

CHURCH EVENTS

December 2

1st Sunday of Advent

December 5

Potluck Dinner 5:00p

No Choir Rehearsal

December 9

2nd Sunday of Advent

Lord 's Supper

December 16

3rd Sunday of Advent

A Service of
Lessons and Carols

December 19

No Choir Rehearsal

December 20

Newsletter Input Due

December 23

4th Sunday of Advent
Christmas Caroling 2:30p

December 24

Church Office Closed

Christmas Eve Service
5:00p

December 25

Merry Christmas

Church Office Closed

December 26

No Wednesday
Night Services

December 30

Favorite Hymn Sunday
Church-wide Breakfast and
Sunday School Class

Lord 's Supper

Sunday Worship:

9:15 am—Coffee Fellowship
9:45 am—Sunday School
11:00 am—Worship Service

Wednesdays:

6:00 pm—Adult Bible Study
6:00 pm—Youth
7:15 pm—Choir Rehearsal

Fridays:

7:00 pm—Prayer Meeting

Mount Hermon Baptist Church



sprout



grow



bearfruit

December 2018

Pastor's Pen

The End and the Beginning

The season of Advent sits in a quite peculiar place in the traditional Church calendar, at the very end. While it falls neatly around the end of our secular calendars this is mostly a coincidence. Advent was set to occur during the darkest days of the year. These are the days when the sun is setting earlier and earlier, and we are overtaken by darkness before we are prepared to finish our daily tasks. Furthermore, when we wake in the morning, the sun is nowhere to be found. Instead, darkness greets us, and we are left to fumble in the darkness to prepare for an ever-shortening day. If one was not aware of the seasons, one could perhaps fear that the darkness would surely swallow the world whole.

This is the message of Advent. The days are growing shorter. Darkness and the forces that dwell in darkness are ostensibly gaining ground. If one was not aware of the victory of Jesus Christ and his imminent return, one could perhaps fear that the darkness would surely swallow the world whole.

Yet we do know of Christ, the Light of the world! And so we call the world living in darkness to see the great Light and turn to Jesus while there is still time. We Christians indeed speak of an end during Advent, but the end we speak of is the end of sin, the end of death's reign, and the end of this age as Christ returns to usher in a new age that will never end.

This new age is why Advent also serves as the beginning of the Church calendar! It escorts us into Christmas and the subsequent Christmas season. It introduces us to the newborn Christ, and then leads us to a manger that confounds our expectations of how salvation is accomplished in the world. The Salvation of God comes with meekness, love, and sacrifice. And as we meet the Christ child for the first time all over again, it compels us to make resolutions to live differently in the world. What resolutions will you make for the coming year?

The message of Advent perhaps can be distilled down to the message of John the Baptist. From his call to repent lest one falls into God's coming judgment, to persuading the crowds to produce fruit in keeping with repentance. In Luke's account, he helps the people make resolutions to be generous and just with one's neighbors. As we walk through Advent into Christmas, we will have many opportunities to practice generosity and justice with those we meet. As you do, carry the Gospel of welcomed ends and new beginnings, for in these dark days, Christ is the one who brings hope for all.

In Christ, Pastor Rich

Schedule for December 2018

December 2	Wrapped in Swaddling Clothes	Luke 2:8-20
December 9	Prepare the Way	Luke 3:1-18
December 16	A Service of Lessons and Carols	N/A
December 23	Hope for the World	Luke 1:46-55
December 30	Community of Courage	Colossians 3:12-17



Christmas Music

♪ Music Notes ♪

Our 11 am service on Sunday, December 16 will be "A Service of Lessons and Carols." Through this special service of seasonal music and scripture, we will continue our observance of Advent and usher in the Christmas season.

Please make every effort to invite friends and family to worship with us!

janice

Caroling:

Join us for Christmas Caroling on December 23rd at 2:30 pm. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall, divide into groups, and spend time visiting those in our congregation and community who will delight in the joy of the season with us. Some of these individuals are homebound and deeply appreciate the opportunity to fellowship with their brothers and sister in Christ. All ages are invited, and no previous singing experience required. See you there!



