

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

November 2024



GROWING WHAT YOU MIGHT NOT SEE

³⁵ And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity. ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸ pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” Matthew 9:35-38

Matthew quotes in the 9th chapter of his gospel Jesus’ words about the harvest. Many of you know I grew up in a family which grew most of our own vegetables. You also know in 2013-2014 I spent a year in the Midwest. I learned a lot more about farming and about faith. One of the families whom I spent hours with their families, were ranchers and farmers. During this time of the year, I spent time on a combine as the corn was harvested. Farmers practice what we Christians might sometimes call “blind faith” today. The farmer has NO IDEA about the corn until it’s harvest time. Sure, we can all see corn stalks growing, and ears forming on the stalks, but we have no idea exactly how good, how filled out, how good the dried kernels will be until they are actually in the wagon.

Our faith is much like these farmers. We sometimes don’t know how strong our faith is until we are up close and personal with a plow – or something that might just pull us down.

As we have read through the New Testament, I hope you are experiencing a growth in your faith life that you might not have seen otherwise. I hope you have learned and read passages that you might not have read before. I hope you will continue to be in God’s word daily. We are in the harvest season and nature will soon take a time of MENO – resting, abiding, continuing, Continue strengthening your faith – even if you sometimes might not know how your crops of life is producing faithful living.

Sister in Christ,

Pastor Gina

#3011LeaphartRoad

#WeAreMtHermon

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

Reading through the New Testament in one year:

		11/1	Titus 2
		11/2	Titus 3
		11/3	Philemon
		11/4	Hebrews 1
		11/5	Hebrews 2
		11/6	Hebrews 3
		11/7	Hebrews 4
		11/8	Hebrews 5
		11/9	Hebrews 6
		11/10	Hebrews 7
		11/11	Hebrews 8
		11/12	Hebrews 9
		11/13	Hebrews 10:1-18
		11/14	Hebrews 10:19-39
		11/15	Hebrews 11:1-22
		11/16	Hebrews 11:23-40
		11/17	Hebrews 12
		11/18	Hebrews 13
		11/19	James 1
		11/20	James 2
		11/21	James 3
		11/22	James 4
		11/23	James 5
		11/24	1 Peter 1
		11/25	1 Peter 2
		11/26	1 Peter 3
		11/27	1 Peter 4
		11/28	1 Peter 5
		11/29	2 Peter 1
		11/30	2 Peter 2

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

CHURCH COUNCIL HAPPENINGS

October Motions to Council:

Mission Plan Presentation – Danny Scott made a motion that we accept the 2025 Spending Plan as presented by the Finance Committee with the following adjustment: reduce Vacation Bible School from \$2,500 to \$1,800 and add that difference of \$700 to the Director of Music salary, which will increase her 2025 salary to \$20,100. **PASSED unanimously.**

Congregational Council Minutes September 2024

ATTENDANCE: Absent – Cyndi Leaphart

CARES AND CONCERNS: Prayers for Allison Swygert's dad after suffering a stroke, Dot Mathias, Shirley Cooper is at National Healthcare and recovery decisions are being made, and Marie Gardner.

MEMBER CARE:

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Accepted as presented with the addition of Connor Eargle Eagle Project Update under Old Business.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Minutes for August 2024 were accepted as presented.

REPORTS:

- Pastor Gina: Report for September 2024 was submitted.
- Treasurer: Monthly Budget Comparison Report for August 2024, Designated Funds Last Month Report for August 2024, and August 31, 2024 Year to Date Report were submitted. The Finance Committee will meet to discuss the state of our finances on September 16. Frank Bouknight reported that he is fully using the new software for all reports.
- Financial Secretary: Funds Report for August 2024 was submitted.
- Executive Committee: No report

Team Reports/Recommendations:

Team for Ministry:

Care: No report submitted. Last month's porch visits were successful and enjoyable.

Outreach: Written report submitted. October 4 will be the first Movies on the Mount event for the fall.

Support: Written report submitted.

Finance: Written report submitted.

Teach: No report submitted. Sunday School is fully underway and preparations for holiday events will begin soon.

