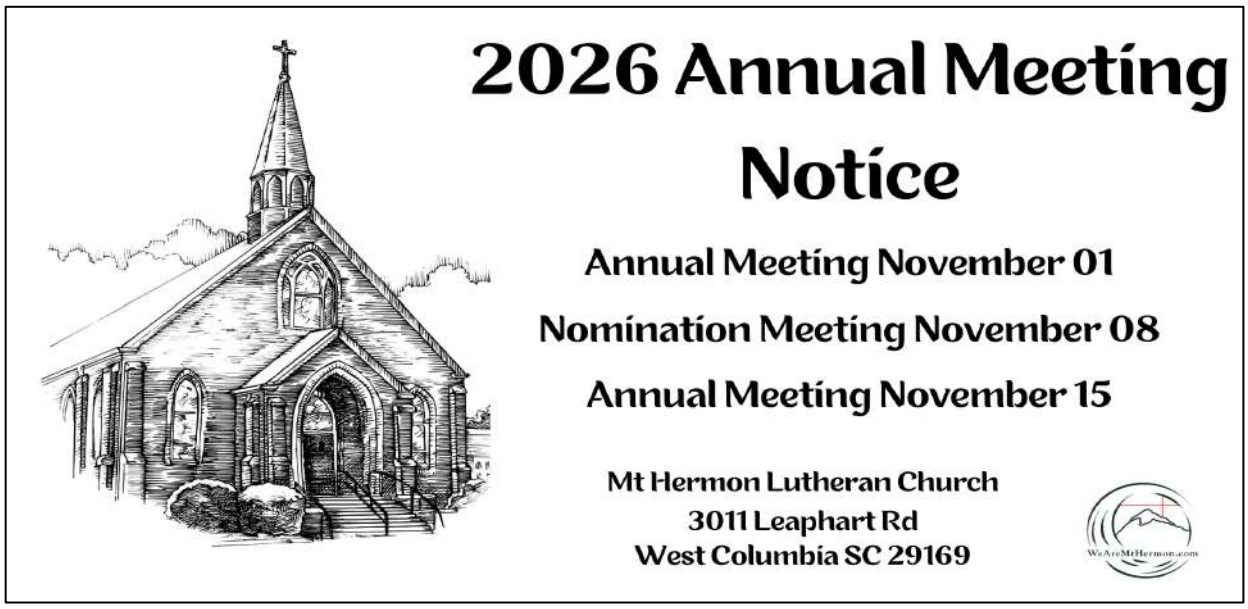
Disciples Making a Difference

November 2026

Community Happenings





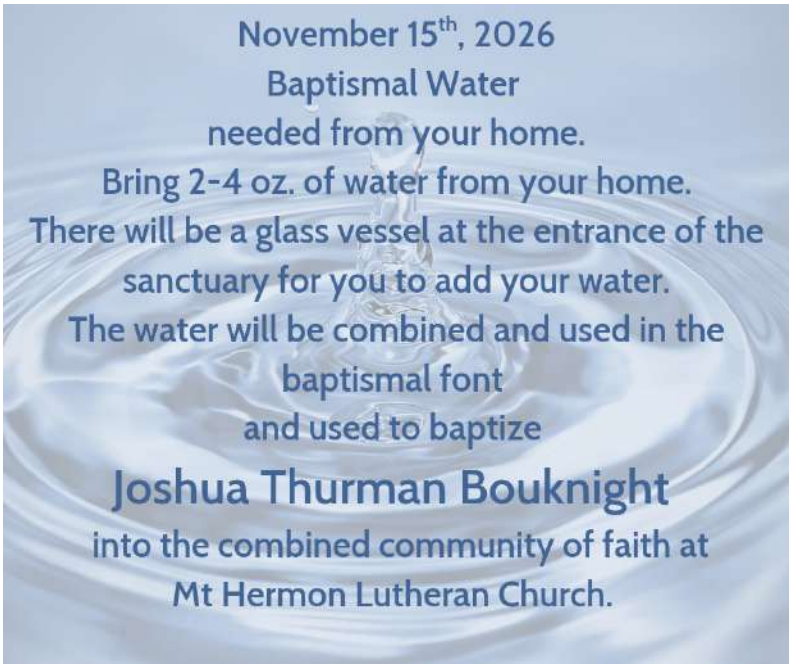
If you have not returned your pledge to the Major Maintenance Fund, it's not too late. You may pick up one of these outside the church office or in the narthex of the sanctuary and place it in the offering plate or in a sealed envelope and leave in the wire box outside the church office.