GOOD SHEPHERD MINISTRIES OFFERING



Again this year, the focus of Mount Hermon's International Missions Offering will be Good Shepherd Ministries in Guatemala. By supporting this ministry we can help make a difference in the lives of the indigenous people of Guatemala.

Mount Hermon's goal is \$1,300. To make a donation, look for special offering envelopes, and don't forget to place your bows on the Missions Tree in the sanctuary. Each bow represents a \$25 donation towards this cause.

The Good Shepherd Post Office will also be open during the month of December. Instead of sending Christmas cards through the mail to our church family, bring them to the mailbox located in the back hallway! When you donate the amount you would have spent on postage, the Children and Youth of Mount Hermon will, in turn, make a contribution to Good Shepherd Ministries.



PURCHASE A PEW!

In the 1980's when the current sanctuary was built a fundraiser at that time was the purchase of a pew in memory or honor of a loved one for \$1,000 each. There is a plaque on the end of each pew with the information of the honoree and the purchaser. We have come to realize there were 10 pews that were never purchased. The decision has been made to open the sale of these remaining pews.

If you have any interest in donating \$1000 for one of the remaining pews, a check for \$1000 needs to be made payable to Mount Hermon. The church will have a memorial plaque made and mounted. The pews will be sold on a first come basis. All money will go to the Property Renovation Phase fund unless otherwise requested.

If you have any question contact Peggy Mason at the church office.

If we live in the spirit, let us also walk in the spirit. Galatians 5:25

Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples. 1 Chronicles 16:24

Children/Youth Team

Do your children know the Christmas story? Whether your child is 6 or 56, do they know about the miracle that God brought down from heaven to dwell among us? Do they know the significance of our God and King taking the form of a baby, and living with his people, then suffering for his people, and later dying for his people? Do they know that the joy of Christmas time is nothing compared to what's to come later on?

Do you know the Christmas story? Do you really take in those words of Scripture and let them saturate your spirit? Or have you been bogged down by the whirlwind of rushing about in preparation for the season, with holiday gatherings, shopping for the family, hastily moving from one event to the next? How can we share the hope of the Christmas story with others, if we ourselves have not taken the time to understand what it means for us personally? Slow down during this year's Advent and Christmas seasons. Sit back, and take in the Word in all its fullness. Then share it, with your friends, your family, and the children in your lives.

Shaina

Outreach:

The Outreach team is making a push for **"Invite your One."** Each individual, that is a part of our congregation, is asked to invite one person that has not been to our church to join them at Mount Hermon in the month of December. You can invite them to a Wednesday night Bible study, our special music service on December 16th, a Sunday School class, caroling, Christmas Eve service, or any of the other opportunities happening this month. Non-churched individuals are more likely to visit new churches around Christmas time than any other time of the year, including Easter. Also, 8 out of 10 people will respond "yes" to a personal invitation over any other method of inviting. Help share the love of Christ with those around you, by **"Inviting your One"** to be a part of the family of believers at Mount Hermon this season.

DEACON ASSIGNMENTS:

Jerry Nowell: Adair—Bowling
Shaina Riley: Brady—Couch
Gisela Mayse: Daniel—Ferettino
Vic Davis: Fitzgerald—Grasty
David Lewis: Hanson—Mason
Robbe Riley: Mayse—Parrott
Paschall—Sorrell
Steve Paschall: Taylor—Winfrey

Deacon Chair, David Lewis

Those Needing Our Prayers...

