

DISCIPLES MAKING A DIFFERENCE

April 2026

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES



Maundy Thursday:

- 6:00pm Foot Washing in the Narthex
- 6:30pm Worship – The Last Supper

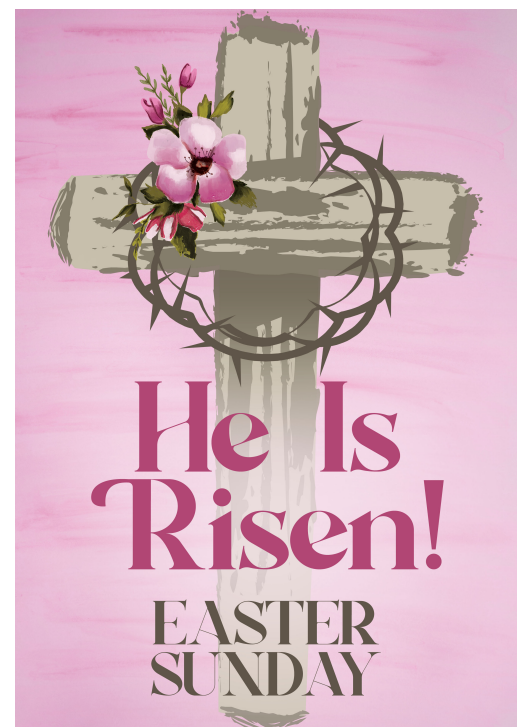
Good Friday:

- 6:30pm Worship and The Last Words

Easter Morning:

- 6:30am Sunrise Worship in Outdoor Space
- 7:30am Youth Breakfast in Fellowship Hall
- 9:00am Resurrection Worship in Sanctuary
- 10:30am Flowering of Courtyard Cross
Children receive a take-home lesson to share with their parents.

Flowers used to decorate the sanctuary on Easter morning will be used to flower the outdoor cross immediately following worship on Easter morning. Plan to help decorate the cross and then share your photos on Facebook. Tag your photos #WeAreMtHermon.



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KEEP RUNNING



¹ In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ² proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵ As for you, be sober in everything, endure

suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

⁶ As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷ I have fought the good fight; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. ⁸ From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing. 2 Timothy 4

When you can see the finish line, something happens inside you. Maybe your energy perks up. Maybe you get a second wind. Maybe you begin to think, *I can do this*. Or maybe the finish line still feels just out of reach, and weariness has settled in.

Wherever you find yourself today, know this: we are on the final stretch of our Lenten journey — pressing forward together toward the empty tomb of Easter.

Some of us are tired. The long weeks of reflection, fasting, and preparation have taken their toll. Others feel a growing sense of anticipation, an energy building with each passing day. Whether you are weary or energized, we press on — striving to finish the race, striving to keep the faith, striving to keep up with Jesus.

As we enter Holy Week, the invitation is simple: *abide*. Live one day at a time. Don't rush past these sacred moments. Each day of this week carries weight, meaning, and beauty that deserves our full attention.

We will mark each of the holy days together as a congregation. On **Maundy Thursday**, we will gather in groups of twelve and share in Communion, just as the disciples gathered around the table with Jesus. Our sanctuary will be transformed into that intimate upper room — a place of bread, cup, and covenant.

On **Good Friday**, we will witness the sanctuary transform again — this time into Golgotha, the place of the crucifixion. We will sit with the weight of the cross and the silence of sacrifice.

And then — **Easter morning**. The glorious entry into resurrection, the fulfillment of every promise Jesus ever made. Pure, overwhelming joy.

Come and Worship! This is what the Christian faith is all about. Not just the brightness of Easter Sunday, but the whole sacred journey — the struggle, the grief, the waiting, and the triumph. Do not miss it. Come and continue the journey. Come and worship. Come and be reminded that the finish line is not the end — it is the beginning.

See you on the road.

