

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

“This is my Son,
the Beloved, with whom
I am well pleased.”



Matthew 3:17, NRSV

JANUARY 11, 2026

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

Immanuel
Card/CCLI #71014

THE GATHERING

We stand and face the baptismal font.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
the Creator of heaven and earth,
the Word who spoke life into being,
the Wind stirring the waters.

Amen.

We turn to the doors of the sanctuary.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

We turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

**Mighty God, lover of justice,
you call us to life in community,
but we have served our own interests
at the expense of our neighbors.
We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.
We say the right words,
but our hearts are far from you.
Turn us to seek your face.
Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,
that we may do justice, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God.
Amen.**

**The former things have passed away,
and new things God now declares:
Like a spring of water that never fails,
God covers you in the righteousness of Christ,
and forgives your sin in † Jesus' name.
May the Spirit give you strength to live for others,
and bless you with the gift of peace.
Amen.**

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

HYMN

Shall We Gather at the River

Lowry/Public Domain



- 1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
- 2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,
- 3 Ere we reach the shin-ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;
- 4 Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv - er, soon our pil-grim-age will cease;



with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow-ing by the throne of God?
we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.
grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro-vide a robe and crown.
soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.

Refrain



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful riv - er;



gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

GREETING

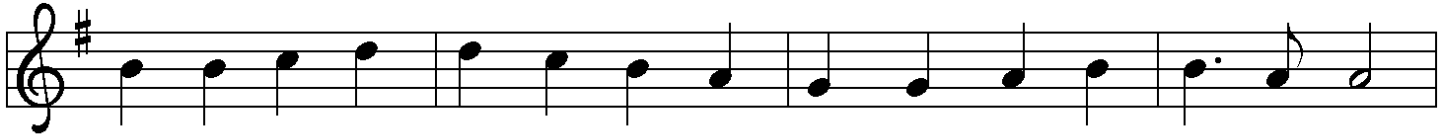
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

KYRIE

Glory Be to God in Heaven

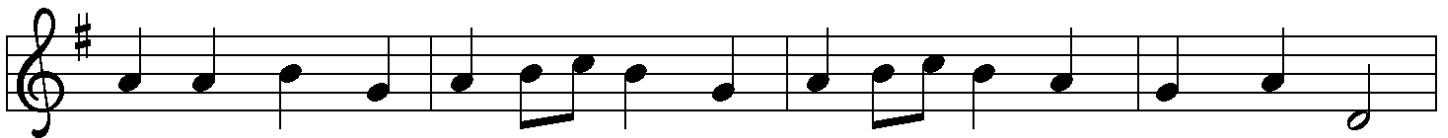
Augsburg Fortress #SB153820



- 1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray together.

O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.
We sit.

THE WORD

ISAIAH 42:1-9

A reading from Isaiah.

- ¹ Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
- ² He will not cry out or lift up his voice
or make it heard in the street;
- ³ a bruised reed he will not break,
and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
- ⁴ He will not grow faint or be crushed
until he has established justice in the earth,
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.
- ⁵ Thus says God, the Lord,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it
and spirit to those who walk in it:
- ⁶ I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness;
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;
I have given you as a covenant to the people,
a light to the nations,
- ⁷ to open the eyes that are blind,

to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.

⁸ I am the Lord; that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to idols.

⁹ See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth,
I tell you of them.

Word of God, teaching us the way. *Thanks be to God.*

PSALM 29

We read responsively.

¹ Ascribe to the Lord , you gods,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

**² Ascribe to the Lord the glory due God's name;
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.**

³ The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory
thunders; the Lord is upon the mighty waters.

**⁴ The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice;
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.**

⁵ The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees;
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

**⁶ the Lord makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.**

⁷ The voice of the Lord
bursts forth in lighting flashes.

**⁸ The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

⁹ The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare. And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, “Glory!”

***¹⁰ The Lord sits enthroned above the flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as king forevermore.***

¹¹ O Lord, give strength to your people;
give them, O Lord, the blessings of peace.

ACTS 10:34-43

A reading from Acts.

³⁴ Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Word of God, teaching us the way.

Thanks be to God.

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Emmanuel

McGee/CCLI #12949

Em - man - u - el, Em - man - u - el,
his name is called Em - man - u - el;
God with us, re - vealed in us;
his name is called Em - man - u - el.

Chords: C, C/E, F, G, G⁷, C, C/B \flat , A, A/C \sharp , Dm, G⁷, G/B, C, C/E, F, G, G⁷, C, C/B \flat , A, A/C \sharp , Dm, G⁷, F/C, C.

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 3:13-17

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew the 3rd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶ And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

The gospel of the Lord. ***Praise to you, O Christ.***

We sit.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

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

We stand.