Worship: Written report submitted. Chanler Coppens will be confirmed and his family will join the church on Reformation Sunday and Cameron Bucknam will be confirmed on November 10.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Personnel Team Chair – The ladies on the committee have been working on the job description for the Parrish Secretary. The whole committee will meet later this month and the search for a new Parrish Secretary will begin.
2. Connor Eargle Eagle Project Update – Connor's proposal has been approved by the leaders of Troop 331 and he is awaiting approval from Indian Waters Council. The concrete on the basketball court will be repaired, the basketball goals will be removed, and the pickleball court will be located in the middle of the concrete pad. Work on the project will begin as soon as Indian Waters Council approves the project.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Next Meeting: October 13, 2024, at 11:30am. Nominations for Church Council and budget considerations will be on the agenda.
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>
October 06	134	127	261
October 13	87	132	219
October 20	93	129	222
October 27	113	138	251

TREASURER REPORT

ACTUAL INCOME vs EXPENSES

YTD September 2024	Income	Expense	Over (Short)
Current Mission Plan	\$172,201.98	\$173,381.99	(\$1,180.01)
Building Fund	\$47,425.43	\$44,589.42	\$2,836.01
Bldg Improvement	\$17,744.94	\$9,412.13	\$8,332.81

2024 BUDGET vs ACTUAL

YTD September 2024	Income	Budget	Over (Short)
Current Mission Plan	\$172,201.98	\$191,059.47	\$18,857.49
Building Fund	\$47,425.43	\$45,000.00	\$2,425.43
Bldg Improvement	\$17,744.94	\$13,500.00	\$4,244.94



Movies on the Mount returns!
 October 4th - November 22
 7:00 pm
Watching "The Chosen" Season 4

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

All Saints Sunday

November 3rd, 2024

Memorials to honor loved ones who has passed away and listed in a special bulletin.

Due to the office by October 28th

Funds received will be used to assist in the feeding of bereaved families.

Prayer Warriors needed for our drive-thru prayer event scheduled for Thursday, November 7 from 5 – 7.



Thank you, Mt. Hermon family, for the many prayers, visits, cards, meals, and phone calls. Your love that was shared with Earl and me during my surgery and recovery is a special blessing that warms our hearts. We feel very blessed to be part of this Mt. Hermon Family!

Earl & Mary Frances Sease

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN



2024 Annual Meeting Notice

ANNUAL MEETING NOVEMBER 17

NOMINATING MEETING NOVEMBER 3

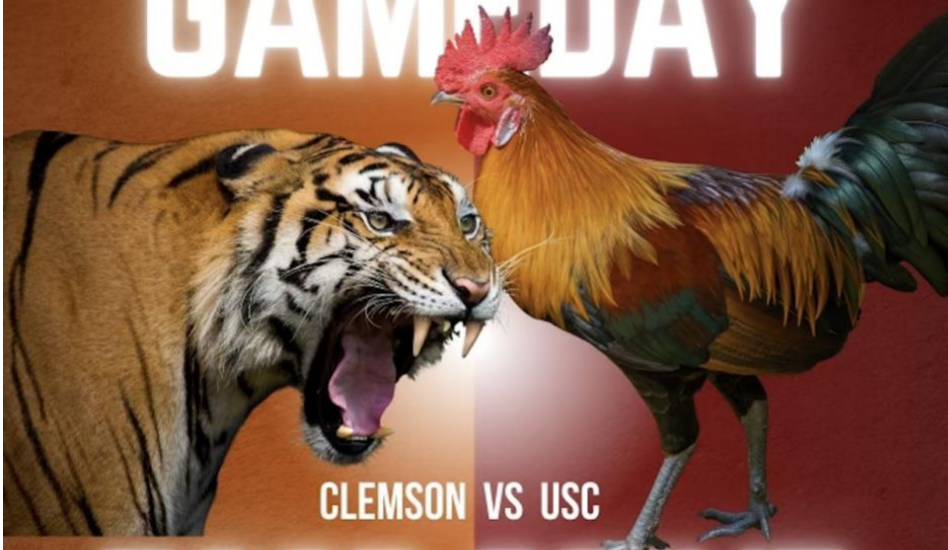
TIE-BREAK MEETING NOVEMBER 10

Mt HERMON Lutheran Church
3011 Leaphart Rd
West Columbia



MT. HERMON YOUTH

GAMEDAY



CLEMSON VS USC

FOOD DRIVE

COLLECTING

NOVEMBER 1ST - NOVEMBER 24, 2024

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

Community Thanksgiving Worship

West Metro clergy and joint choirs will lead worship service. Come and give thanks to God together.

One of our local elementary schools has asked to cover each of their students with a twin blanket for warmth this winter. We will first cover the blankets in prayer at this service before we deliver the blankets.