Pastor Gina

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CHURCH COUNCIL HAPPENINGS

Motions from March 2026 meeting

Outreach Team Recommendation: Due to the absence of Red Cross shelter sites in our community, the suitability of our facilities, and alignment with our outreach ministry goals, the Outreach Team recommends that a Shelter Facility application be submitted requesting designation of Mount Hermon Lutheran Church as an American Red Cross shelter location. Seconded. Passed unanimously.

Congregational Council Minutes February 2026

ATTENDANCE: Present-Pastor Gina, Terry Swygert, Jennifer Miller, Ronnie Fulmer, Fran Bouknight, Jerry Price, Al Stevens, Sherwood Garrett, Wayne Corley, Jamie Addison, Diane Boulware, Marion Leaphart. **Absent** - Melanie Jackson, Hayden Eargle

DEVOTIONS: Jennifer Miller led devotions.

CARES AND CONCERNS: Prayers for Kelly Johnson, (Danny Scott's daughter's boyfriend) he has throat cancer: Joye Haygood is undergoing cancer treatments; Jennifer Miller's mother who was recently diagnosed with cancer and is learning her treatment options; Skyler Miller for continued healing; Dr. Chris Wicker, LMC Internal Medicine doctor, who is battling blood cancer.

MEMBER CARE: Church Office sent out email introducing council representatives to their Faith Families. Diane Boulware will send out summary of the Leadership Retreat to Church Council that they can send to their Faith Families.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Accepted as presented.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Accepted as presented.

REPORTS:

- Pastor Gina: Report for February 2026 was submitted.
 - Pastor Gina will preach at Faith Lutheran on March 1 immediately following Mt. Hermon worship.
 - Wynne Price asked for permission to take organ lessons and to practice on the organ at Mt. Hermon-permission given by Pastor Gina.
- Financial Secretary: Funds Report for January 2026 was submitted.
- Treasurer: 1a Balance Sheet for January 2026, 1b Budget Comparison for January 2026, and 1c Designated Funds for January 2026 were submitted.
 - There were some questions about the balances listed on the Taxes Payable. Frank and Wayne will work to correct these figures and the Out of Balance amount listed.
 - The Building Fund Loan Balance is actually \$36,099.04 not \$101,834.18 as listed on the Balance Sheet.
- Executive Committee: Executive Committee recommends that the Lenten/Ash Wednesday/Easter Offerings collected be deposited into the fund - Designated Outreach – 3204. PASSED unanimously

Team Reports/Recommendations:

Team for Ministry: Has not meet due to weather conditions

Care: Written report submitted.

Outreach: Written report submitted.

Support: Written report submitted.

Finance: Written report submitted.

- Recommendation: The Finance Team recommends that the signers on the checking account be updated to include the treasurer, chair of Finance Team, chair of Support Team and one member

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of the Finance Team. The following members will be placed on the signature card: Frank Bouknight, Wayne Corley, Ronnie Fulmer and Danny Scott. –It was seconded. - PASSED unanimously.

- Recommendation: The Finance Team recommends the name of the Building Fund be renamed Major Maintenance Fund and that the Support Team be given authorization to begin conversations with Security Federal regarding the restructuring of the existing loan. It was seconded- PASSED unanimously.

Teach: No report submitted. Pastor Gina attended a workshop on February 7, Nurturing the Spirituality of our Children. She will share the ideas she learned with the Teach Team. A suggestion was made to put an information sheet into visitor bags describing our Sunday School classes.

Worship: No report submitted.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Director of Music Search Team – Pastor Gina reported that the search for a Director of Music continues. There are at least nineteen other churches in our area looking for Music Directors.
- SC Synod Assembly Update: Mt. Hermon can have two delegates plus one additional delegate under 30 years of age. Pastor has talked with Terry Swygert, Frankie Jackson and Jerry Price and they are all willing to serve as delegates. She asked if anyone else from Church Council wanted to serve as a delegate instead of one of these three.
- It is recommended that Church Council elect Terry Swygert, Frankie Jackson and Jerry Price to be voting delegates at the SC Synod Assembly 2026. It was seconded. PASSED unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Next Meeting: March 08, 2026
- Next Month Devotions and Lock Up – Ronnie Fulmer
- Next year's Leadership Retreat will be Jan. 29-31, 2027 at the Coastal Retreat Center

FEEDBACK:

Church Council moved into Feedback. Later, Jennifer Miller made the following recommendation and it was seconded: Recommendation: Church Council should come out of feedback. PASSED unanimously.

