

When [Jesus] noticed
*how the guests chose
the places of honor,
he told them a parable.*

Luke 14:7, NRSV

AUGUST 31, 2025

WELCOME

We welcome you to Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church!

If you are worshipping with us for the first time, WELCOME.

If you are worshipping again, WELCOME BACK.

Worship is much more joyful when we add our voices to offer praise and thanksgiving. If you need anything, just ask one of the ushers or greeters. If you would like to discuss discipleship at Mt. Hermon, Pastor Gina would love to speak with you!

Again welcome...

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please see the Community Announcements in the back section of the bulletin.

*Please note that all the congregation responses are printed in **Bold and Italics**.*

We leave all that which might be a distraction from worship at the doors this day and we prepare our hearts for worship. Peace be with you. ***Amen.***

PRELUDE

Medley
Evonovich

THE GATHERING

We stand and face the baptismal font.

In the name of the Father,

and ✝ the Son,

and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We turn to the doors of the sanctuary.

As broken children, we begin worship by acknowledging our sinfulness and asking for God's forgiveness.

Baptized into Christ, we confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
*you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life. Amen.*

You belong to Christ Jesus
and you are God's children through faith.
In the cross of ✝ Christ,
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.**

Please turn to the altar as the cross passes your pew.

HYMN

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Watts/OneLicense #30126374



- 1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
- 2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
- 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
- 4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE

Augsburg Fortress #SB153820



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri - e e - lei - son, ev-'ry day.



- 1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the
- 2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the
- 3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for
- 4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



u - ni - ty of all; for
 hun - gry and the poor; that
 friends and fam - i - ly; for
 wa - ter and the word; that you



this ho - ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,
 we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,
 life and for love, for our work and our play,
 nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray together.

O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

We sit.

THE WORD

PROVERBS 25:6-7A

A reading from Proverbs.

- ⁶ Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great,
^{7a} for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

The Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 112

We read responsively.

- ¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord
and have great delight in God's commandments!
² ***Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright of the upright
will be blessed.***
³ Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.
⁴ ***Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.***

⁵ It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.

***⁶ For they will never be shaken;
The righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.***

⁷ They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

***⁸ Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire upon their enemies.***

⁹ They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

***¹⁰ The wicked will see it and be angry;
they will gnash their teeth and pine away;
the desires of the wicked will perish.***

HEBREWS 13:1-8,15-16

A reading from Hebrews.

¹ Let mutual affection continue. ² Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³ Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴ Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. ⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, “I will never leave you or forsake you.” ⁶ So we can say with confidence,

“The Lord is my helper;
I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

⁷ Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵ Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

I Love You Lord

Klein/CCLI #25266

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of four staves. The lyrics are written below the notes, and guitar chords are indicated above the staff lines. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The lyrics for the first staff are "I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice to". The second staff continues the lyrics "wor - ship you; O my soul, re - joice. Take". The third staff continues "joy, my King, in what you hear; may it be a". The fourth staff concludes with "sweet, sweet sound in your ear." The chords used include F², Gm/F, F, Bb, F/A, Gm⁷, C⁷_{sus}, C, Bb/D, C/E, F⁷, F^{sus}/G, C⁷, Bb²/F, and F².

I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice to
wor - ship you; O my soul, re - joice. Take
joy, my King, in what you hear; may it be a
sweet, sweet sound in your ear.

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 14:1, 7-14

The holy gospel according to St. Luke the 14th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸ “When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

We sit.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

invited to a party

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Please pray with me the prayer of preparation.

Holy God, you have a word for me today. Make my heart soft and plant your word in me in order that it may bear fruit in your kingdom. Amen.

SERMON

invite others

We stand.

HYMN

What Feast of Love

Duffner/OneLicense #98260



- 1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban - quet come from heav - en?
- 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
- 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim - son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last - ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
What hope of ev - er - last - ing life, what won - drous word is giv - en?
What stream of ev - er - last - ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

APOSTLES' CREED

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

***I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.***

***I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.***

***I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.***

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

Hear us, O God. ***Your mercy is great.***

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion. ***Amen.***

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

We sit.