Sunday, November 24 at 5 pm
Spaghetti meal to follow

Mt. Hermon Church

**3011 Leaphart Rd
West Columbia**

**803.794.6430
wearemthermon.com**



AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

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 Allison Swygert, or any team member and attend the next meeting!

The Care Team is using a new way to reach out to members in our congregation during difficult times. This will involve coordinating meals for those in need whether recovering from surgery, dealing with a death in the family, times of sickness, and even times of joy such as the birth of a new baby! The meals will be coordinated by using an online calendar through Meal Train. A link will be sent out via email to our congregation. If you would like to participate, simply click on the link and find a date you would like to provide a meal or in some instances gift cards. Food and time preferences will be included in the information.

If you prefer to make a monetary donation, please put in an envelope, write the family name on the envelope and place it in the offering plate.

Members of the care team will make sure the funds are used for that family.

Thanks for helping take care of our own flock at Mt. Hermon!

Thanks to all for their continued support in our Meal Train ministry. It has made a big impact on the families we have served so far.



Coffee, Food, and Fellowship

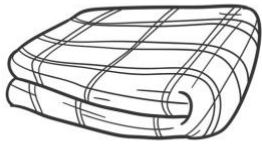
The next Coffee, Food, and Fellowship will be November 3rd to honor our confirmands and new members.

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

OUTREACH TEAM HAPPENINGS

The Outreach Team meets on the 3rd Monday 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.

Wrap a Child in a Warm Blanket



Many of the students at one of the local elementary schools need warm blankets for this winter. They need twin blankets that are warm and a solid color or a simple pattern to help prevent jealousy among the children. We will be collecting these now through Thanksgiving. Please donate if you can.

We will host a **free garage sale** for families in need of assistance on December 6. If you have items in good condition such as: furniture, linens, blankets, towels, coats, socks, shoes, gloves, books, children's clothes, baby items, household items, toys, etc. that you are willing to donate, we are



Taking Donations Now!

ready to start gathering now. The items can be placed in the room across from the youth room in the church basement. (*We are not collecting adult clothing this year.*) Your donations are another way that we are caring for God's children.

We are also looking for volunteers to help us organize the donated items the week after Thanksgiving and volunteers to help the day of the Free Garage Sale. If you are

interested in assisting us, please let Diane Boulware know.

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

Angel Tree Ministry

Spread Christmas Cheer by sponsoring a child for Christmas. Each year we help children in the community have a brighter Christmas by buying gifts for them. The children are identified by the local schools and we gather a list of their needs and wants and place them on ornaments. We will have the tree up and the ornaments on it by **Sunday, Nov. 17**. Please make plans to sponsor a child this Christmas. We will also include parents of the children on the tree with some of their needs. We will need the gifts by **Monday, December 9**.



Outreach Columbia is on the move again. We will be serving the homeless on Saturday November 9. We will meet at the church at 11:30 and carpool to downtown Columbia. We would love all to help. We will be taking homeless packs. Items that we need are: socks, gloves, hygiene products, tarps, proteins pop tops, snack items. Also, any coats, sweaters and blankets. These can be used items.

Advent Food Basket

The Advent Food Basket is a type of Reverse Advent Calendar. Instead of receiving something each day of December leading up to Christmas, you will be encouraged to give something. We will have a large box and advent calendar for each person or family that would like to participate. Each day you will put the item suggested on the calendar into the box. On December 24, you will bring your box to the church. Your family may even choose to decorate the box. We will use these items to share with the people who come to the church Food Pantry. Many in the community struggle each month to have enough food to feed their families. Through our Food Pantry we feed over 100 different families each month. Many of these families come twice a month for food. The food collected in each Advent Food Box equals a "set-up" of food that we give each family when they come to the Food Pantry. Please prayerfully consider celebrating the birth of our Lord by helping to feed those in need.

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SUPPORT TEAM

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

Cleaned up from wind from Hurricane Helene for the Harvest Festival.

Connor Eargle Eagle Scout project is to create a pickleball court on the existing flat surface near the firepit and outdoor worship space.

Old sink in kitchen was leaking. Since it is not in use, the water was disconnected.

The ladies room sink in the education building was repaired.

Bryan Heating and Air replaced the capacitor on the compressor for the HVAC unit in the choir room.

You may have noticed the lines in the parking lot are fading. The Support Team will be addressing this soon, along with replacing the mulch in the beds around the building.



AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

TEACH TEAM

The Teach Team meets on the third Sunday at 11:30 pm in the conference room. If you would like to serve on this team, please contact Mary Koon or Cyndi Leaphart and attend the next meeting!

