as presented.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Minutes for July 2023 were accepted with the following corrections to the attendance report – Laura Stevens and Sheila Starkey were absent, and Allison Swygert was present.

REPORTS:

- Pastor Gina: Report for August 2023 was submitted.
- Treasurer: Budget Report for July 2023 and Treasurer's Report for July 2023 were submitted.
- Financial Secretary: Funds Report for July 2023 was submitted.
- Executive Committee: none

Team Reports/Recommendations:

Team for Ministry: No report submitted.

Care: Written report submitted.

Outreach: Written report submitted.

Support: Written report submitted.

Finance: No report submitted. Committees should submit 2024 budgets by September 1.

Teach: No report submitted.

Worship: No report submitted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Next Meeting – Sunday, September 10, 2023, at 11:30 am
2. Next Month's Devotions and Lock Up – Laura Stevens

Sheila Eargle,
Council Secretary

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

ATTENDANCE REPORT

	<u>In-person</u>	<u>Live Streaming</u>	<u>Total</u>
September 03	69	98	167
September 10	67	115	182
September 17	71	75	146
September 24	78	98	176

TREASURER REPORT

Year to Date August 2023

	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Current & Benevolence	\$ 149,782.23	\$ 158,161.96	\$ (8,379.73) *
Building Improvement	15,097.26	14,401.88	695.38
Building on Holy Ground	45,355.02	39,635.84	5,719.18

* The Finance Team would like to bring to your attention the current shortage of income to expenses. The operating mission plan for 2023 is \$249,616.80. If this is divided by 12, the monthly amount needed to meet the plan is \$20,801.40. We are currently \$10,000 short from this same time last year.

We understand that the summer months find us busy and once September comes around and we are back into our routines, the “catch up giving” happens and the budget is again funded. We ask that you consider “catching up” as soon as possible as we enter the planning and mission planning for 2024.

These Current & Benevolence is the top line on your offering envelope and that line are your contributions to fund the Current Year’s Mission plan.

The Finance Team

Disciples of Christ who call Mt. Hermon “home”,

God has given us MORE THAN ENOUGH to fund all the many ministries which he is calling us to offer at 3011 Leaphart Road. I know that we sometimes fund ministries that are dear to our hearts and, well, quite honestly, paying for building insurance and utilities is not quite glamorous. Would you join me and Dion in giving extra each week as we tackle this shortfall. If you need to “catch-up” your giving, that would also be a way to take care of this shortfall.

Abundance > Scarcity
Pastor Gina

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. **The next He-Brews date is November 11!** Use our website link to sign up.

If you are experiencing a life change from the loss of a loved one, please join us on Tuesdays at 6:00 in the "Gathering Room." Our **Grief Support Group** will give you an opportunity to talk with others that are experiencing similar feelings and support each other. If you would like to join us or want additional information, please contact Sheila Starkey at 803-315-2990 or Starkey.sheila@gmail.com.



Jesus and Java will welcome and host Randy Stonehill on October 14th at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Desserts and coffee will be provided. A love offering will be gathered to assist in the expense of this event.



AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

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!

Movies on the Mount! We will continue Season 3 of The Chosen. Pick up your dinner and we will eat together beginning at 6:00 in the Assembly Room. Movie will begin at 7:00 pm. If you have any questions, please call Mike Rawl.

Mark your calendars for October 28th – **Harvest Festival**
Decorate your vehicle, hand out candy at an already decorated vehicle, work with the cooks, keep the church grounds neat and clean, greet visitors, etc. Your help is needed!



LOTS OF OUTDOOR FUN FOR ALL AGES!
Saturday, October 28 at 5 pm
Harvest Festival
FREE FAMILY EVENT
WEIRD SCIENTIST'S MYSTERIOUS WALKWAY
TRUNK OR TREAT!
HAY RIDES
LIVE MUSIC
Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church
3011 Leaphart Road, West Columbia
WeAreMtHermon.com

Mark your calendar and sign up to help. November 30th – Sole Stepping. **Sole Stepping** provides 1,100 pairs of new tennis shoes. Each child will receive a free pair. Mt. Hermon has committed to having 20 people help on this day! Please sign up in the breezeway – half days and full days are needed.



