

FIRST SUNDAY
in
LENT

MARCH 9, 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 prepare our hearts for worship.

PRELUDE

Pastorale

Burmuller/OneLicense #66100

THE GATHERING

We stand and face the baptismal font.

Blessed be the holy Trinity,

✠ one God,

who forgives all our sin,

whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

We turn to face the cross at the entrance of the sanctuary. As broken children, we begin worship by acknowledging our sin and asking for God's forgiveness.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us return to God, confessing our sin the assurance of God's abiding love.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One,

*you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,
but our lives do not always reflect you
and your love for the world.*

*We do not show others the tender compassion
you have shown to us.*

*We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality
You grant to all people.*

*We oppress others,
even though you have set us free and again.
We squander the abundant gifts of the earth.*

*Transform our lives
and guide us again in the way of the cross.
Amen.*

Beloved in Christ,

God's arms are always stretched open wide
To welcome the wanders ones home.

In **✝** Christ, you are forgiven.

You have a place in God's house forever.

Amen.

As fully forgiven children of God, turn and face the altar as the cross passes you.

HYMN

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

Showalter/OneLicense #246922



1 What a fel - low-ship, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing on the ev - er -
2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, lean - ing on the ev - er -
3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing on the ev - er -



last-ing arms; what a bless - ed - ness, what a peace is mine,
last-ing arms; oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
last-ing arms? I have bless - ed peace with my Lord so near,

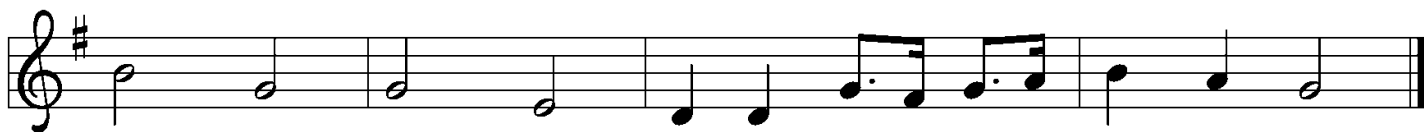


lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Refrain



Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se-cure from all a - larms;



lean - ing, lean - ing, lean-ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

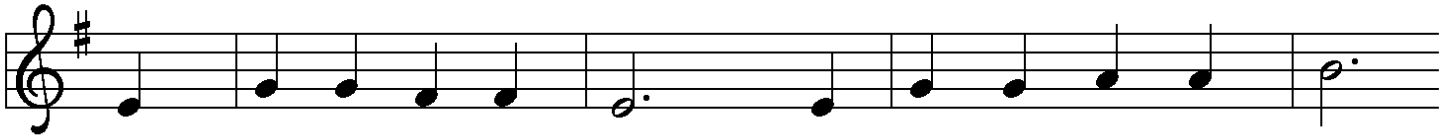
GREETING

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



1 Have mer-cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol-lemn prayer.

2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.

3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.

Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.

Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

We pray together.

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, 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

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

A reading from Deuteronomy.

¹ When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ² you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a

basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³ You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, “Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.” ⁴ When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, ⁵ you shall make this response before the LORD your God: “A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶ When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷ we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. ⁸ The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹ and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰ So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.” You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. ¹¹ Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

Word of God, teaching us the way.

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16

¹ You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty

² *you will say to the LORD,
“My refuge and my stronghold,
my God in whom I put my trust.”*

⁹ Because you have made the LORD your refuge,
and the Most High your habitation,

¹⁰ *no evil will befall you,
nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.*

¹¹ For God will give the angels charge over you,
to guard you in all your ways.

¹² *Upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.*

¹³ You will tread upon the lion cub and viper;
you will trample down the lion and the serpent.

¹⁴ *I will deliver those who cling to me;
I will uphold them, because they know my name.*

¹⁵ They will call me, and I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.

¹⁶ *With long life will I satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.*

Romans 10:8b-13

A reading from Romans.

^{8b} “The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹ because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart and so is justified,

and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹ The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

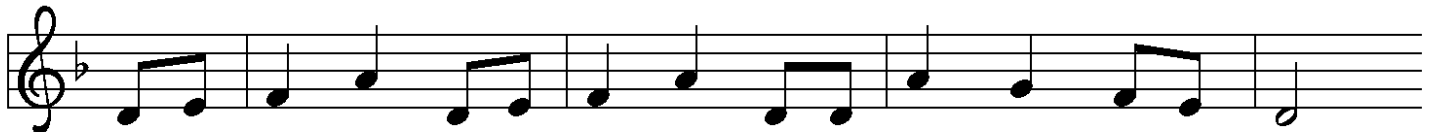
Word of God, teaching us the way.

Thanks be to God.

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Augsburg Fortress Liturgies #SB153820



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind –



slow to an - ger, rich in bless - ing, and with love to us in - clined.