Thank you to all of the Sunday School teachers and assistants for continuing to teach classes. The Teach Team is looking forward to Christmas and the Children's Christmas program.

Svetlana has begun Children's Choir. Rehearsals will take place from the end of worship until 10:30. We will dismiss the children at the very end of service so that they can go to the Music/Craft room for rehearsals with Ms. Svetlana. All children are asked to attend due to the Christmas Program beginning soon.



Youth events will be starting up. If you are a rising 6th grader and have not completed the safety and permission worksheets with the youth leaders, please contact DJ Corley at youth@WeAreMtHermon.com



If you are a rising 6th grader, it's time for us to discuss you taking responsibility for your faith life and moving forward with "Affirmation of Baptism" (Confirmation classes). You and your parents will receive an email for Pastor Gina soon with upcoming meeting times and a class schedule. The first class will be November 3rd. Adults – you are also welcome to "go through confirmation classes again" too. Many adults have experienced confirmation over the past several years and they have been blessed by the youth as they studied together.

AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

WORSHIP TEAM

The Worship Team meets on the 4th Sunday at 11:30 pm in the conference room. If you would like to serve on this team, please contact Wynne Price and attend the next meeting!



Communion
at the Rail

An additional
communion station will
be at the rail on the
first Sundays of each
month.

All Saints Sunday

November 3rd, 2024

*Memorials to honor loved ones who has passed
away and listed in a special bulletin.*

Due to the office by October 28th

*Funds received will be used to assist in the feeding of bereaved
families.*



AROUND THE MOUNTAIN

SERVING IN WORSHIP

November

	11/3/2024	11/10/2024	11/17/2024	11/24/24
Ushers	Kirby Johnson	Frankie Johnson	Kay Bryant	Mary Price
	Cindy Price	Melanie Jackson	Larry Amick	Angie Hydrick
Crucifer	Jake Dugan	Cameron Bucknam	Quentin Kinard	Lawson Morris
Acolyte	Bryson Johnson	Sam Koon	Walker Kinard	Chanler Coppens
Lector	Ricky Bouknight	Angie Hydrick	Jim Whitaker	Frank Bouknight
Comm Assts	Ricky Bouknight	Cameron Bucknam	Quentin Kinard	Sherwood Garrett
	Fran Bouknight	Sam Koon	Walker Kinard	Lawson Morris
	Lynn Bouknight	Parker Boulware	Arron Kinard	Chanler Coppens
	Daryl Leigh Anthony Debbie Fulmer	Angie Hydrick	Elyse Kinard	Frank Bouknight
	Jake Dugan	Diane Boulware	Kathy Cooper	Hayden Eargle
Nursery	Leah Rawl	Melanie Jackson	Cassie Swygert	Alyson Price
	Brittany Allen	Katie Donaldson		Brittany Allen
Flowers	Earl & Mary Frances Sease	Terry & Allison Swygert	Price Families	Teddy Koon

SERVING IN NOVEMBER

COUNCIL REP: Jeff Price

ALTAR GUILD: Jennifer Price

TABULATORS: Ann Addy, Mary Frances Sease

USHERS: Marion Leaphart, Susan Busby, Dennis Thurman

AUDIO/VIDEO TEAM: Brandon Donaldson, Marie Gardner

* *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

NOVEMBER

- Nov 01** Frank Bouknight
Nov 05 Jessica Goodwin, Alex Greer, Parker Greer
Nov 08 Mary Koon
Nov 11 Alberta Berry, Karl Dugan, Jerry Ellisor
 ♥ **Nov 11** Frankie & Melanie Jackson
Nov 12 Joshua Koon
 ♥ **Nov 13** Curtis & DJ Plummer
Nov 16 Kathy Whitaker, Gloria Watson
Nov 19 Marie Kleckley
Nov 20 Lynn Bouknight
Nov 21 Angie Hydrick, Jon Kaylor
Nov 23 Walker Kinard
Nov 24 Dennis Thurman
Nov 28 Abram Kaylor, Mary Price
 ♥ **Nov 28** Preston & Kay Bryant
Nov 29 Bella Kaylor
 ♥ **Nov 30** Ryan & Jennifer Price

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 Prayer

Patricia Bachman, *Asbury Arms* Gloria Mathias, *home*
Lauvenia Butts, *Lakeside Place* Jane Sexton, *Phoenix Asst Living*
Bobby & Doris Carver, *Presby Home* Jean Shealy, *Lakeside Place*
Georgianna Gray, *home* Cyndi Thurman, *Prisma Baptist*
James Hallman, *Lakeside Place* Linda Waters-Hamilton, *home*
Marie Kleckley, *Lex Ext Care*




