

# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

January 2022



## Anticipation and Expectations

*<sup>9</sup>When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Matthew 2:9-11*

Do you remember the months, weeks, and days leading up to January 1, 2000? Do you remember where you were? Do remember your own preparations for the moment when the clock moved to 2000 and all the computer programs would not know how or what to do? Among the concerns: Would your banking accounts vanish? Would the power plants shut down? What would happen at the stroke of midnight and the end of the 1900's? There were just sooooo many questions! As this story turns out, programmers and forecasters worked diligently and the transition from 1999 to 2000 seemed to go off without much more noise than just the regular fireworks. Perhaps we can reminisce back to this date in history and use the preparations to help us move forward into 2022.

The Church Council and Ministry Team Leaders will meet January 14 and 15 at Camp Kinard to look with anticipation and establish expectations for the leaders and for the congregation. Like the wisemen in Matthew's gospel, we don't know what will come from the weekend time together, but what we know for sure is that **we go!** **We go** and take our gifts of discipline, focus, and hope. **We go** to focus on Christ's church.

Another focus to come from the retreat will be expectations for all who are disciples of Christ who call Mt. Hermon *home*. Where is God calling you to use your gifts? Usher, reader, handbell, youth group, painter, cook, etc.? We will be calling on you and asking each of you to serve in one or more ways. The work is multiplying and so are the numbers of disciples. We are all to share our gifts. Be in prayer for your area of service in 2022.

God calls each of us to use our gifts to further the kingdom! Would you like to serve on a different team? Would you like to see some changes on the team which you serve? Would you like to pray, dream, vision and be led by a star to a new ministry? Let's begin to anticipate and expect new ministries this year.

Listening to and following and **going to** the One Leader and inviting you to come along.

*Pastor Gina*

#3011LeaphartRoad

#WeAreMtHermon

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**What a wonderful Christmas season!** There are so many to thank – choir members, children’s parents, members who helped organize events – and the list goes on. But most of all, thanks to our Lord for giving us a reason to celebrate this time of year!

Our children provided music for the children’s Christmas Eve service along with having their puppets share a song from the musical “Angels Aware”. After all their rehearsals on Sunday afternoons, they felt perfectly comfortable in their presentations. Our tonechime choir played “Away in a Manger” like the little cherubs they are! Many thanks to the children and parents for supporting this new aspect of Mt. Hermon’s Music Ministry.

Also, thank you for the beautiful Christmas cards and gifts from the congregation! Your wishes for a beautiful season certainly came to fruition this year. As a result of the many activities of these past weeks, I am taking a slight break of two weeks from Sunday afternoon rehearsals. We will resume on January 16. Tonechimes will continue each Sunday.

Please mark your calendars for our community Epiphany service on January 7, Thursday at 7:00 p.m. There will be special music in a festival setting of Epiphany.

Plans for the upcoming months are in the “brainstorming” stage with Pastor Gina and myself. More news on upcoming services and events should be announced in the February newsletter.

Once again, thank you for your support and encouragement.

*Ruthie Brannen*  
Director of Music



# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

## Congregational Council Minutes November 14, 2021

**ATTENDANCE:** All were present except Allison Swygert and Jackson Price

**CARES AND CONCERNS:** Praying for family of Earl Sease's neighbor who passed away. Also praying for Gene Schofield. Thomas McDonald is doing well and has been cleared for going back to work next month.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:** Approved with no additions

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES:** Approved with no corrections

### **REPORTS:**

- Pastor Gina: Written report received. We welcome new members Wayne and Charlene Corley. We also welcome new members Brandon, Katie, Paisley, and Easton Donaldson. More baptisms are scheduled for the upcoming weeks. Confirmation classes restart November 14th. The church received a thank you note from Laura Henrickson for the Stephen Price scholarship.
- Treasurer: Written report received for October 2021