Dear Mt. Hermon,
On behalf of the Mid-Carolina Daylily Society, thank you for the use of your facilities for our recent Regional meeting. Our participants ranked your location very highly and we are so grateful to you for making it available. We hope that we lift everything in order. Thank you again for your kindness and generosity. We are always made to feel at home when we use your social hall. With appreciation, Beverly Brewer, co-chair
Redeemers: Connor Eargle & Chris Boston

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The weather is getting cooler and some of our Food Pantry participants are in need of a **winter coat**. If you could go through your closets and donate any gently used coats of all sizes it would be appreciated. Please leave them in front of the church nursery. Thank you for our continued support.





PICKLEBALL CHAMPIONS!
THANK YOU to all who joined us for the Mt. Hermon Pickleball Tournament!
It was a successful fundraiser for Mt Hermon Youth Group events.
Even more, it was an incredibly fun and festive time of sportsmanship and fellowship!

CONGRATULATIONS
Silver Bracket Champions: The Communion Crushers: Blake and Brittany Price
Gold Bracket Champions: The

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A Faithful God

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. **1 Thessalonians 4:13-15**

It's November 2026! How can that be? It seems like it was November 2025 just yesterday. We have had a year of many changes and celebrations: meaningful worship, many visitors, new disciples, paying off the mortgage, and much more.

We continue to celebrate the Reformation, the installation of a new bishop, All Saints Sunday, annual meetings, and the election of council members. Now we begin a new campaign for the Major Maintenance Fund. These moments remind us that we live in an ever-changing world full of opportunities for ministry.

This past week, many of you joined us in person and online to witness the installation of the 5th bishop of the SC Synod. We were blessed to hear the Word of God from ELCA Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry, who proclaimed that God is up to something in the world, and I would add, in the South Carolina Synod in particular! The celebrations continued as rostered leaders gathered at Lutheridge. There we heard from a speaker who thinks outside the box about ministry and who encouraged us to keep reforming the church so that it can adapt to 2026 and the world we live in today.

All of this brought me back to our 1 Thessalonians series for the coming weeks. The early church had many questions, including what happens to those we love who have died. Paul wrote to assure them that God was with them, and that we do not grieve without hope. Honestly, we can become so busy that we lose our focus and our connection to the reason we exist in the first place. We will keep celebrating, and we will keep focusing on the reasons for the Reformation and on why we gather each week for worship and learning of God's plan for God's people.

Join us for the celebrations and adventures as we close out 2026 and move into the new church year, beginning November 29th, the first Sunday of Advent.

Serving alongside you,

Pastor Gina

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CHURCH COUNCIL HAPPENINGS

Congregational Council Minutes September 13, 2026

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

DEVOTIONS: Jamie Addison led devotions
CARES AND CONCERNS: Prayers for: Kay Bryant and Preston Bryant
MEMBER CARE: NA
ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Accepted as presented.
ADOPTION OF MINUTES: August meeting - Accepted as presented.
REPORTS:

- Pastor Gina: Report for August 2026 was submitted.
- Financial Secretary: Funds report for August 2026 Accepted
- Treasurer: 1a Balance Sheet for August 2026, 1b Budget Comparison for August 2026 and 1c Designated Funds for August 2026. Accepted. The mortgage on the Fellowship Hall has been paid in full.

Team Reports/Recommendations:
Team for Ministry: No report
Care: No report.
Outreach: Written report submitted.
Support: Written report submitted
Recommendation from Support Team/Finance Team: The Helen Evans CD which is held at Thrivent to be liquidated and the proceeds to be sent to the same investment firm which holds all of Mt Hermon's other investments. The CD amount will be kept in a separate fund so that the interest will continue to be designated as outreach to the community. Passed
Teach: Written report submitted.
Worship: Written report submitted.
OLD BUSINESS:

- Director of Music search team –No report.
- Admin Asst Search Team – Nancy Addison and Myra Kinard are filling in while the search is occurring.
- Loan/Refinancing update:
    - A Congregation Forum was held on August 30, 2026 to discuss the building needs and possible improvements. Notes from that meeting are attached.
    - By Homecoming Sunday, October 4 we plan to gather the congregation's financial support information.
    - At the Congregational Meeting on November 15, 2026, the congregation will decide what building improvement projects Mt. Hermon pursues and the amount of money we will seek to borrow from the bank to complete those projects.
    - Ronnie and Wayne will make some temple talks in Sept and October to help inform the congregation as to where Mt. Hermon is financially.