Members in Special Need of Prayer

Bonnie Bouknight Parker Boulware Chris Carroll
Mary Frances Sease Jim Whitaker Joye Haygood

Family and Friends Who Have Requested Prayers

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*
Katy Madigan, *friend of Marie Carroll*
Phil Dennis, *brother of Lavonne Roof*
Nancy Lail-Hulon & Family,
friends of Debra & Dave Butts
Billy Huckabee, *friend of Danny Scott*
Sandra Watson, *aunt of Courtney Bucknam*
Sarah Harmon, *friend of Courtney Bucknam*
Quentin Oswalt, *Angie Hydrick's nephew (Iraq)*
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*
Jillian Stover, *friend of Erin Rose*
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*
Amy Morrison, *friend of many*
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
Family of David Kaylor,
friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price
Dorothy Collins, *friend of Ryan Price*
Lauren Addy, *friend of Kathy Cooper and Metz*
Tim Burrows, *friend of Michelle Gantt*
Jodi Harper, *friend of Erin Rose*
Sam Lockridge, *friend of Scottie Marsh*
Lutheran Disaster Recovery workers
Hurricane Helene survivors and families

November 2024

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
27 Reformation Sunday 9:00am Worship - Reformation Confirmation 10:15am Children's Choir 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am CR: Worship Team	28 5:30pm CR: Care Team 6:30pm Team for Ministry	29 10:30am CR: Pastor Thanksgiving planning 6:00pm GR: Grief Support 6:30pm LIFE Group at Jackson's	30 9:00am Food Pantry (Diane Boulware, Parker Boulware, Mary Price) 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Handbells 7:00pm Choir Practice	31	1 6:00pm BYODinner 7:00pm Movie on the Mt	2 9:00am Food Pantry (Koon Family)	3 All Saints Sunday Daylight-Saving Time Ends 9:00 am Annual Nominating Meeting 9:00am Worship All Saints 10:15am Children's Choir 10:30am CFF: Confirmands & All Saints 3:00pm Confirmation with Parents Class 5:00pm FH: Youth	4 5:30pm CR: Care Team 6:30pm Team for Ministry	5 5:00pm Executive Team 6:00pm GR: Grief Support	6 Meals on Wheels: Randy & Becky Wise 9:00am Apple Picking 9:00am Food Pantry (Fran Bouknight, Angie Hydrick, Sherwood Garrett) 6:00pm Handbells 7:00pm Choir Practice	7 5:00pm - 7:00pm Drive Thru Prayer	8 6:00pm BYODinner 7:00pm Movie on the Mt	9 9:00am Food Pantry (DJ Plummer & Youth) 11:30am Outreach Columbia 6:00pm Hebrews Dinner
10 9:00am Worship (Annual if needed) 10:15am Children's Choir 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am Council Meets	11 Veterans Day 6:30pm Lutheran Men & Women 	12 6:30pm LIFE Group at Jackson's	13 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	14	15 6:00pm BYODinner 7:00pm Movie on the Mt	16 9:00am Adopt-A-Highway - Meet at church parking lot 9:00am Food Pantry (Kinard family)	17 9:00am Worship 10:15am Children's Choir 10:30am Annual Congregational Meeting 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am CR: Teach Team	18 6:00pm CR: Outreach Team	19 6:00pm CR: Finance Team 6:00pm GR: Grief Support	20 Meals on Wheels: Jamie & Nancy Addison 9:00am Food Pantry (Diane Boulware, Mary Frances Sease, Parker Boulware) 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm Handbells 7:00pm Choir Practice	21	22 6:00pm BYODinner 7:00pm Movie on the Mt	23 9:00am Food Pantry (Parker & Diane Boulware)
24 9:00am Worship 10:15am Children's Choir 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am CR: Worship Team 5:00pm Community Thanksgiving Service/Meal 	25	26 6:30pm CR: Support Team 6:30pm LIFE Group at Jackson's	27 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	28 Thanksgiving Day 	29	30 9:00am Food Pantry (Jamie & Nancy Addison, Elaine Clawson)							



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

WeAreMtHermon

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 US POSTAGE PAID
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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

803.951.3784

803.794.6430

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Music@WeAreMtHermon.com
Office@WeAreMtHermon.com

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