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

**Worship:** Worship and Music Team recommend that we fund "Singers for Services" for the upcoming Advent and Christmas seasons in the amount of \$3000 with Finance Committee to determine source of funding. The Finance Committee met and recommended that line items in the Treasurer's Report for "Undesignated Contributions in the amount of \$2367.06 and "Choir Robes" in the amount of \$800 be moved to the Fund for the Arts which the Worship Team controls not council. There was much discussion including not wanting to seem like we had a paid choir instead of our members who tirelessly give of their time and talents. **APPROVED WITH ONE NO VOTE.** Worship and Music Team's second recommendation is that a new line item be added to the 2022 Spending Plan to fund "Singers for Services in the amount of \$6000 with review by Finance Committee. The Finance Committee met and all agreed not to pursue this recommendation at this time. Church council voted to **APPROVE the Finance Committee recommendation not to pursue.**

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Building Renovation & Repair Task Force: They recommend we spend \$3500 to upgrade lighting to LED lights in all fixtures along with the electrical improvements in chancel, nave, narthex, and stairwells. Funds to come from the pre-approved window repair line item. It was discussed that there was an original \$10,000 estimate to repair/replace broken windows. The team has decided not to replace windows that are not broken. Instead, to repair broken glass only in windows will be \$1600. The \$1600 spent in addition to proposed \$3500 will leave a surplus of \$4900 for other projects. Jeff Price has been in contact with Dominion Energy and is filling out the mountain of paperwork to qualify for a \$1300 rebate from them for energy efficiency upgrades. **APPROVED**
2. Covid concerns: None at this time.

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## **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Congregational meeting logistics
2. Council ballot update: The congregation has voted to add Parker Boulware, Frank Bouknight, Frankie Jackson, and Tommy Mills to those nominated by council, Joel Price Sr., Eric Carroll, Laura Stevens, Jeff Price, and youth representative Joshua Koon
3. New Council Installation December 19, 2021.
4. Sale of the church bus: The church bus has been sold for \$12,500.
5. 2022 Spending Plan Adjustments: Church council recommends we take a recommendation to annual meeting to delete the \$500 bus maintenance and \$580 bus insurance line items from proposed 2022 Spending Plan. **APPROVED**. Church council also recommends that the bus proceeds of \$12,500 be put in an earmarked fund for travel related expenses. All expenditures from this fund must be preapproved by Finance Committee and Church Council.  
Next meeting December 12, 2021 with devotions by Allison Swygert.

Robin Ellisor,  
Council Secretary

## **Annual Congregational Meeting November 21, 2021**

**ATTENDANCE:** 54 voting members in attendance

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:** Approved with no additions.

- Church council recommends deleting the \$500 bus maintenance and \$580 bus insurance line items from proposed 2022 Spending Plan due to selling the bus. **APPROVED**.
- First voting ballot 54 votes cast and must have a majority to be elected. The following were elected on first ballot: Jeff Price, Joel Price Sr., Laura Stevens, and youth representative Joshua Koon. There will be a second ballot to elect either Parker Boulware or Frankie Jackson.
- Second voting ballot 54 votes cast and Frankie Jackson was elected.
- Motion from Parker Boulware to create two-line items in 2022 Spending Plan: one for Outreach Ministry in amount of \$4150 and one for Pastor Discretionary Fund in amount of \$500. 41 votes were cast and 25 were yes and 16 were no. **MOTION APPROVED**
- 2022 Spending Plan **APPROVED**

Robin Ellisor,  
Council Secretary

# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

## Treasurer Report November 2021

	<u>Actual Income</u>	<u>Actual Expenses</u>	<u>Difference</u>
<b>Current &amp; Benevolence</b>	203,172.22	203,487.84	959.77
<b>Building Improvement</b>	26,003.58	17,178.65	8,824.93
<b>Building on Holy Ground</b>	60,481.45	51,275.71	9,205.74



### **Live Stream Check-ins + In-person = Total**

December 5 <sup>th</sup>	62	+	102	164
December 5 <sup>th</sup> Cantata	56	+	97	153
December 12 <sup>th</sup>	66	+	84	150
December 12 <sup>th</sup> Evening Advent				24
December 19 <sup>th</sup>	56	+	87	143
December 19 <sup>th</sup> Evening Advent				21
December 24 <sup>th</sup> 4:00			50	50
December 24 <sup>th</sup> 7:00	62	+	58	156
December 26 <sup>th</sup>	58	+	68	126