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NEW BUSINESS:

- Budget requests due September 13th to Finance Team
- October council nominations
- Finance Team loan/refinancing update
- Next Meeting: October 11, 2026
- Next Month Devotions and Lock Up – Melanie Jackson

FEEDBACK:

Meeting Adjourned

Minutes taken by Jerry Price
Compiled and respectfully submitted,
Diane Boulware, Council Secretary

Attendance Report

	Sunday School	In-Person	Live Streaming	Total
October 4	Homecoming	146	167	313
October 11	26	92	128	246
October 18	34	77	117	228
October 25	38	88	146	234

Treasurer Report

2026 September	Actual Income	Actual Expense	Difference
Current & Benevolence	17,160.02	25,433.46	(8,273.44)
Building Improvement	3,565.00	-	3,565.00
Major Maintenance Fund	1,610.00	4,794.29	(3,184.29)

2026 Year to Date	Actual Income	Actual Expense	Difference
Current & Benevolence	190,607.26	206,514.72	(15,907.46)
Building Improvement	42,150.47	41,463.88	686.59
Major Maintenance Fund	16,398.11	18,004.05	(1,605.94)

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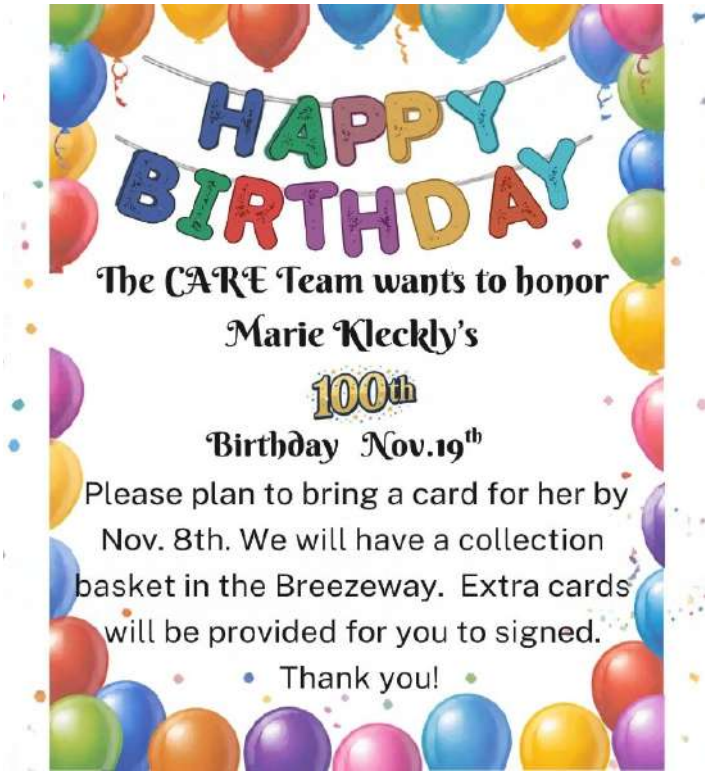
Care Team Happenings

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.

He-Brews supper club will meet again Saturday, November 14th. Sign up online or in the breezeway



SUPPER CLUBS



Mepkin Abbey Creche

The sign up sheet for Mepkin Abbey Creche festival on *Dec. 5, 2026* is located in the breezeway. The bus and tickets has been secured. We are asking for a minimum of $20.00 donation per person to defer cost of the bus. Bus departs 8:30am from Capital Bus. Lunch will in the Abbey area. Our tour reservation is 11:00am.

Any questions: Call Frank (803) 497-5393



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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 **Fall Festival** was a huge success. The attendance was higher than last year. Thanks to all your donations of time and candy we made a difference in a lot of lives young and older. If anyone has Trunk decorations that will be tucked away and probably not be used again, Wanda Addy is heading up a decoration swap. Trade yours with someone else and you will not need to purchase one next year. Please contact Wanda Addy or Charlene Corley if you are interested in doing this.