Once Council had come out of feedback, the following recommendation and it was seconded.

Recommendation: Due to confidentiality issues with the Church Secretary position, it is the recommendation of Church Council that church members not be considered for this position, except under extenuating-extraordinary circumstances. For: 10 Against: 2 - PASSED

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted, Diane Boulware, Council Secretary

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ATTENDANCE REPORT

	<u>In-person</u>	<u>Live Streaming</u>	<u>Total</u>
March 1	96	124	220
March 4	80		
March 8	100	129	229
March 11	68		
March 15	94	167	261
March 18	63		
March 22	83	135	218

TREASURER REPORT

Loan Balance	31,245.59
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2026 Year to Date	Actual Income	Actual Expense	Difference
Current & Benevolence	49,307.08	41,829.50	7,477.58
Building Improvement	5,320.00	3,117.81	2,202.19
Building Fund	7,655.00	9,908.96	(2,253.96)

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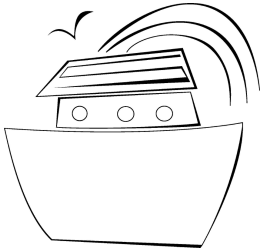
CARE TEAM HAPPENINGS

The Care Team meets on the 1st Monday of every month at 5:30 pm in the conference room. If you would like to serve on this team, please contact Sherwood Garrett or any team members and attend the next meeting, March 2nd at 5:30pm!



Calling all actors, actresses, stagehands, and anyone interested in theater. Mt Hermon is forming a Drama team to support the ministries of our church. There will be an organizational meeting on Sunday, April 26, 2026, immediately following Sunday School. There will be sandwiches and other refreshments available. This is an open invitation for all ages. For additional information, contact Frank Bouknight at 803-497-5393 or treasurer@wearemthermon.com.

“Take Me Out to the Ballgame!” Mt. Hermon cheers on the Blowfish at their baseball game July 18, 2026. The cost for participants is \$20/person, which includes entrance to ball game, an all you can eat Shealy’s BBQ buffet until the 7th inning, luxury seating in the air-conditioned VIP viewing area, stadium parking, and the fireworks show after the game. Sign-up sheets are located in various locations around the church. Please contact Wynne Price if you have questions, 803-920-4087.



There is still time to sign up for the Ark/Amish trip on August 17-22, 2026. Please register by April 30. For more information and registration, check out this link: [HTTPS://tri.ps/qQftM](https://tri.ps/qQftM)

OUTREACH TEAM HAPPENINGS

The Outreach Team meets on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm in the conference room. If you would like to serve on this team, please contact Charlene Corley, or any team member and attend the next meeting.



The Outreach Team will once again host a **Driver Permit Class** along with the Scooter Scott project. The class will be held April 21 - 23 from 4:30pm until 7:00pm. We would love for anyone who's interested to come join us for this event. It is very rewarding to see the look on the students’ faces when they pass their permit test. If you are interested in helping out or have questions, please contact Charlene Corley 803-636-5352.

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It is Prom Season! Mt. Hermon has been asked to assist a local charter, Clear Dot Charter School. Dresses, purses, shoes, tux, and all other formal wear attire is welcomed! The items received will be given to students in need. All donations can be left in the classroom downstairs where free yard sale items are collected.



We are collecting Twin Size sheets/bedding for the beds the Mt. Hermon men's group built for the Scooter Scott "rest in hope" ministry. Twin size blankets, comforter, pillows and pillowcases are welcome! There is a container in the Education Wing in the hallway outside the nursery for donations.