### **2022 Church Council**

Joel Price, Sr., President; Blake Allen, Vice President; Sheila Eargle, Secretary

#### **Terms expiring 2022**

Sheila Eargle, Karen Nicholson, Jenny Scott, Earl Sease

#### **Terms expiring 2023**

Blake Allen, Mike Rawl, Sheila Starkey, Allison Swygert

#### **Terms expiring 2024**

Frankie Jackson, Jeff Price, Joel Price, Sr., Laura Stevens

# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

## Community Epiphany Service

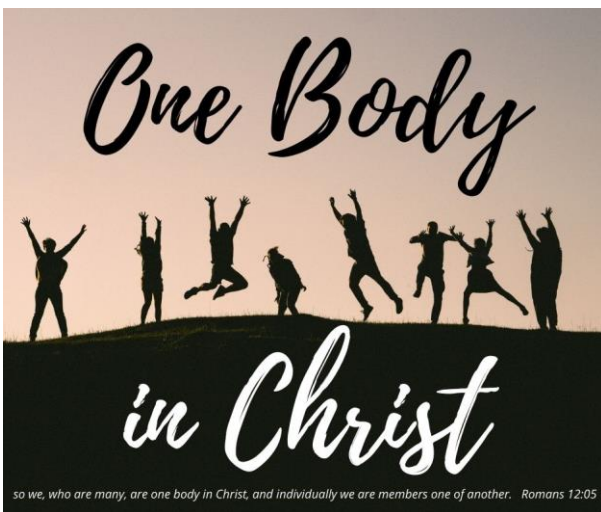
COME AND WORSHIP  
JANUARY 6TH  
7:00PM



### OneBody in Christ

Beginning January 12<sup>th</sup> on the second and fourth Wednesdays in the Fellowship Hall. This 30-minute worship service will include Word and Holy Communion.

If someone would like to coordinate food (covered dish meals), please let Pastor Gina know.



*Does it sometimes seem confusing?*

*What do Lutherans believe?*

*5 session class*

*Wednesday nights ~ Fellowship Hall*

*6:00 coffee and discussion*

*January 12 through February 9*

# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

## Outreach Events



**Food  
Pantry  
Needs**

**Food Pantry**  
January items of the month:  
**White Rice and Canned Beef Stew**

Our Food Pantry is definitely being used by the community. We are averaging about 65 set ups each month. We also distributed 40 holiday bags in November and another 40 in December.

Some of the local schools are listing our Food Pantry on the resource sheet they share with families in need of assistance. **Any donation you can make would be greatly appreciated. We are grateful to all who continue to give to make this ministry possible.**

### Heart to Home Ministry (Weekend Snack Bags)

We are providing kid-friendly weekend meals to 25 students in need at Wood Elementary. Each bag contains food for two breakfasts, four lunches and two snacks with an estimated cost of around four dollars a bag.



### Exercise Classes

For almost 20 years, Dot Mathias has been leading people to become healthier through exercise. She is a certified instructor and the classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the church Assembly Room. Exercises during the 2 pm class can be done either standing or seated in a chair. A 3 pm class is on Tuesdays only is a Pilates class using a mat. All are welcome to come and participate. Be sure to wear comfortable clothes. If you have questions, give Dot a call. Masks and hand sanitizer are available and there is room for social distancing.

### Thank You!

We would like to extend a big thank you to the congregation of Mt. Hermon for their generous donations to the community through their gifts to the **Angel Tree, Food Pantry, and the Free Garage Sale**. With all your contributions we were able to reach around 40 children through the Angel Tree, and many others through the Food Pantry and Free Garage Sale.

Another big thank you goes to **Oak Grove Elementary School** for their significant donations of food to our **Food Pantry**.