HYMN

Baptized in Water

Saward/CCLI #2700434



1 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the
2 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the
3 Bap - tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the



blood of Christ our king: heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing his
tomb with Christ our king: one with his ris - ing, freed and for -
sign of Christ our king: born of the Spir - it, we are God's



prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

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

As God's beloved children united in Christ, we pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

Merciful God, receive our prayer

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior. **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

Wade in the Water

African American Spiritual/Public Domain

We stand.

OFFERTORY

Holy Spirit Rain Down

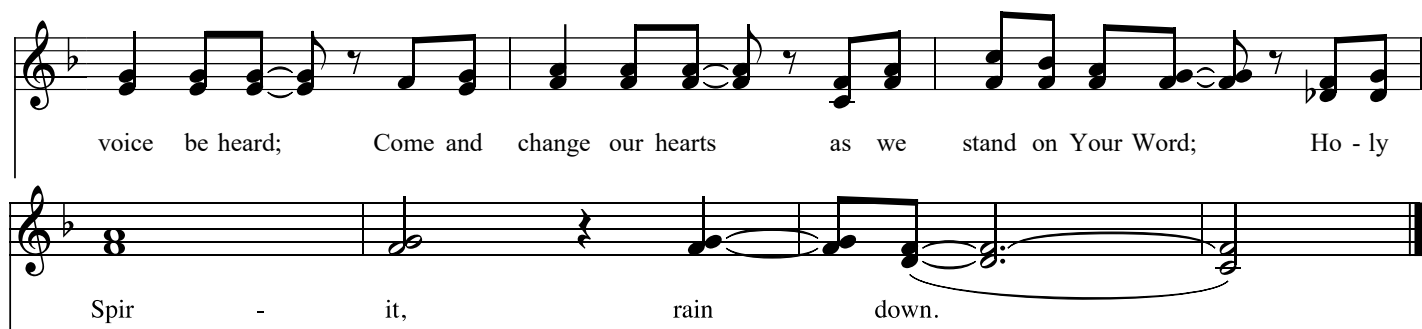
Fragar/CCLI #2405227

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of three staves of music with lyrics underneath. The first staff begins with a 4/4 measure, followed by a repeat sign and an 8-measure rest, then continues with a melody. The second staff continues the melody with various note values including eighth and sixteenth notes. The third staff also continues the melody, ending with a 7-measure rest. The lyrics are: "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".

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.

God of majesty,

no eye has seen, no ear has heard

what you have prepared for those who love you,

yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.

Use what we have gathered

to feed us with the reign of God come near,

Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE MEAL

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

We gather around these elements consecrated by Pastor Gina.

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

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!
Come to the table; taste and see.

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, we also offer communion 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
Price

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.

Radiant God,

we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.

In the sacrament of his body and blood

you have drawn us to your heart.

Send us from this table with delight,

that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,

and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE SENDING

BLESSING

May the triune God,

who has put a new song in your mouth

and tuned your heart for praise

✠ bless you now and forever.

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

The Blessing

Brown/CCLI #7147007

The Lord bless you — and keep you,
make his face shine — up - on — you and be gra - cious — to you.
The Lord turn his — face toward you and give you peace. .
— A — men, a —
-men, a — men. A — men, a —
-men, a — men. D.C. || D.S. |
-men, a — men. - men.

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 given to the glory of God and in honor of the disciples of Christ who call Mt. Hermon “home” and for thanks to God for ten years of being called to ordained ministry by Pastor Gina.



The Council and Ministry Team leaders are at the Isle of Palms for a retreat. We will be looking back over 2025 and looking forward to 2026. We will be worshiping with you online as Deacon Deborah Poole will be leading worship. Please be in prayer for the Spirit to speak to those at the retreat.

The Youth will be on a retreat and working on a service project in Lutheridge January 16-18. Please be in pray for safe travels and a spirit filled retreat.





Join Us for a Health & Wellness Seminar!

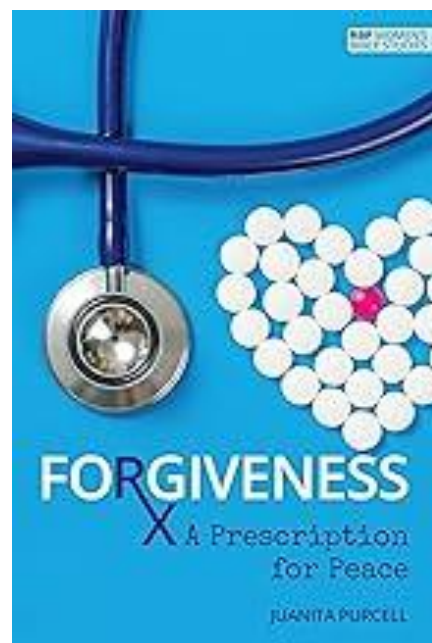
Are you looking to kickstart a healthier lifestyle this year? Join us on **Sunday, January 25th, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm** at the **Mt. Hermon Fellowship Hall** for an inspiring afternoon with Michele Head. You'll learn practical tips for better lifestyle choices, explore wellness-focused diets, and discover secrets to healthy cooking. Light refreshments will be provided. We look

forward to seeing you there!