Food Pantry Frozen Meals

The Outreach Team is sponsoring a new Ministry. We are asking for your assistance to prepare homemade freezer meals to distribute through the Food Pantry. We will keep these items in the freezer in the Food Pantry. Examples are spaghetti, lasagna, vegetable soup, chicken pot pie, fettuccine alfredo and meat and veggie casseroles. If you are interested in helping please reach out to Diane Boulware or any Team member. There is a sign-up sheet in the breezeway.



SUPPORT TEAM HAPPENINGS

*The Support Team meets on the 4th 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 members and attend the next meeting.*

Maintenance/Repairs Completed:

- Repairs were made to the ladies restroom near the fellowship hall.
- The HVAC heating unit belt fan for the fellowship hall was replaced.
- Caraway Fire and Safety inspected and replaced two (2) fire extinguishers.
- Stanick Sheet Metal & Roofing provided a quote to repair a leak in the choir room.
- Smoke detectors were replaced.
- Burners on the kitchen grill were checked.
- The stage curtain from Georgia Stage was received and installed.
- The purchased lockbox (real estate type), to go on Scout Hut was installed.

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TEACH TEAM HAPPENINGS

The Teach Team meets on the 3rd Sunday of every month at 11:30am in the Education Wing. If you would like to serve on this team, please contact Mary Koon, or any team member and attend the next meeting.



WORSHIP TEAM HAPPENINGS

The Worship Team meets on the 3rd 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.



Foot Washing will take place in the narthex beginning at 6:00 on Thursday evening. Come early and have your feet washed by servants as Jesus washed the feet of his disciples.

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SERVING IN WORSHIP

	April 05	April 12	April 19	April 26
Ushers	Parker Boulware	Dan Cooper	Ricky Bouknight	Blake Allen
	Diane Boulware	Joel Price, Jr.	Fran Bouknight	Jeff Price
Crucifer	Hayden Eargle	Mackenzie Burns	Chanler Coppens	Cameron Bucknam
Acolyte	Sydney Bucknam	Connor Eargle	Bryson Johnson	Chanler Coppens
Lector	Emily Morris	Elyse Kinard	Jamie Addison	Diane Boulware
Comm Assts	Hayden Eargle	Mackenzie Burns	Chanler Coppens	Cameron Bucknam
	Sydney Bucknam	Connor Eargle	Jamie Addison	Chanler Coppens
	Emily Morris	Elyse Kinard	Kirby Johnson	Diane Boulware
	Brayden Morris	Scottie Marsh	Cheri Coppens	Parker Boulware
	Chanler Coppens	David Marsh	Nancy Addison	Cheri Coppens
Audio	Ryan Corley	Arron Kinard	Blake Allen	Brandon Donaldson
Video	Breanna Metze	Quentin Kinard	Breanna Metze	Marie Gardner
Flowers	Mt. Hermon	Addison	Addison	Stevens

EASTER 9:00 worship: Banner Bearer – Chanler Coppens
 Torch Bearer – Brayden Morris, Mackenzie Burns
 Bible Bearer – Connor Eargle