# January Birthdays & Anniversaries

**Jan 05**

Kaytlin Hutto  
CJ Threatt

**Jan 10**

Bobby Carver

**Jan 21**

Barbara Corley  
Cindy Price

**Jan 05**

Karly Addy  
Hazel Bockus  
Alyssa Stevens

**Jan 11**

Rebekah Boatwright

**Jan 22**

Joel Price, Sr.

**Jan 13**

Kevin Addy

**Jan 23**

Cindy Kleckley

**Jan 06**

Robin Ellisor

**Jan 15**

♥ James Hallman & Jean Shealy

**Jan 28**

Braydon Johnson

**Jan 08**

Bryan Addy

**Jan 17**

Shirley Cooper

**Jan 31**

Ruth Card

**Jan 09**

Danielle Martin

*We want to keep our calendar up to date with your special occasions, but we need your help. If your birthday or anniversary is missing, please give us a call or email us at [office@wearethermon.com](mailto:office@wearethermon.com)*





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## MT HERMON PRAYS ...

*the family of the Reverend Everett Price*

### **Continual Prayers**

Patricia Bachman, *Generations*

Alberta Berry, *home*

Hazel Bockus, *Springdale Home*

Lyle Bockus, *Springdale Home*

Nell Buff, *NHC*

Gennar Kiser, *home*

June Roof, *Rapha*

Tom Roof, *home*

Lena Wessinger, *Presby. Home*

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

Clifton Addy

James Hallman

Becky Ellisor

Angie Hydrick

Jean Shealy

Jimmy Maddox

Jerry Price III

Jane Sexton

Cyndi Thurman

Linda Waters-Hamilton

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

Grayson Dykes, *friend of Angie Hydrick*

Martha Eastwood, *sister of Marie Kleckley*

David Hydrick, *family of Angie Hydrick*

Charlotte & Paul Nelson, *friends of Herb Bucknam*

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*

Gary & Linda Hodgins, *friends of Herb Bucknam*

Tressa Oswalt, *sister of Angie Hydrick*

Don Freeman, *friend of Marion & Cyndi Leaphart*

Jessica Drigger's mother, *friend of Denise Thurman*

Iris Wellborn, *sister of Earl Sease*

Bill Harrell, *friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price*

Richie Tallent, *friend of Danny Scott*

John Catoe, *family of Ellisors*

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

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

Cindy Maples, *mother of Jennifer Miller*

Carter Miller, *great-grandson of Mary and Wynne Price*

Lewis Turner, *friend of Jo Leach*

Emma Hunt, *grandmother of Laura Carroll*

Beth Ellsworth, *friend of Kenny Bouknight*

Charlie & Henry King, *grandsons of Francis & Joanne Eargle*

David Gosnell, *friend of Allison Swygert*

Michelle Gross, *friend of Regan Anthony*

Shirley Duenka, *friend of Sheila Starkey*

Grayson Crout, *friend of Sheila Starkey*

# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

## Serving in the Community

January 2022

**COUNCIL REP:** Allison Swygert

**ALTAR GUILD:** Ann Addy, Annette Price

**TABULATORS:** Larry Amick, Angie Hydrick

<u>Altar Flowers</u>		<u>Greeter</u>	
2	OPEN	2	Mary Price
9	OPEN	9	Mary Price
16	OPEN	16	Mary Price
23	OPEN	23	Mary Price
30	OPEN	30	Mary Price
<u>Crucifer</u>		<u>Acolyte</u>	
2	Jackson Price	2	Spencer Price
9	Josh Koon	9	Sam Koon
16	Lawson Morris	16	Brayden Morris
23	Conner Eargle	23	Hayden Eargle
30	Quentin Kinard	30	Walker Kinard
<u>Lector</u>		<u>Communion Assistants</u>	
2	Joel Price, Sr.	2	Joel Price, Sr., Terry Swygert
9	Danny Scott	9	Marion Leaphart, Joel Price, Sr.
16	Devona Price	16	Ronnie Fulmer, Frankie Jackson
23	Sheila Eargle	23	Terry Swygert, Susan Busby
30	Allison Swygert	30	Danny Scott, Jennifer Miller