OFFERING

*We give our monetary offering to support Christ's mission in this place and around the world in gratitude of God's amazing grace. You may contribute any time by visiting www.WeAreMtHermon.org and click on "On-line Giving." Thank you for your gifts and your stewardship. **Friendship pads** have returned to the pews. Please take a moment to sign the forms so that we may get to know our neighbors and we will also have a record of your communing.*

OFFERING

Just as I am

Bradbury/OneLicense #150248

We stand.

OFFERTORY

Holy Spirit Rain Down

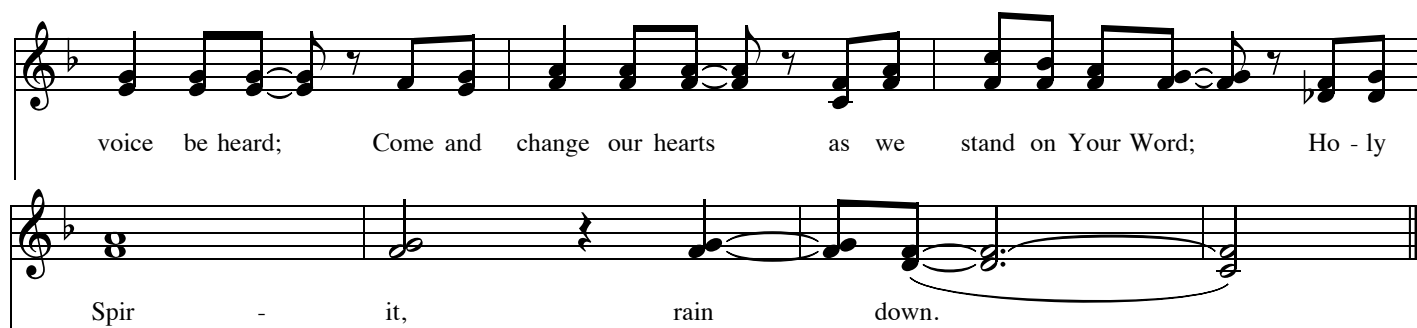
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The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is divided into three systems. The first system begins with a 4/4 measure, followed by a repeat sign and a 4/4 measure, then a 4/4 measure, a 4/4 measure, and a 4/4 measure. The second system consists of a single 4/4 measure. The third system begins with a 4/4 measure, followed by a 4/4 measure, a 4/4 measure, a 4/4 measure, a 4/4 measure, and a 4/4 measure. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes.

Ho - ly Spi - rit rain down, rain down; O

Com - fort - er and Friend, how we need Your touch a - gain; Ho - ly Spir - it

rain down, rain down; Let Your pow - er fall, let Your



OFFERING PRAYER

We give thanks for these gifts and we pray together.

Creator God,

***in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good
and the harvest is plentiful.***

***Strengthen us at your table
with these gifts of the earth and our labor,
that we may work for the good of all;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.***

THE MEAL

Christ is truly present in the most ordinary and unexpected of places.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,

almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened the way to everlasting life.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed...

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

God, our great provider, the bread of life nourishes and sustains us. Send the Spirit to fill this bread and wine.
Come, Holy Spirit.

This meal fills your people with your abundant mercy and draws us closer to you and with one another. We long to be filled with your bread. Strengthen us in your presence.
Come, Holy Spirit.

We worship and adore you. We fall at your feet to be near you. Show us your great power and assure us of your mighty presence. ***Amen.***

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

***Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;***

***and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.***

We sit.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

COMMUNION

Please come forward using the side aisles to receive communion. You will receive the bread and then you may dip in the first chalice of wine, or in the second chalice of grape juice. You may then return to your pews using the center aisle. Please return to your pews for a time of quiet prayer and meditation. If this is the first Sunday of the month, there will be a third station at the rail. On this Sunday, you may continue through the side doors and an usher will guide you to the altar to receive communion.

MUSIC

Medley
Evonovich

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

May the Body and Blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ,
strengthen you and keep you in His grace. ***Amen.***

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We pray together.