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13

The holy gospel according to St. Luke the 4th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. ³ The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” ⁴ Jesus answered him, “It is

written, 'One does not live by bread alone.' ” ⁵ Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” ⁸ Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’ ” ⁹ Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’ ¹¹ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ” ¹² Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ” ¹³ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

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

CHILDREN’S TIME

hungry

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

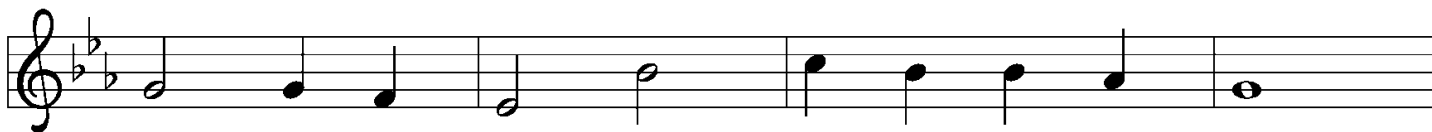
bread alone

We stand.

HYMN

Abide with Me

Moub/OneLicense #97976



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
3 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes,



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;
what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



help of the help - less, oh, a - bide with me.
O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
Through cloud and sun - shine, oh, a - bide with me.
I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me!
in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

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

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

God in your mercy, receive our prayer.

Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. ***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.*

ANTHEM

O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days

Doan, Davisson/OneLicense #13114

We stand.

OFFERTORY

Bread of Life

Hamilton, Meisenheimer/CCLI #7252237

Verses



1. If you're hun-gry, come, tired_ and un - done, there's a
2. Bring your wear - y mind, ev - ery tear you've cried, there is



place for you, a place for you at the ta - ble.___
peace for you,____ peace for you at the ta - ble.___



If you're lone - ly, come, fill your emp-ty cup, there's a
Lay your bur-dens down, hope is all a-round, you are



drink for you, a drink for you at the ta - ble._
wel-come here,___ wel-come here at the ta - ble._

Refrain



Bread of life, Je-sus with us,___ heal-ing our hearts with love.



Bread of life, bro-ken for you,___ share with a - noth - er too.



There is e - nough. Oh there will al-ways be, so



take this bread with me.____

OFFERING PRAYER

We give thanks for these gifts and we pray together.

Gracious Provider,

you set your immense treasures among us,

opening your heart to the world.

*As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love,
Deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with
others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. 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.

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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace.

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.

O God of resurrection and new life:

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence. ***Come, Holy Spirit.***

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love. ***Come, Holy Spirit.***

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever. ***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.***

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is here.

We sit.

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

I Want Jesus to Walk With Me

African American Spiritual/OneLicense #657051003

We stand.

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.

***Generous Host,
you have shared your feast with us and made us new.
Send us now to set tables of love and grace
in our communities,
that your liberating love might nourish
the world into freedom,
in the name of the crucified one,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

THE SENDING

BLESSING

God our tender parent,
God the crucified one,
God the reconciling Spirit,
✠ bless you now and forever. *Amen.*

HYMN

Sing twice

As the Deer

Nystrom/CCLI #1431



As the deer pants for the wa-ter, so my soul longs af - ter you.



You a - lone are my heart's de - sire and I long to wor - ship you.



You a - lone are my strength, my shield, to you a - lone may my spir-it yield;



you a - lone are my heart's de - sire, and I long to wor-ship you.

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

SENDING

The Blessing

Brown, Carnes, Jobe, Furtick/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 Ann Bouknight's birthday (March 8th) and in memory of Karl Bouknight's birthday (April 11th) by Ricky and Fran Bouknight, Lynn, Marvin & Gabrielle.



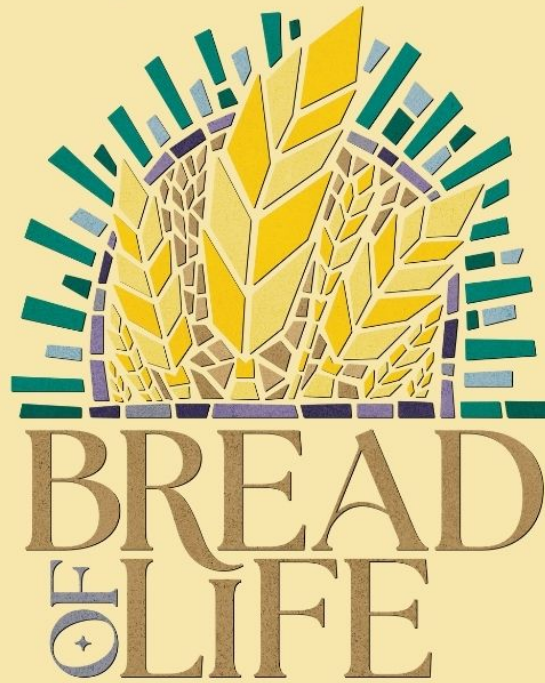
Mt Hermon Travelers

There are still seats available for our first event on 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. Cost is \$40 per person. If you are interested, please contact Frank Bouknight.