Sponsored by the Care Team.

Forgiveness: A Prescription for Peace

Robin Machajewski and Danni Martin will be leading a Bible study about forgiveness. The studies will be held at the church on the following **Sundays at 1:30-3:30pm: 2/1/26, 2/8/26, 2/22/26, 3/1/26, 3/8/26, and 3/15/26.** 10 copies of the books have been donated. This Bible study will require some reading and self-reflection prior to meetings. If you are interested, please email Robin at **Robeanei@gmail.com** and she will coordinate getting a book to you prior to the study start date.



TITHES AND OFFERINGS

January 4, 2026

9:00 worship 105 + live stream 128 = 233

Current & Benevolent	Received	*
Building Fund	Received	*
Building Improvement	Received	*

*Mt Hermon is in the process of installing a new system to track contributions. We will update the financials as soon as we can post into the new system.

HONORARIUMS AND MEMORIALS

SERVING IN WORSHIP

	Today	Next Sunday
Ushers:	Larry Amick	Fran Bouknight
	Kay Bryant	Ricky Bouknight
Crucifer:	Sam Koon	Brayden Rutherford
Acolyte:	Cameron Bucknam	Braydon Johnson
Lector:	Scottie Marsh	Kirby Johnson
Communion Assts:	Mary Koon	Brayden Rutherford
	Sam Koon	Kirby Johnson
	Cameron Bucknam	Dylan Whitaker
	Scottie Marsh	Nancy Addison
	David Marsh	Jamie Addison
Audio:	Arron Kinard	Blake Allen
Video:	Quentin Kinard	Breanna Metze
Flowers:	Pastor Gina	Wynne & Mary Price

SERVING IN JANUARY

LOCK UP: Dion Metze

ALTAR GUILD: Jennifer Price, Angie Hydrick

TABULATORS: Larry Amick, Angie Hydrick

MT HERMON PRAYS

Continual Prayer

Patricia Bachman, *Asbury Arms*
Lauvenia Butts, *Lakeside Place*
Doris Carver, *Presby Home*
Georgianna Gray, *home*
James Hallman, *Agape House*

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

Members in Special Need of Prayer

Lauren Addy	Chris Carroll	Debbie Duval	Renee Greenbaum
Joye Haygood	Frankie Jackson	Elyse Kinard	Doris Maddox
Skyler Miller	Amanda Robinette	Jim Whitaker	Dennis Thurman

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*

Kaiden Howell,
 friend of Jacquelyn Hawlik
Randy Stonehill, *friend of Ryan & Jennifer*
Linda Bennett, *mother of Beth Jordan*
Neice of Abbey Carroll's teacher
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*
Anne Piercy, *friend of Kathy Whitaker*
Addie, *granddaughter of Lavonne Roof*
Elizabeth McKee, *aunt of Bonnie Bouknight*
Frank Flinn, *friend of Ryan Price*
*Jimmy Maddox, *husband of Doris Maddox*

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, January 18th - Youth Retreat

9:00 am Worship

10:30am Sunday School

Tuesday, January 20th

6:30 pm GR: Grief Group

Wednesday, January 21st

9:00 am Food Pantry

(Diane Boulware, Mary Frances Sease, Mary Price)

6:30 pm Choir Practice

Saturday, January 24th

9:00 am Food Pantry (Al & Laura Stevens, Frank Bouknight)

9:00 am CR: Tanzanian Inquiry/Planning meeting



WeAreMtHermon

www.WeAreMtHermon.com

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Monday – Friday 9:00am – 1:00 pm

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Administrative Asst

803.951.3784
803.240.3143 cell

PastorGina@WeAreMtHermon.com
Office@WeAreMtHermon.com

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Terry Swygert, *President*
Sheila Eargle, *Secretary*
Parker Boulware, *Financial Secretary*

Ronnie Fulmer, Vice President
Frank Bouknight, Treasurer
Ricky Bouknight & Terry Swygert, *Sextons*

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, January 11th - Council Retreat

9:00 am Worship

10:30am Sunday School

Monday, January 12th

6:30pm NO Lutheran Men & Women

Tuesday, January 13th

6:30 pm Life Group at The Jacksons

Wednesday, January 14th

9:00 am Food Pantry

(Fran Bouknight, Angie Hydrick, Sherwood Garrett)

12:05 pm FH: OneBody Worship

Thursday, January 15th

6:00 pm CR: Outreach Team

Friday, January 16th - Sunday, January 18th Youth Retreat

Saturday, January 17th

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