***Mothering God,
you gathered us to your table
and we drank deeply of your grace.
Send us out by your Spirit***

*to love our neighbors as ourselves
and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. Amen.*

THE SENDING

BLESSING

The love of God abound in you;
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;
and the life of the Spirit
✠ bless you and give you peace. *Amen.*

HYMN

Baptized and Set Free

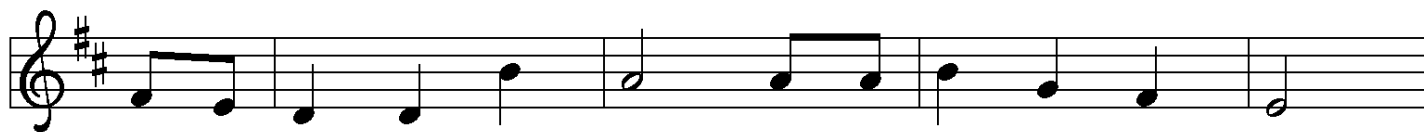
Skogen, Soldner/OneLicense #85971



1 We are peo - ple cre - at - ed, cho - sen by God.
2 We are fed and we're nour - ished, filled and re - freshed.
3 We are nour - ished by wa - ter, all liv - ing things,
4 Now with praise and thanks - giv - ing, we join the song.



Then we're washed, ev - er gent - ly, in mer - cy and love.
Then our hun - ger re - turns and a - gain we are blessed.
and by life that the Spir - it a - bun - dant - ly brings.
All are wel - come! We gath - er to sing loud and strong.



Sin has pow - er no more. Je - sus o - pened the door
For what - ev - er the need, God is great - er in - deed:
As we jour - ney toward home, may your pres - ence be known:
Not en - slaved, but set free! From now on, all will be



to a foun-tain bring-ing heal-ing, and whole-ness and more.
end-less o - cean, al-ways deep - er than all of our need.
pre - cious riv - er, ev - er - flow - ing, now car - ry us home.
one in Je - sus, one in wa - ter, bap - tized and set free!

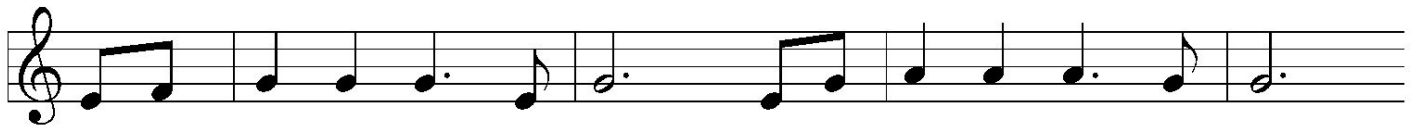
As the cross passes your pew, turn and face the entrance of the sanctuary.

SENDING

Go in Peace and Serve the Lord

Sing twice

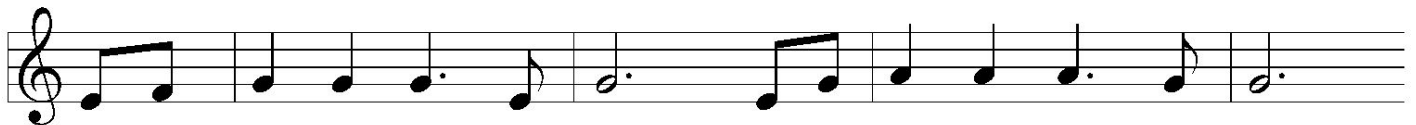
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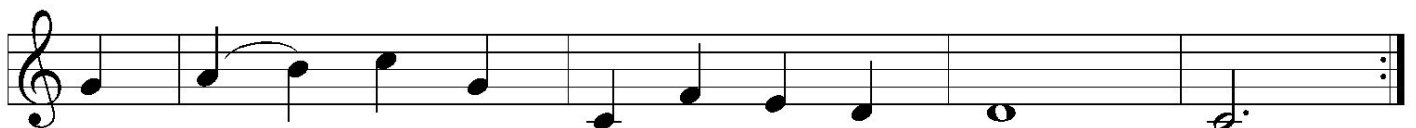
Go in peace and serve the Lord. God is call - ing you to - day.



Go and tell gos - pel news ev - 'ry - where.



Go in peace and serve the Lord. God is call - ing you to - day



to bring truth and love to ev - 'ry na - tion.