Lenten Worship
Every Wednesday ~ March 12 - April 9
6:30 pm in the Sanctuary



*Spring flowers will decorate the sanctuary
and the outside cross on Easter Morning.
If you would like to make a financial
contribution to purchase flowers and have
someone's name(s) listed in the
memorial/honorarium bulletin, please make a
donation by April 13th*

*Please call the church office
if you have any questions 803.794.6430*

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

03/03/2025

In person attendance 101 + live stream 134 = 235

Current & Benevolent	Received	\$4,302.57
Building Fund	Received	\$805.00
Building Improvement	Received	\$575.00

HONORARIUMS AND MEMORIALS

N/A

We livestream each week to Facebook. Did you also know that we also livestream to YouTube? Like us on Facebook and subscribe on YouTube



@mthermonlutheran3011



Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church,
West Columbia, SC

SERVING IN WORSHIP

	Today	Next Sunday
Ushers:	Frankie Jackson	Chanler Coppens
	Melanie Jackson	Cameron Bucknam Brayden Rutherford
Crucifer:	Hayden Eargle	Spencer Price
Acolyte:	Brayden Johnson	Bryson Johnson
Lector:	Kirby Johnson	Sam Koon Zachary Head Brayden Morris
Communion Assts:	Hayden Eargle	Mackenzie Burns
	Frankie Jackson	Dylan Johnson
	Melanie Jackson	Jacquelynn Hawlik
	Daryl Leigh Anthony	Connor Eargle
	n/a	Sam Koon Aaron Head
Audio:	Arron Kinard	Blake Allen
Video:	Quentin Kinard	Breanna Metze
Nursery:	Alyson Price	Cassie Swygert
	Brittany Allen	Laura Carroll
Flowers:	Ricky & Fran Bouknight	Sherwood Garrett

SERVING IN MARCH

COUNCIL REP: Mary Koon

ALTAR GUILD: Mary Frances Sease, Diane Boulware

TABULATORS: Ann Addy, Mary Frances Sease

USHERS: Marion Leaphart, Dennis Thurman, Susan Busby

MT HERMON PRAYS

Continual Prayer

Patricia Bachman, *Asbury Arms*
Lauvenia Butts, *Lakeside Place*
Bobby & 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*

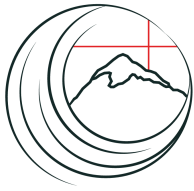
Members in Special Need of Prayer

Karly Addy	Bonnie Bouknight	Chris Carroll
Randy Clark	Debbie Duval	Debbie Fulmer
Michelle Gantt	Joye Haygood	Frankie Jackson
Mary Frances Sease	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*
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 Metz*
Jodi Harper, *friend of Erin Rose*
Sam Lockridge, *friend of Scottie Marsh*
Mary Duffie, *mother of Alyson Price*
Thelma Moyer, *mother of Diane Boulware*
Michael Tucker, *friend of Michelle Gantt*
Kaiden Howell, *friend of Jacquelynn Hawlik*
*Randy Stonehill, *friend of Ryan & Jennifer*
*Linda Bennett, *mother of Beth Jordan*



WeAreMtHermon

www.WeAreMtHermon.com

3011 Leaphart Road

West Columbia, SC 29169

803.794.6430 / 803.240.3143 cell/text

Rev. Gina D. Metze, *Pastor*

803.951.3784

PastorGina@WeAreMtHermon.com

Svetlana Royal, *Director of Music*

Music@WeAreMtHermon.com

Roberta Smith, *Administrative Asst*

803.240.3143 cell

Office@WeAreMtHermon.com

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Terry Swygert, *President*

Ronnie Fulmer, Vice President

Sheila Eargle, *Secretary*

Frank Bouknight, Treasurer

Annette Price/Karen Nicholson, *Financial Secretary*

Ricky Bouknight & Terry Swygert, Sextons

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, March 9th

9:00 am Worship

10:30 am Sunday School

11:15 am Children's Choir

11:30 am CR: Council Meeting

Monday, March 10th

6:30 pm Lutheran Men & Women will not meet

Tuesday, March 11th

6:30 pm Life Group at The Jacksons

Wednesday, March 12th

Meals on Wheels: Earl & Mary Frances

9:00 am Food Pantry

(Ann Addy, Ann Bouknight, Sharon Keefe)

12:05 pm OneBody Worship

6:30 pm Lenten Worship

7:00 pm Lenten Meals: Care Team

7:05 pm Handbell Practice

7:30 pm Choir Practice

Saturday, March 15th

9:00 am Food Pantry (Swygerts)