The Food Pantry Needs Your Help Recently the number of people coming to our food pantry in need of food has increased as has the cost of food. Our food pantry donations are not keeping up with the need. The Outreach Team has made some changes to try and help reduce the costs of the Food Pantry. Some of these are: changing some of the items provided to our patrons and reducing the days the food pantry is open. Starting in November, the Food Pantry will be open the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays and Saturdays of each month. To help stock the Food Pantry, the Outreach Team is sponsoring a Canned Food Drive the month of November. We need canned meats, canned vegetables, canned soups and canned fruit. To add a sense of competition, we are going to have the food drive be a Carolina/Clemson contest. Bring your cans of unexpired food and place them in either the Carolina box or the Clemson box. We plan to announce the winner of the food drive on Sunday, November 29.



Free Garage Sale We will host a free garage sale for families in need of assistance on December 4. 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 ready to start gathering now. The items can be placed in the room across from the youth room in the church basement. (The only adult clothing we are collecting are jackets, coats and shoes.) 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 by calling her or emailing her at mthoutreach@gmail.com.



Taking Donations Now!

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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. 22. 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 7.



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.*

Major Future Projects that require Immediate Attention:

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- The support team continued discussions regarding future major improvements, timelines, and financial strategies to replace aging roofs and HVAC throughout church property.
    - **Updated Quotes for final estimate will be required.** Quotes below are conditional.
    - The support team recommends repairing four (4) units simultaneously due to the need for hiring a crane. **Crane costs are not included.**
    - **Estimates are as follows:**

Shingle Roof	$20,000	Completed
Flat Roof	$225,000	Leaks have occurred
HVAC Units (4)	$110,000	Recommended 4 out of 8 units
Parking Lot	$10,000	Fill, Seal, and Repaint (lines, curbs, & handicap)
Fire Alarm	$5,000	9 duct detectors, damaged covers to meet code
Sound System (FH)	$50,000	For Fellowship Hall
TOTAL ESTIMATE	**$420,000**	



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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.*



When children are learning – the learning often is a response like this; WHY? WHY? WHY?

Let's get together and answer some of those WHY questions that we have around worship.


Lutheran Learners

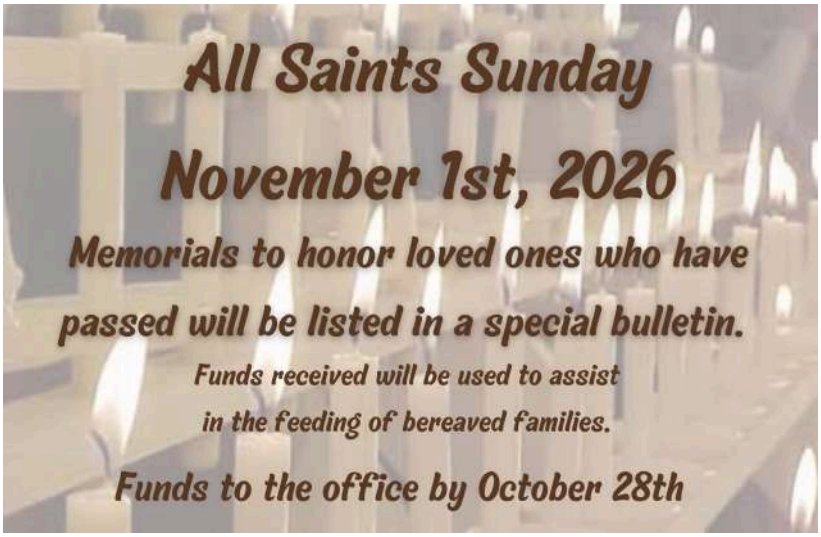
There is no age limit to learning, and we should never stop learning. God is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow (Hebrews 13:8) and we should keep learning about the God who is constant but also constantly offers to us new ways of seeing and experiencing Him. We call the classes confirmation – because it is the affirmation of our baptism. You are welcome to come and learn with the Lutheran Learners. Our next class is November 8th! See Pastor Gina if you have any questions! PastorGina@WeAreMtHermon.com

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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.*