As the cross passes your pew, turn and face the entrance of the sanctuary.

SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

We follow the light of Christ into the world.

We are God's people on a mission.

We have gathered. We have been fed.

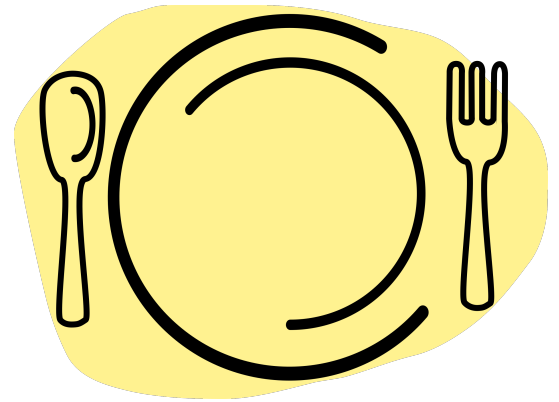
Now, we go out to make a difference in the world. Amen

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers are to the glory of God and in honor of Danny's birthday by Jenny Scott.

Hebrews Supper Club September 13th

Please sign up in the narthex or online. Deadline to sign up is September 7th.



*Are you curious
about what it means
to be a disciple of
Christ who calls Mt.
Hermon 'home'*

Pastor Gina invites you into
conversation at 10:30
in the Gathering Room
September 7, 21, 28



WeAreMtHermon



Legacy Planning Seminar – September 28

Please join us for a Legacy Planning Workshop with Danny Scott, Attorney on Sunday, September 28 at 3 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Danny will discuss Trusts, Wills, Living Wills, Power of Attorney, DNR orders and more.

Please register to be sure we have enough handouts!
Registration sheet is in the breezeway or online (link posted in FB group).

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

08/24/2025

9:00 worship 108 + live stream 143 = 151

Sunday School = 20

Current & Benevolent	Received	\$4,070.18
Building Fund	Received	\$595.00
Building Improvement	Received	\$605.00

HONORARIUMS AND MEMORIALS

In memory of **Stephen Price** by Wynne & Mary Price.

In honor of **Gloria Mathias' 80th birthday** by Ryan & Jennifer Price.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

	Today	Next Sunday
Ushers:	Larry Amick	Joel Price, Jr.
	Kay Bryant	Cindy Price
Crucifer:	Hayes Wingard	Spencer Price
Acolyte:	Bryson Johnson	Chanler Coppens
Lector:	Larry Amick	Mary Price
Communion Assts:	Kathy Cooper	Devona Price
	Wayne Corley	Joel Price, Sr.
	Charlene Corley	Chanler Coppens
	Susan Busby	Spencer Price Joel Price, Jr.
	Terry Swygert	Wynne Price Mary Price
Audio:	Ryan Corley	n/a
Video:	Rick Duval	Breanna Metze
Nursery:	Melanie Jackson	Alyson Price
	Katie Donaldson	Brittany Allen
Flowers:	The Scotts	The Jordans

SERVING IN AUGUST

COUNCIL REP: Wayne Corley

ALTAR GUILD: Jennifer Price

TABULATORS: Diane Boulware, Ann Bouknight

MT HERMON PRAYS

**family of Homer Settle, friend of Ryan Price*

Continual Prayer

Patricia Bachman, *Asbury Arms*
Lauvenia Butts, *Lakeside Place*
Doris Carver, *Presby Home*
Georgianna Gray, *home*
James Hallman, *Lakeside Place*
Marie Kleckley, *Lex Ext Care*

Gloria Mathias, *home*
Jane Sexton, *Phoenix Asst Living*
Jean Shealy, *Lex Ext Care Rehab*
Cyndi Thurman, *home*
Linda Waters-Hamilton, *home*

Members in Special Need of Prayer

Chris Carroll	Debbie Duval	Renee Greenbaum
Joye Haygood	Ronnie Mathias	Skyler Miller
Dennis Thurman	Mary Frances Sease	Jim Whitaker

