

# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

February 2025



## DREAMS

*Matthew 9:13* When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him." <sup>14</sup> So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, <sup>15</sup> where he stayed until the death of Herod.

<sup>19</sup> After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt <sup>20</sup> and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child's life are dead." <sup>21</sup> So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel.

The Church Council and Leaders (and their families) were asked to dream this past weekend. Dream about what the group hears God directing each team to dream upon, set goals for, and make a reality in 2025. You may see this around the office:

• a **DREAM** written down becomes a **GOAL**

• a **GOAL** broken down into steps becomes a **PLAN**

• a **PLAN** broken down into action becomes **REALITY**

Each team is asked to establish 2-3 goals for 2025. Then establish a plan to make these dreams a reality. Dream with us/them. All meetings are in the Conference Room.

Care	Alyson Price Sheila Starkey	Fran Bouknight Sherwood Garrett	1 <sup>st</sup> Monday 5:30
Outreach	Bonnie Bouknight Melanie Jackson	Wayne Corley Al Stevens	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday 6:00
Support	Ronnie Fulmer	Ronnie Fulmer Danny Scott	4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday 6:30
Teach	Mary Koon Cyndi Leaphart	Mary Koon Cyndi Leaphart	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday 11:30
Worship	Marion Leaphart	Jennifer Miller Jerry Price	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday 11:30

*Sister in Christ,*

**Pastor Gina**

#3011LeaphartRoad #WeAreMtHermon

# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

## CHURCH COUNCIL HAPPENINGS

### January Motions

- Executive Committee: Executive Committee recommends that a committee be formed for the purpose of long-term planning for our church facilities' needs, improvements, and upgrades. **PASSED unanimously.**
- The Finance Team recommends that the Contingency Account be established. Use of these funds shall be by a written request with backup information to the Finance Team for their review. Once reviewed, a recommendation from the Finance Team shall be made to the Executive Committee and the Council for approval prior to any funds being distributed. Any interest earned from these funds shall remain in the Contingency Account. **PASSED unanimously.**

### Congregational Council Minutes December 2025

**ATTENDANCE:** Absent – Jennifer Miller, Jerry Price, and Danny Scott. Also in attendance were newly elected Council members Fran Bouknight, Frank Bouknight, Wayne Corley, Al Stevens, and Mackenzie Burns.

**CARES AND CONCERNS:** Prayers for Melanie Jackson as she recovers from a broken tailbone, PJ Reusch who lost his son in a car accident, Debbie Duvall with a shoulder injury after a fall here at church, Randy Clark for his upcoming hip replacement surgery on December 19, Devona Price and family at the loss of her mother, and Cyndi Thurman who has been moved to Sedgewood Manor.

#### **MEMBER CARE:**

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:** Accepted as presented.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES:** Minutes for November 2024 and from the Annual Meeting were accepted as presented.

#### **REPORTS:**

- Pastor Gina: Report for December 2024 was submitted.
- Treasurer: Balance Sheet Last Month for November 2024, Monthly Budget Comparison Last Month November 2024, and Designated Funds Last Month November 2024 were submitted. The actual Year to Date figures will be published in the bulletin.
- Financial Secretary: Funds Report for November 2024 was submitted.
- Executive Committee: No report.

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

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

**Care:** No report submitted.

**Outreach:** Written report submitted. Porch visits went well, Jesus and Java will be December 15 at 4:00, and exam care packages for college students are being prepared.

**Support:** No report submitted.

**Finance:** Written report submitted.

**Teach:** No report submitted. Preparations for the children's Christmas program are going well.

**Worship:** No report submitted. On Sundays when communion is offered at the rail, one of the ushers will be asked to stand near the sound room to direct those exiting the altar area. Other items concerning worship will be discussed at a later date.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. Welcome 2025 Council
2. Council Installation December 15 – All Council members will be installed during worship.

# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

## NEW BUSINESS:

- Elect 2025 Council Officers – Elected were: President – Terry Swygert; Vice President – Ronnie Fulmer; Secretary – Sheila Eargle; Treasurer – Frank Bouknight, and Financial Secretary – Karen Nicholson and Annette Price
- Lock Up – Anyone locking up should close the two sets of double doors leading into the Fellowship Hall and the door leading into the Assembly Room. These are fire doors and should remain closed while the building is unoccupied for fire safety reasons.
- Next Meeting: Saturday, January 25, 2025, at Isle of Palms.
- Next Month’s Devotions and Lock Up – Marion Leaphart and Dion Metze

Sheila Eargle, Council Secretary

## ATTENDANCE REPORT

	<u>In-person</u>	<u>Live Streaming</u>	<u>Total</u>
January 5	97	109	206
January 6	52	101	153
January 12	101	109	210
January 19	84	107	191
January 26	63 + 25 (retreat)	148	236

## TREASURER REPORT

### ACTUAL INCOME vs EXPENSES

Year End 2024	Income	Expense	Over (Short)
Current Mission Plan	\$243,982.25	\$243,374.68	\$607.57
Building Fund	\$63,026.43	\$51,887.14	\$3,707.29
Bldg Improvement	\$20,527.34	\$56,841.14	\$6,185.29

### *Pastor Personal Note:*

Please note that due to your financial faithfulness and support, we erased a 19,000 shortfall in the November year-to-date reporting. Your faithfulness was on full display in December! We covered the November shortfall, covered the normal December expenses, and ended the year with at \$607.87 surplus!

# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

## COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

**Time and Talent sheets** will be distributed at the beginning of Lent. As you reflect and redirect your lives during Lent, we ask you to reflect and commit to being part of the ministry of your passions. The teams are Care, Support, Outreach, Teach, and Worship & Music. We need you to be part of a team and serve God together as we “make a difference in the world.” See your newsletter for schedules of meetings and contact persons for the team.



Thank  
& you

Thank you for your care and kindness that you have shown during this challenging time. Feeling your love and support through your calls, text messages, food, visits, cards, and prayers have lifted my spirits. We are grateful that God has placed us with a caring and loving church family.

With deep gratitude,  
*Debbie & Rick Duval*

“To know you is to know people who are kind, considerate, and thoughtful. To know you is to be grateful for the special things you do.” For everything you’ve done...for being the special people that you are...thank you so very much for all the prayers for us.

Love,  
*Dennis & Cyndi*

Thank  
& you

Are We  
There Yet?



### MT HERMON TRAVELERS

The Mount Hermon Travelers met and has come up with several ideas for 2025. The first event will be March 15th. This will be a day trip to Greenville SC for lunch and then to “The Sound of Music” production presented by Bob Jones University at 2 PM. If you are interested, please sign up on the sheet located in the breezeway or contact Frank Bouknight for information.

# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

## 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 Alyson Price and Sheila Starkey or any team member and attend the next meeting!*



**He-Brews Supper Clubs** will meet March 8, 2025. This will give our members an opportunity to share a meal together, get to know others in our congregation, and encourage one another in our faith journey.

How do I participate? Sign-up on the sign-up sheet located in the breezeway or with the online link. All participants will be divided randomly into small groups. A contact person will coordinate with their group to set a time and destination to meet for dinner. The groups will change for each date so that each time you

meet you are with a different group of people. Deadline to sign-up is March 2.

### Care Connection:

If you live alone, join the Care Team's Care Connection! It's as simple as a quick text in the morning to say hi, send an emoji, or whatever you prefer to be sure your "Care Connection Partner" is safe and well. If you are interested in participating in this daily check in, please contact Sheila Starkey at [starkey.sheila@gmail.com](mailto:starkey.sheila@gmail.com) or text 803-315-2990.





# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

## OUTREACH TEAM HAPPENINGS

*The Outreach Team meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 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.*



**Outreach Columbia** is on ongoing collection of items for the homeless. We will be collecting items for homeless packs. Items that we need are: socks, gloves, hygiene products, tarps, protein, crackers, pop tarts, snack items. Also, new or used coats, sweaters and blankets.

We will be starting **Adopt-A-Highway** pickup from the church parking lot at 9 AM on Saturday, February 08, 2025. Please join us if you can. The next pickup will be on May 17<sup>th</sup>.



## SUPPORT TEAM HAPPENINGS

*The Support Team meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm in the conference room. If you would like to serve on this team, please contact **Ronnie Fulmer** or **any team member** and attend the next meeting.*

## TEACH TEAM HAPPENINGS

*The Teach Team meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month at 11:30am in the conference room. If you would like to serve on this team, please contact **Mary Koon, Cyndi Leaphart, or any team member** and attend the next meeting.*

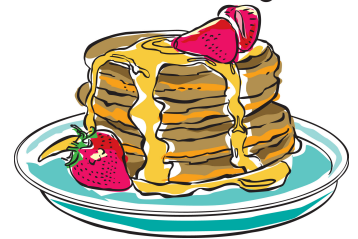
# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

## WORSHIP & MUSIC TEAM HAPPENINGS

*The Worship & Music Team meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 11:30am in the conference room. If you would like to serve on this team, please contact **Marion Leaphart** or **any team member** and attend the next meeting.*

**Shrove Tuesday** will be celebrated on Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. Along with the pancake meal and burning of the palms there will be a time for learning about the origins and meanings of the celebration. We will have a “pancake“ walk, a flipping of pancakes in a frying pan race, & some dancing. Plan to attend and enjoy the last festival on the day before Lent begins.

Shrove  
Tuesday



We begin to prepare our hearts for Easter on **Ash Wednesday**, March 5<sup>th</sup>. You can receive Ashes during One Body Worship at 12:05pm or at 7:00 pm, Worship in the Sanctuary.



**Pray**  
for those  
**impacted**  
by Hurricane Helene.

# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

## SERVING IN WORSHIP

February 2025

	02/02/2025	02/09/2025	02/16/2025	02/23/2025
Ushers	Herb Bucknam	David Marsh	Wynne Price	Jamie Addison
	Jeff Bucknam	Dion Metze	Mary Price	Dan Cooper
Crucifer	Sydney Bucknam	Connor Eargle	Mackenzie Burns	Sam Koon
Acolyte	Avery Rawl	Cameron Bucknam	<b>NEED</b>	Hayden Eargle
Lector	Ronnie Fullmer	Scottie Marsh	Mary Price	Jennifer Miller
Comm Assts	Ronnie Fullmer	David Marsh	Wynne Price	Sam Koon
	Hayden Eargle	Scottie Marsh	Mary Price	Hayden Eargle
	Sydney Bucknam	Connor Eargle	Mackenzie Burns	Joe Koon
	Cameron Bucknam Kathy Cooper	DJ Plummer	<b>NEED</b>	Mary Koon
	Parker Boulware Diane Boulware	Charlene Corley	Cheri Coppens	Jennifer Miller
Video	Arron Kinard	Arron Kinard	Blake Allen	Brandon Donaldson
Audio	Quentin Kinard	Quentin Kinard	Breanna Metze	Marie Gardner
Nursery	Alyson Price	Charlene Corley	Leah Rawl	Melanie Jackson
	Brittany Allen	DJ Plummer	Brittany Allen	Katie Donaldson
Flowers	Herb Buckman	Ann & Lynn Bouknight	Joel Jr. & Devona Price	Leaphart