SERVING IN APRIL

LOCK UP & COUNCIL DEVOTIONS: Fran Bouknight

ALTAR GUILD: Jennifer Price, Angie Hydrick

TABULATORS: Diane Boulware, Annette Price

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

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Apr 02	Joanne Eargle
Apr 03	Gunner Donaldson, Bryson Johnson
Apr 04	Jake Dugan, Tom Stahl
	♥ Apr 04 Bryan & Missy Addy
Apr 06	Virginia Ellisor
	♥ Apr 06 Al & Laura Stevens
Apr 07	Easton Kaylor
Apr 09	Becky Wise
Apr 10	Jamie Addison, Mandy Smith
Apr 11	Samantha Bucknam, Brandon Donaldson
	♥ Apr 11 Kirby & Becky Johnson
Apr 12	Blake Donaldson
Apr 13	Bryson Johnson
	♥ Apr 14 Blake & Brittany Allen
Apr 14	Robert Haygood, Kirby Johnson
Apr 16	Katie Donaldson
Apr 17	Alyson Price
	♥ Apr 18 Sam & Kathy Cooper
Apr 19	Becky Ellisor, Marvin Mathias
Apr 21	Paisley Donaldson
Apr 22	Linda Waters-Hamilton
	♥ Apr 22 Jamie & Nancy Addison
Apr 23	Jo Leach
Apr 24	Hudson Allen, Daniel Coppens
Apr 25	Laura Stevens
	♥ Apr 25 Jerry & Becky Ellisor
Apr 29	Jennifer Miller
Apr 30	Susan Busby

Please let the office know if your information is not printed in this listing.
office@WeAreMtHermon.com or 803.240-3143

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MT HERMON PRAYS

Continual Prayer

Patricia Bachman, *Asbury Arms*
Lauvenia Butts, *Agape Hospice House*
Doris Carver, *Presby Home*
Georgianna Gray, *home*

Marie Kleckley, *Lex Ext Care*
Gloria Mathias, *home*
Jean Shealy, *Lakeside Place*
Linda Waters-Hamilton, *home*

Members in Special Need of Prayer

Lauren Addy	Bonnie Bouknight	Andrea Bowers	Sarah Bryant
Chris Carroll	Debbie Duval	Joye Haygood	Frankie Jackson
Doris Maddox	Skyler Miller	Cyndi Thurman	Dennis Thurman
Jim Whitaker			

Family and Friends Who Have Requested Prayer

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*
Phil Dennis, *brother of Lavonne Roof*
Nancy Lail-Hulon & Family,
friends of Debra & Dave Butts
Sandra Watson,
aunt of Courtney Bucknam
Jaimie Womack,
friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price
Cynthia Rabon, *friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price*
Blase Rhine,
grandson of Frank & Bonnie Bouknight
Jeslyn, *friend of Scarlett Bryant*
Faye McCartha, *mother of Debra Butts*
Robbie Rector, *friend Jennifer Miller*
Bill Geddings, *father of Allison Swygert*
Jane Baxley, *cousin of Michelle Gantt*
Joyce Davis, *grandmother of Jaquelyn Hawlik*
Will & Summer Satcher, *friend of Courtney Bucknam*
Sam Lockridge, *friend of Scottie Marsh*
Thelma Moyer, *mother of Diane Boulware*
Randy Stonehill, *friend of Ryan & Jennifer*

Linda Bennett, *mother of Beth Jordan*
Singley & Parisano families,
friends of Sam & Kathy Cooper
Joy Jordan, *friend of Michelle Gantt*
Dorris Layton,
friend of Earl & Mary Frances Sease
Jody Harper, *friend of Kelli Goff*
Tressa Oswalt, *Angie Hydrick's sister*
Wayne LaBounty, *friend of Herb Bucknam*
Scarlett Redmon, *cousin of Kinard Family*
Joe & Billy Corder, *friends of Ryan Price*
Michael Williams, *son-in-law Georgianna Gray*
Wayne & Kristen Watkins,
friends of Courtney Bucknam
Meredith Thorndike,
goddaughter of Wayne & Charlene Corley
Melissa, *niece of Ricky & Fran Bouknight*
Addie, *granddaughter of Lavonne Roof*
Elizabeth McKee, *aunt of Bonnie Bouknight*
Frank Flinn, *friend of Ryan Price*
Bishop Ginny Aebischer, *bishop of SC Synod*
David Stevenson, *brother of Laura Carroll*
Cindy Maple
Kristin Oliver, *sister of Michelle Gantt*
Jimmy Maddox, *husband of Doris Maddox*
Mr. Reed, *friend of Cyndi Thurman*
Natalie Liimatainen, *niece of Sheila Starkey*
Paul Jacobs, *friend of Paul & Wanda Addy*



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Rev. Gina D. Metze, *Pastor*
Parish Administrator

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 803.240.3143

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