Thanksgiving Bags – The food pantry will be distributing these again this year. Each bag will include canned ham, canned sweet potatoes, oil, brownie mix, and many other items for a Thanksgiving Meal. This is a greatly appreciated addition for our God's children who come for food from the Mt. Hermon food pantry.

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

SUPPORT TEAM

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

The Support Team did not meet in September.

The Finance Team met and will present the 2024 Mission Plan to the Council at the October 5th council meeting.

Next Support Meeting – October 24, 2023, at 6:30



Mark your calendars

Wednesday, October 17th –

Office to mail council nominations and 2024 Mission Plan

Sunday, November 5th –

Nominating meeting for church council members

Sunday, November 12th –

Tie breaking votes for members – if needed

Sunday, November 19th –

Annual congregational meeting in Fellowship Hall at 10:30

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

TEACH TEAM HAPPENINGS

The outreach team meets on the third Thursday at 6:00 in the education building. If you would like to serve on this team, please contact Cyndi Leaphart and attend the next meeting!

Lil Lutherans –

- Lil Lutherans have a Group Me Account. If you want to join, see Katie Donaldson or Elyse Kinard to be added.
- Music time for the children will be after the church service, from 10:15 – 10:30.
- On October 15th, the Lil Lutherans will be carving pumpkins and would like the other Sunday School classes to help, along with their participation.
- Lil Lutheran Christmas program – scheduled for 12/17/2023



Youth –

- The youth have a Group Me Account. If you want to join, see DJ Plummer to be added.
- Youth will provide Advent meals in December as a fundraiser for their upcoming ministries.

October:

- 1 Youth meets 6pm in the Fellowship Hall
- 15 (It hasn't been announced yet) Marty Party 3p-5p at Zion
- 22 Interest Meeting for those going on the Weekend Retreat in January at 6pm
- 28 Harvest Festival Youth will do a table for the children to come to
- 29 Announce Carolina vs. Clemson Food Drive during Worship Service



Adult Education –

- **LIFE – Living in Faith Experience** – October 17th
- YOU are invited to participate in Small Group Ministry!
- Have you ever wanted to be more connected with your fellow believers? To study Scripture together? To have some of your faith questions discussed and answered? To join with other believers in prayer, fellowship, and outreach? And to rejoice with one another in the good times as well as support each other during the challenges that we all face as we walk through life?
- Please join us October 17 at 6:30 at the home of Frankie and Melanie Jackson, 713 Indian River Drive, West Columbia



AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

WORSHIP TEAM

The teach team meets on the fourth Mondays at 6:30 in the conference room. If you would like to serve on this team, please contact Wynne Price and attend the next meeting!

The Worship Team needs your help! We would like to have a dedicated team to help with the set up and breakdowns before and after our outdoor worship services. If you are interested in learning about sound and logistics for this ministry, you will be trained and taught how to become an active part of the music ministry! Please see Pastor Gina to sign up and become engaged in this ministry.



*Home
is where
you hang
your hat*

Homecoming
October 8, 2023
9:00 worship
covered dish
10:30

3011 Leaphart Rd
West Columbia



Christmas Eve is on Sunday this year. The Worship and Music Team made the recommendation for this year that the services be held at 9:00 am (children and family focused) and only one afternoon and evening service at 7:00 (traditional candlelight service). That recommendation was approved by the council at the September meeting.

The **Community Epiphany Worship** will be on Saturday, January 6th. This service will be held at 5:00 and a reception to follow the worship. Pastor Gina will invite area pastors to take part in this worship service. This recommendation was also approved by the council at the September meeting.

Jesus and Java: The care team recommended to the worship team that we fund the remaining \$500 for Randy Stonehill to be featured at the October 14th Jesus and Java. A love offering will be accepted to help offset this expense.