### SERVING IN FEBRUARY

COUNCIL REP: Devotions and Lock up: Sheila Eargle

ALTAR GUILD: Jennifer Price

TABULATORS: Ronnie Fulmer, Mary Price

USHERS: Marion Leaphart, Dennis Thurman, Susan Busby

*\* 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



- Feb 03** Fran Bouknight, Sharon Keefe, Terry Swygert  
**Feb 04** Tommy Mills  
**Feb 05** Rick Anthony, Neal Taylor  
♥ **Feb 05** Earl & Mary Frances Sease  
**Feb 06** Kay Bryant, Kathy Cooper, Breanna Metze  
**Feb 07** Leah Rawl  
**Feb 09** Ronnie Fulmer, Pastor Gina Metze  
**Feb 10** Elaine Clawson, Spencer Price  
**Feb 11** Christopher Threatt  
♥ **Feb 11** Arron & Elyse Kinard  
**Feb 16** Elyse Kinard, Scottie Marsh, Taylor Taylor  
♥ **Feb 17** Jim & Kathy Whitaker  
**Feb 19** Bryce Addy, Keith Morris, Brayden Morris  
♥ **Feb 20** David & Audrey Jennings  
**Feb 21** Jacob Marsh  
**Feb 22** Jeff Bucknam, Sam Cooper, Lauren Donaldson  
**Feb 23** Marvin Bouknight  
**Feb 24** Al Stevens  
**Feb 25** Connor Eargle, Beth Jordan  
**Feb 26** Sheila Eargle, Lawson Morris  
♥ **Feb 29** Marion & Cyndi Leaphart

Please let the office know if your information is not printed in this listing.  
[office@WeAreMtHermon.com](mailto:office@WeAreMtHermon.com) or 803.794.6430

# AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

## MT HERMON PRAYS

*\*those who love and cherish Sarge*

### ***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, *Lakeside Place*  
Cyndi Thurman, *Sedgewood*  
Linda Waters-Hamilton, *home*  
Bobby Carver, *Lexington Medical*

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

Bonnie Bouknight  
Debbie Duval  
Joye Haygood

Chris Carroll  
Debbie Fulmer  
Mary Frances Sease

Randy Clark  
Michelle Gantt  
Jim Whitaker

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

Billy Huckabee, *friend of Danny Scott*  
Stetson Cooper, *grandson of Dan Cooper*  
Paula Miller, *friend of Brittany Allen*  
Dawn McIlwain-Merck, *friend of Robin Ellisor*  
John Catoe, *family of the Ellisors*  
Mrs. William L. Coleman Jr (Carolyn),  
*friends of Marion & Cyndi Leaphart*  
Iris Wellborn, *sister of Earl Sease*  
Mrs. Cruz, *teacher of Abbey Carroll*  
Phil Dennis, *brother of Lavonne Roof*  
Nancy Lail-Hulon & Family,  
*friends of Debra & Dave Butts*  
Sandra Watson, *aunt of Courtney Bucknam*  
Sarah Harmon, *friend of Courtney Bucknam*  
Jaimie Womack, *friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price*  
Cynthia Rabon, *friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price*  
Blase Rhine,  
*grandson of Frank & Bonnie*  
*Bouknight*  
Cynthia Mallard,  
*friend of Sheila Starkey & Beth Jordan*

Jeslyn, *friend of Scarlett Bryant*  
Tom Shaul, *friend of the Kinard Family*  
Debbe Dearman, *neighbor of Kathy Cooper*  
Bryce McKelvey, *friend of Regan Gross*  
Max Schronce,  
*friend of the David & Scottie Marsh*  
Faye McCartha, *mother of Debra Butts*  
Hayes Wingard,  
*grandson of Sam and Kathy Cooper*  
Robbie Rector, *friend Jennifer Miller*  
Bill Geddings, *father of Allison Swygert*  
Jane Baxley, *cousin of Michelle Gantt*  
Mark King, *coworker of Michelle Gantt*  
Joyce Davis, *grandmother of Jaquelyn Hawlik*  
Will & Summer Satcher,  
*friend of Courtney Bucknam*  
Dorothy Collins, *friend of Ryan Price*  
Lauren Addy, *friend of Kathy Cooper and Metztes*  
Jodi Harper, *friend of Erin Rose*  
Sam Lockridge, *friend of Scottie Marsh*  
Mary Duffie, *mother of Alyson Price*  
*\*Thelma Moyer, mother of Diane Boulware*