*\* If you are unable to serve, please ask someone to cover for you and 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

## January 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>2</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Cherub Tonechimes 10:30 am Sunday school	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 2:00 pm Exercise class 6:00 pm CR: Michelle Ganitt 6:00 pm Exec. Committee 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>5</b> 9:00 am Food Pantry (Diane Boulware, Mary Frances Sease) 10:00 am Meals on Wheels	<b>6 Epiphany</b> 2:00 pm Exercise class 7:00 pm Epiphany Worship	<b>1</b> 9:00 am Food Pantry	
<b>9</b> 9:00 am Worship (Baptism) 10:15 am Cherub Tonechimes 10:30 am Sunday school 2:00 pm CR: SC LMM	<b>10</b> 10:00 am Staff Meeting 1:00 pm CR: Dot Mathias 6:30 pm Lutheran Men	<b>11</b> 2:00 pm Exercise class 6:00 pm CR: Michelle Ganitt	<b>12</b> 9:00 am Food Pantry (Anette Price, Bonnie Bouknight, Sharon Keefe) 10:00 am Meals on Wheels 12:00 pm OneBody in Christ 6:00 pm Study: We believe	<b>13</b> 2:00 pm Exercise class 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>14</b> 5:00 pm Council retreat	<b>15</b> 8:00 am Council retreat 9:00 am Food Pantry (Lynn Bouknight, Karen Nicholson)
<b>16</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Cherub Tonechimes 10:30 am Sunday school	<b>17</b> 10:00 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm CR: Melanie Jackson 6:00 pm FH: Outreach Team	<b>18</b> 2:00 pm Exercise class 6:00 pm CR: Michelle Ganitt	<b>19</b> 9:00 am Food Pantry 10:00 am Meals on Wheels 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 6:00 pm Study: We believe	<b>20</b> 2:00 pm Exercise class	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 9:00 am Food Pantry
<b>23</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Cherub Tonechimes 10:30 am Sunday school 3:00 pm Confirmation Class 4:30 pm Youth Meeting	<b>24</b> 10:00 am Staff Meeting	<b>25</b> 2:00 pm Exercise class 6:00 pm CR: Michelle Ganitt	<b>26</b> 9:00 am Food Pantry 10:00 am Meals on Wheels 12:00 pm OneBody in Christ 6:00 pm Study: We believe	<b>27</b> 2:00 pm Exercise class 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 9:00 am Food Pantry
<b>30</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Cherub Tonechimes 10:30 am Sunday school	<b>31</b> 10:00 am Staff Meeting	<b>February 1</b> 2:00 pm Exercise class	<b>2</b> 9:00 am Food Pantry 10:00 am Meals on Wheels 6:00 pm Study: We believe	<b>3</b> 2:00 pm Exercise class 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 9:00 am Food Pantry



WeAreMtHermon

Mt Hermon Lutheran Church  
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Ruthie Brannen, *Director of Music*  
Ashley Masters, *Parish Administrator*    803.794.6430

*PastorGina@WeAreMtHermon.com*  
*Ruthie@WeAreMtHermon.com*  
*Office@WeAreMtHermon.com*

**CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS**

Joel Price, Sr., *President*  
Sheila Eargle, *Secretary*  
Annette Price, *Financial Secretary*

Blake Allen, *Vice President*  
Parker Boulware, *Treasurer*  
Ricky Bouknight & Terry Swygert, *Sextons*

<p>www.WeAreMtHermon.com 3011 Leaphart Road West Columbia, SC 29169 803.794.6430 Monday - Thursday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Table of Contents</b></p> <p>Letter from Pastor . . . . . 1 News from Music Director . . . . . 2 Council Notes . . . . . 3 Community News . . . . . 4-7 Birthdays and Anniversaries . . . . . 8 Prayer List. . . . . 9 Serving in the Community. . . . . 10 Calendar . . . . . 11</p>
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