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

SERVING IN WORSHIP

October 2023

	10/1/23	10/8/23	10/15/23	10/22/23	10/29/23
Ushers:	David Marsh	Ronnie Fulmer	Parker Boulware	Blake/Jack Allen	Randy Clark
	Rick Anthony	Wayne Eargle	Herb Bucknam	Jeff Price	Dion Metze
Crucifer:	Tanner Addy	Connor Eargle	Hayden Eargle	Brayden Rutherford	Walker Kinard
Acolyte:	Chanler Coppens	Sam Koon	Brayden Morris	Adelaine Bryant	Sydney Bucknam
Lector:	Scotty Marsh	Ronnie Fulmer	Sheila Eargle	Alyson Price	Angie Hydrick
Communion	Tanner Addy	Connor Eargle	Hayden Eargle	Brayden Rutherford	Walker Kinard
Assts:	Chanler Coppens	Sam Koon	Brayden Morris	Sherwood Garret	Sydney Bucknam
	Scotty Marsh	Ronnie Fulmer	Emily Morris	Kathy Cooper	Wynne Price
	David Marsh	Debbie Fulmer	Marie Gardner	Kirby Johnson	Mary Price
	Daryl Leigh Anthony	Susan Busby	Sheila Eargle	Joel Price, Sr	Angie Hydrick
Nursery:	Charlene Corley	Alyson Price	Noah Swygert	Katie Donaldson	Leah Rawl
	DJ Plummer	Brittany Allen	Cassie Swygert	Melanie Jackson	Brayden Morris
Flowers:	Marshs	Jason Addy	Terry Swygert	Becky Johnson	Joel & Devona Price

SERVING IN OCTOBER

COUNCIL REP: Laura Stevens

ALTAR GUILD: Angie Hydrick, Jennifer Price

TABULATORS: Ronnie Fulmer, Mary Price

USHERS: Marion Leaphart, Susan Busby, Dennis Thurman

AUDIO/VIDEO TEAM: Arron Kinard, Quentin Kinard

** 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

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



- Oct 02 Amanda Mills
- ♥ Oct 02 Jon & Tiffany Kaylor
- Oct 03 Bryson Johnson
- ♥ Oct 03 Jason & Kim Addy
- Oct 09 Tanner Addy
- Oct 11 Jennifer Price
- Oct 17 Presley Miller, Aura Swygert, Aiden Thompson
- Oct 18 Audrey Jennings
- ♥ Oct 18 Gale & Sherwood Garrett
- Oct 19 Emily Arroyo
- Oct 20 Jean Shealy
- ♥ Oct 20 Rick & Daryl Leigh Anthony
- Oct 21 Preston Bryant, Denise Thurman
- Oct 22 Sophie Martin
- Oct 23 Mackenzie Burns
- ♥ Oct 26 Thomas & Danni Martin
- Oct 27 Lynn Card
- Oct 28 Cody Kleckley, Jackson Price
- Oct 29 Marion Leaphart, Emily Morris
- Oct 31 Gable Jolly

*Please let the office know if your information is not printed in this listing.
office@WeAreMtHermon.com or 803.794.6430*



AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

MT HERMON PRAYS

Continual Prayers

Patricia Bachman, *Generations*

Alberta Berry, *home*

Lauvenia Butts, *Lakeside Place*

Bobby & Doris Carver, *Presby Home*

Eldon Eargle, *home*

James Hallman, *Lakeside Place*

Marie Kleckley, *Lex Ext Care*

Gloria Mathis, *home*

Jean Shealy, *Lakeside Place*

Tom Roof, *home*

Cyndi Thurman, *home*

Linda Waters-Hamilton, *home*

Pastor Derald Edwards, *home*

Members in Special Need of Prayer

Bonnie Bouknight

Easton Donaldson

Georgianna Gray

Robert Haygood

Dot Mathias

Gene Schofield

Jane Sexton

Jim Whitaker

Family and Friends Who Have Requested Prayers

Cindy Maples, *mother of Jennifer Miller*

Lewis Turner, *friend of Jo Leach*

Billy Huckabee, *friend of Danny Scott*

Stan Weber, *husband of Debi Weber*

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

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

Brannon Yonce, *friend of Michelle Gantt*

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

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*

Mike Ondera, *friend of Sherwood Garrett*

Molly Kate Shealy, *friend of Jean Shealy*

Chuck Bachman, *nephew of Jean Shealy*

Jeff Tarlton, *friend of Michelle Gantt*

Allison Limatainen, *niece of Sheila Starkey*

Carleton Morse, *father of Cyndi Leaphart*

Martha Williamson, *sister of Frank Bouknight*

Jay Sox, *Papa of Braden Rutherford and Dylan Whitaker*

Ann Piercy, *friend of Kathy and Jim Whitaker*

Jeff Reid, *friend of Jan Schofield*

Stephanie Alewine Hopper, *friend of David & Scottie Marsh*

Vicki Boozer, *friend of David & Scottie Marsh*

Karen Brosius, *sister-in-law of Sherwood Garrett*

Stetson Cooper, *grandson of Shirley & Dan Cooper*

Katy Madigan, *friend of Marie Carroll*

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

October 2023

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
1 9:00am Worship 10:15am MR: Childrens Choir 10:30am Sunday School 3:00pm Confirmation 6:00pm FH: Youth meets	2 5:30pm CR: Care Team	3 5:00pm Executive Team 6:00pm GR: Grief Support	4 9:00am Food Pantry (Fran Bouknight, Angie Hydrick, Sherwood Garrett) 10:00am Meals on Wheels 6:30pm Choir	5 6:00pm Council Meets	6 FH: Homecoming 7:00am AR: Movies on the Mount 6:00pm AR: Fellowship and Meal	7 FH: Homecoming 9:00am Food Pantry (Al & Laura Stevens)							
8 FH: Homecoming 9:00am Worship- Homecoming 10:15am MR: Childrens Choir 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am Homecoming Covered Dish	9 Columbus Day FH: Homecoming 2:00pm CR: Dot Mathias 6:30pm Lutheran Men & Women	10 6:00pm GR: Grief Support	11 9:00am Food Pantry (Ann Addy, Ann Bouknight, Sharon Keefe) 10:00am Meals on Wheels 12:05pm OneBody Worship 6:30pm Choir	12	13 7:00am AR: Movies on the Mount 6:00pm AR: Fellowship and Meal	14 9:00am Food Pantry (Parker & Diane Boulware) 12:00pm Confirmation Stmt Due 6:00pm Jesus and Java							
15 9:00am Worship 10:15am MR: Childrens Choir 10:30am Lil Lutherans 10:30am Sunday School 3:00pm Confirmation 3:00pm Marty Party ?	16 6:00pm CR: Outreach Team	17 Cong. Mail out 6:00pm CR: Finance Team 6:00pm GR: Grief Support	18 9:00am Food Pantry (Diane Boulware, Mary Frances Sease, Mary Price) 10:00am Meals on Wheels 6:30pm Choir 6:30pm Harvest Festival Planning	19 6:00pm Teach Team	20 7:00am AR: Movies on the Mount 6:00pm AR: Fellowship and Meal	21 9:00am Food Pantry (Swygerts & Carrolls) 10:00am Confirmation Rehearsal							
22 9:00am Worship 10:15am MR: Childrens Choir 10:30am Sunday School	23 6:30pm CR: Worship Team	24 6:00pm Comm- of 100 6:30pm CR: Support Team	25 9:00am Food Pantry (Dave & Debra Butts) 10:00am Meals on Wheels 12:05pm OneBody Worship 6:30pm Choir	26	27 All Areas Harvest Festival 7:00am AR: Movies on the Mount 6:00pm AR: Fellowship and Meal	28 All Areas Harvest Festival 9:00am Food Pantry (Kinard Family) 5:00pm Harvest Festival							
29 Reformation Sunday 9:00am Worship - Reformation & Confirmation 10:15am MR: Childrens Choir 10:30am FH: CFF 10:30am No Sunday School 11:00am Food Drive Kickoff	30	31	1 All Saints Day 9:00am Food Pantry (Dave & Debra Butts Andrea Bowers) 10:00am Meals on Wheels 6:30pm Choir	2	3 7:00am AR: Movies on the Mount 6:00pm AR: Fellowship and Meal	4 9:00am Food Pantry (Youth)							

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



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

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

WeAreMtHermon

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Rev. Gina D. Metze, Pastor
 Svetlana Royal, Director of Music
 open, Parish Administrator

803.951.3784

 803.794.6430

PastorGina@WeAreMtHermon.com
 Music@WeAreMtHermon.com
 Office@WeAreMtHermon.com

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