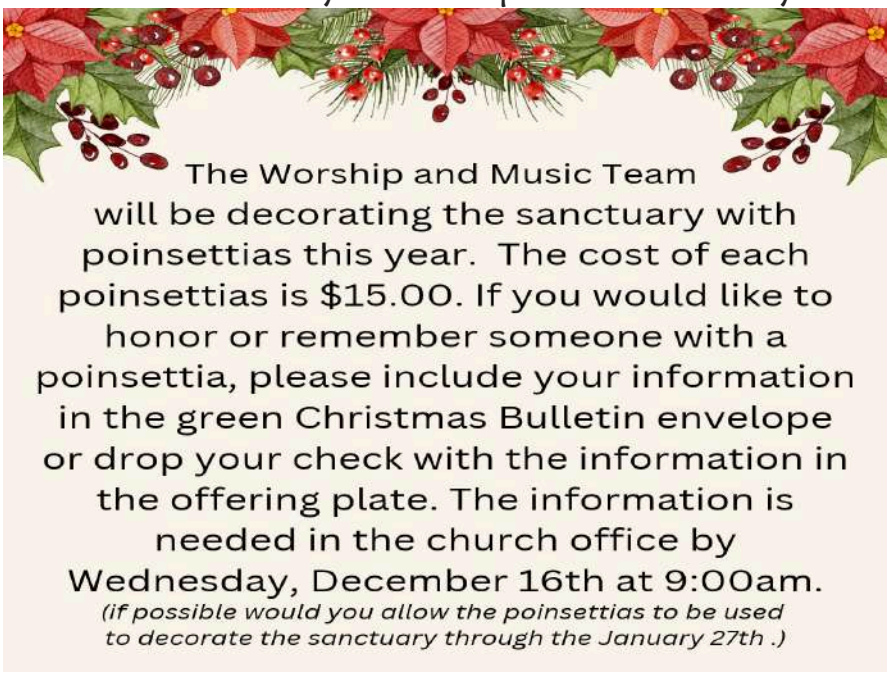




November 1, 2026 – All Saints Sunday
CFF will follow the service to honor All Saints and New Members

November 8, 2026 – Veterans Day
Recognition of Veterans during the service

November 29, 2026 – The First Sunday of Advent
A gradual decoration of the sanctuary will take place each Sunday



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Serving in Worship

	November 1	November 8	November 15	November 22	November 29
Outside Greeters	Dion Metze	Jamie Addison	Parker Boulware	Ronnie Fulmer	Jeff Bucknam
	Herb Bucknam	Joel Price, Jr	Marion Leaphart	Dan Cooper	Herb Bucknam
Ushers	Herb Bucknam	Ricky Bouknight	Blake Allen	Dion Metze	Parker Greer
	Dennis Therman	Fran Bouknight	Jeff Price	Rick Anthony	Marion Leaphart
Crucifer	Hayden Eargle	Mackenzie Burns	Hayes Wingard	Connor Eargle	Cameron Bucknam
Acolyte	Dylan Whitaker	Scarlett Bryant	Karl Dugan	Bryson Johnson	Walker Kinard
Lector	Charlene Corley	Elyse Kinard	Allison Swygert	Kirby Johnson	Ricky Bouknight
Comm Assts	Syndey Bucknam	Chanler Coppens	Hayes Wingard	Daryl Leigh Anthony	Cameron Bucknam
	Dylan Whitaker	Jamie Addison	Karl Dugan	Connor Eargle	Walker Kinard
	Charlene Corley Wayne Corley	Mackenzie Burns	Allison Swygert	Bryson Johnson	Ricky Bouknight
	Dani Martin	Elyse Kinard	Terry Swygert	Kirby Johnson	Fran Bouknight
	Coutney Bucknam Cameron Bucknam	Nancy Addison	Kathy Cooper	Debbie Fulmer	Susan Busby
Audio	Ryan Corley	Arron Kinard	Blake Allen	Brandon Donaldson	Breanna Metze
Video	Marie Gardner	Quentin Kinard	Breanna Metze	Marie Gardner	Breanna Metze
Flowers	Fulmer's	Jackson's	A. Price	Steven's	S. Frame

Serving in October

LOCK UP & COUNCIL DEVOTIONS: Diane Boulware

ALTAR GUILD: Diane Boulware, Mary Frances Sease

TABULATORS: Ann Addy, Mary Price

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

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Nov 01	Frank Bouknight
Nov 05	Jessica Goodwin, Alex Greer, Parker Greer
Nov 08	Mary Koon
Nov 11	Karl Dugan, Jerry Ellisor
	♥ **Nov 11** Frankie & Melanie Jackson
Nov 12	Joshua Koon
Nov 16	Gloria Watson, Kathy Whitaker
Nov 17	Cassie Swygert
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

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*
Gloria Mathias, *home*
Jean Shealy, *Lakeside Place*
Linda Waters-Hamilton, *home*
Marie Kleckley, *Lex Ext Care*
Doris Carver, *Presby Home*
Georgianna Gray, *home*