Family and Friends Who Have Requested Prayer

Billy Huckabee, <i>friend of Danny Scott</i>	Bill Geddings, <i>father of Allison Swygert</i>
Stetson Cooper, <i>grandson of Dan Cooper</i>	Jane Baxley, <i>cousin of Michelle Gantt</i>
Paula Miller, <i>friend of Brittany Allen</i>	Joyce Davis,
Dawn McIlwain-Merck,	<i>grandmother of Jaquelyn Hawlik</i>
<i>friend of Robin Ellisor</i>	Will & Summer Satcher,
John Catoe, <i>family of the Ellisors</i>	<i>friend of Courtney Bucknam</i>
Mrs. William L. Coleman Jr (Carolyn),	Lauren Addy,
<i>friends of Marion & Cyndi Leaphart</i>	<i>friend of Kathy Cooper and Metz</i>
Iris Wellborn, <i>sister of Earl Sease</i>	Sam Lockridge, <i>friend of Scottie Marsh</i>
Mrs. Cruz, <i>teacher of Abbey Carroll</i>	Mary Duffie, <i>mother of Alyson Price</i>
Phil Dennis, <i>brother of Lavonne Roof</i>	Thelma Moyer, <i>mother of Diane Boulware</i>
Nancy Lail-Hulon & Family,	Kaiden Howell,
<i>friends of Debra & Dave Butts</i>	<i>friend of Jacquelynn Hawlik</i>
Sandra Watson,	Randy Stonehill, <i>friend of Ryan & Jennifer</i>
<i>aunt of Courtney Bucknam</i>	Linda Bennett, <i>mother of Beth Jordan</i>
Jaimie Womack,	Neice of <i>Abbey Carroll's teacher</i>
<i>friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price</i>	Singley & Parisano families,
Cynthia Rabon, <i>friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price</i>	<i>friends of Sam & Kathy Cooper</i>
Blase Rhine,	Joy Jordan, <i>friend of Michelle Gantt</i>
<i>grandson of Frank & Bonnie Bouknight</i>	Dorris Layton,
Jeslyn, <i>friend of Scarlett Bryant</i>	<i>friend of Earl & Mary Frances Sease</i>
Faye McCartha, <i>mother of Debra Butts</i>	Jody Harper, <i>friend of Kelli Goff</i>
Robbie Rector, <i>friend Jennifer Miller</i>	

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, September 7th

- 9:00 am Worship
- 10:30 am Sunday School
- 10:30 am New Disciples Class

Monday, September 8th

- 12:00 pm Hebrews Dinner Signups
- 5:30 pm CR: Care Team
- 6:30 pm Lutheran Men & Women

Tuesday, September 9th

- 5:00 pm GR: Executive Team
- 6:30 pm Life Group at The Metzses

Wednesday, September 10th

- 9:00 am Food Pantry
(Ann Addy, Ann Bouknight, Sharon Keefe)
- 12:05 pm One Body

September 11th – 18th – Pastor Gina on Vacation

Saturday, September 13th

- 9:00 am Food Pantry (Swygerts & Carrolls)



WeAreMtHermon

www.WeAreMtHermon.com

3011 Leaphart Road

West Columbia, SC 29169

Monday – Friday 9:00am – 1:00 pm

803.794.6430 / 803.240.3143 cell/text

Rev. Gina D. Metze, *Pastor*

Roberta Smith, *Administrative Asst*

803.951.3784

803.240.3143 cell

PastorGina@WeAreMtHermon.com

Office@WeAreMtHermon.com

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Terry Swygert, *President*

Sheila Eargle, *Secretary*

Annette Price/Karen Nicholson, *Financial Secretary*

Ronnie Fulmer, *Vice President*

Frank Bouknight, *Treasurer*

Ricky Bouknight & Terry Swygert, *Sextons*

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, August 31st

9:00 am Worship

10:30 am Sunday School

Monday, September 1st Labor Day - Office Closed

Tuesday, September 2nd

6:00 pm GR: Grief Group

Wednesday, September 3rd

9:00 am Food Pantry

(Fran Bouknight, David & Debra Butts, Sherwood Garrett)

Saturday, September 6th

9:00 am Food Pantry (Parker & Diane Boulware)