# February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>26</b> 9:00am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am CR: Worship Team Council Retreat IOP	<b>27</b> 5:30pm CR: Care Team 6:30pm Team for Ministry	<b>28</b> 6:30pm CR: Support Team	<b>29</b> Meals on Wheels: Debbie & Rick Duval 9:00am Food Pantry (Diane Boulware, Mary Frances Sease, Mary Price) 6:00pm Handbells 7:00pm Choir Practice	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> 9:00am Food Pantry (Frankie & Melanie Jackson)
<b>2</b> 9:00am Worship 10:15am Children's Choir 10:30am Sunday School 3:00pm Confirmation Class 5:00pm FH- Youth Meeting	<b>3</b> 5:30pm CR: Care Team 6:30pm Team for Ministry	<b>4</b> 5:00pm Executive Team 6:00pm GR: Grief Support 6:30pm LIFE Group at Jackson's	<b>5</b> Meals on Wheels: Randy & Becky Wise 9:00am Food Pantry (Fran Bouknight, Angie Hydrick, Sherwood Garrett) 9:30am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Handbells 7:00pm Choir Practice	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Midlands Adopt-A-Highway Clean up 9:00am Food Pantry (Parker & Diane Boulware)
<b>9</b> 9:00am Worship 10:15am Children's Choir 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am Council Meets	<b>10</b> 6:30pm Lutheran Men & Women	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Meals on Wheels: Earl & Mary Frances 9:00am Food Pantry (Ann Addy, Ann Bouknight, Sharon Keefe) 12:05pm OneBody Worship 6:00pm Handbells 7:00pm Choir Practice	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 9:00am Food Pantry (Jamie & Nancy Addison)
<b>16</b> 9:00am Worship 10:15am Children's Choir 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am CR: Teach Team 3:00pm Confirmation Class 5:00pm FH - Youth Meeting	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 6:00pm CR: Finance Team 6:00pm GR: Grief Support 6:30pm LIFE Group at Jackson's	<b>19</b> Meals on Wheels: Jamie & Nancy Addison 9:00am Food Pantry (Mary Frances Sease, Parker Boulware, Mary Price) 9:30am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Handbells 7:00pm Choir Practice	<b>20</b> 6:00pm CR: Outreach Team 6:00pm FH: Andy Jordan	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 9:00am Food Pantry (Al & Laura Stevens)
<b>23</b> 9:00am Worship 10:15am Children's Choir 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am CR: Worship Team	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 6:30pm CR: Support Team	<b>26</b> Meals on Wheels: Parker & Diane Boulware 9:00am Food Pantry (Debra Butts, David Butts, Rick & Debbie Duval) 12:05pm OneBody Worship 6:00pm Handbells 7:00pm Choir Practice	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1</b> 9:00am Food Pantry (Youth & DJ Plummer)



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

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WeAreMtHermon

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Rev. Gina D. Metze, *Pastor*  
 Svetlana Royal, *Director of Music*  
 Roberta Smith *Parish Administrator*

803.951.3784  
  
 803.240.3143

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*Dreams* ..... 1  
*Church Council Happenings*..... 2  
*Attendance Report* ..... 3  
*Treasurer Report* ..... 3  
*Community Happenings* ..... 4  
*Care Team Happenings* ..... 5  
*Outreach Team Happenings*..... 6  
*Support Team Happenings*..... 6  
*Teach Team Happenings*..... 6  
*Worship & Music Team Happenings* ..... 7  
*Serving in Worship* ..... 8  
*Birthdays and Anniversaries*..... 9  
*Mt Hermon Prays* ..... 10