Members in Special Need of Prayer

Bonnie Bouknight
Kay Bryant
Preston Bryant
Chris Carroll
Becky Ellisor
Jerry Ellisor
Joye Haygood
Robert Haygood
Kaytlin Hutto
Mary Frances Sease
Cyndi Thurman
Dennis Thurman
Jim Whitaker

Family and Friends Who Have Requested Prayer

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
Nancy Lail-Hulon & Family,
friends of Debra & Dave Butts
Jaimie Womack,
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*
Sam Lockridge, *friend of Scottie Marsh*
Linda Bennett, *mother of Beth Jordan*
Joy Jordan, *friend of Michelle Gantt*
Dorris Layton,
friend of Earl & Mary Frances Sease
Scarlett Redmon, *cousin of Kinard Family*
Michael Williams,
son-in-law Georgianna Gray
Wayne & Kristen Watkins,
friends of Courtney Bucknam
Kristin Oliver, *sister of Michelle Gantt*
Paul Jacobs, *friend of Paul & Wanda Addy*
Aria and Shelly Hamilton,
friends of Scarlett Bryant
Sally Wise Kleber, *friend of Paul & Wanda Addy & neighbor of Ryan & Jennifer Price*
Brian Goodwin, *father of Jessica Goodwin*
Robert Rikard,
brother-in-law of Linda Waters-Hamilton
Al Bates, *friend of Dan Cooper*
Connie Sox, *daughter of Cindy Chapman*
Sandy Busby, *sister-in-law of Susan Busby*
Eddie Rutherford,
grandfather of Brayden Rutherford
Ashley Bouknight,
daughter of Mike and Erin Bouknight
Paul Metz, *friend of Ryan Price*

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 **All Saints Day** **Daylight-Saving Time Ends** 9:00am Annual Meeting 9:00am Worship 10:30am CFF: All Saints	2 9:30am FH: Walking 5:30pm CR: Care Team 6:30pm CR: Team for Ministry	3 **FH: Election Day** 10:00am Staff Meeting 5:00pm Executive Team	4 9:00am Food Pantry (Fran Bouknight, Angie Hydrick, Sherwood Garrett)	5 9:30am FH: Walking	6	7 9:00am Food Pantry (Jacksons, Katie Donaldson)
8 9:00am Nomination Tie Break 9:00am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am Council Meets 3:00pm Confirmation	9 Sign up for Hebrews 9:30am FH: Walking 6:30pm FH: Lutheran Men & Women	10 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:30pm LIFE Group at Jackson's	11 **Veterans Day** 12:05pm OneBody in Christ	12 9:30am FH: Walking 6:00pm CR: Travel Team	13	14 6:00pm He_Brews Dinner
15 FH: Youth Party 9:00am Worship - Baptism 10:30am Annual Meeting 11:30am CR: Worship Team 11:30am EW: Teach Team 5:00pm Youth: FriendsGiving	16 9:30am FH: Walking	17 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:00pm CR: Finance Team 7:00pm AR: SACK	18 9:00am Food Pantry (Diane Boulware, Mary Frances Sease, Mary Price)	19 9:30am FH: Walking 6:00pm CR: Outreach Team	20	21 9:00am Adopt-A-Highway 9:00am Food Pantry (Stevens, Frank Bouknight)
22 **Christ the King Sunday** 9:00am Worship 10:30am Sunday School	23 9:30am FH: Walking	24 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:30pm CR: Support Team	25 12:05pm FH: OneBody in Christ	26 **Thanksgiving Day** 10:30am Thanksgiving Meals (preordered)	27	28
29 **FH:Free Garage Sale** **First Sunday of Advent** 9:00am Worship 10:30am Sunday School	30 **FH:Free Garage Sale** 9:30am FH: Walking	1 **FH:Free Garage Sale** 10:00am Staff Meeting	2 **FH:Free Garage Sale** 9:00am Food Pantry (Fran Bouknight, Angie Hydrick, Sherwood Garrett) 6:30pm Advent Worship 7:00pm Advent Meals	3 **FH:Free Garage Sale** 9:30am FH: Walking	4 **FH:Free Garage Sale**	5 **FH:Free Garage Sale** Food Pantry (Swygerts, Carrols, Bowman) **Mepkin Abbey Trip**

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

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Parish Administrator *803.240.3143* *Office@WeAreMtHermon.com*

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