Holmes Adair	Bob Frederick	Barbara Nowell
Bonnie Andrews	Joyce Frederick	Wayne Paige
Jacob Bowling	Jeff Gallimore	Peggy Parker
Tammy Bowling	Mary Ellen Godwin	A J Paschall
Billie Cassidy	Juanita Haefling	Betty Jane Poole
Bill Clayton	Deborah Hall	Patricia Rigsbee
Rachel Clayton	Pam Hartstfield	Johnny Riley
Bobby Couch	Kay Johnson	Justin Riley
Andrew Daniel	Elsie King	Ridge Riley
Danny Dennis	Edith Lee	Jess Scott
Bill Dorrity	Emma Lee	Sheila Seawell
Betty Fera	Ashlyn McFarland	Troy Sykes
Joe Ferettino	Larry Melton	

OUR SHUT-INS AND HOSPITALIZED

The Oaks of Alamance - Bob Link (Room 108)
UNC Hospital Hillsborough Johnny Mason (CCU)
Carver Living Center -- Jean Taylor (Room 304)

Pray For:

The family of Bill Andrews
The Family of President George H. W. Bush
The victims and families of the recent violence around the world
The Children and the Children's Ministry
The Alamance-Orange Prison Ministry
President Donald Trump
North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper
Unity for our Country

AROUND THE WORLD

Syria, and Ukraine,
The Syrian Refugees
Farik Alenov, missionary to Turkey
Tanya Pivovarova, missionary to Italy
Mandy and Brian Davis, missionaries to Thailand
Roger and Vicki Grossmann, missionaries to Guatemala
Andrew and Rachel Sutton, missionaries to Uganda
Tom and Vicki Gilliam, missionaries to Ireland

Stewardship

	2018	October	Year-to-Date
Total Expenditures		\$ 14,321.65	\$ 155,541.97
Total Income		\$ 10,041.95	\$ 136,513.80
Difference		\$ (4,279.70)	\$ (19,774.78)

Property Renovation Fund—October 2018

Beginning Balance \$13,715.35 Ending Balance \$13,889.28

The 2019 budget planning has been completed. The new budget will be reviewed and discussed at the December 9 business meeting and will be voted on by secret ballot during Worship Service on December 30,

Please continue to pray for the financial health of the church.

Pastor: Rich Goodier
Secretary: Peggy Mason
Music Leader: Janice Thompson

Church Office

Hours: Monday—Friday 9 am—11:30 am
 Phone: 919-383-2982
 Email: mounthermondurham@gmail.com
 Pastor Rich's Email: pastor.richgoodier@gmail.com

Please keep church office informed of change of address.
 Also, if you no longer wish to receive the monthly newsletter,
 please contact the office by phone or email.

MOUNT HERMON BAPTIST CHURCH
4511 OLD NC 10
DURHAM, NC 27705

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Birthdays & Anniversaries

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

12/01 Mike Fitzgerald	12/25 Jesus Christ
12/02 John Mark Frederick	12/25 Roger Brooks, Sr.
12/07 Ashley Riley	12/25 Wendy Riley
12/20 Irene Godwin	12/25 Robin Winfrey
12/21 Ann Brooks	12/25 David Parrott
12/23 Annie Brooks	12/26 Lisa Parrott

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

12/24 Bill & Rachel Clayton

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

01/20 Angela Breeze
 01/21 Benita Burton
 01/21 Steve Paschall
 01/22 Janice Thompson
 01/26 Nancy Dillard



Thank you to everyone that participated to help us pack 135 boxes and raise \$403. for shipping. Children around the world are smiling thanks to your efforts.

HURRICANE RELIEF FUNDRAISER REPORT

On November 9, in partnership with Pleasant Green United Methodist Church, Mount Hermon participated in a fundraiser to benefit those who were affected by Hurricane Florence. Around 200 attended this event at the Pleasant Green Community Building where we enjoyed wonderful food, music and fellowship.

In all, \$4145 was raised and will be divided between the relief efforts of NC Baptists on Mission and the Methodists' NC Storm Response.

Thanks to all who participated!



nursery care



NURSERY WORKERS

December 2 Peggy Mason/Tana Sims
 December 9 Dianne Daniel/Ruby Clements
 December 16 Gisela Mayse/Morgan Mayse
 December 23 Judy Hanson/Ruby Clements
 December 30 Peggy Mason/Tana Sims

We are looking for kind, caring, and flexible nursery volunteers to help with our littlest ones during the worship service on a rotating bases. If you are interested, see Shaina Riley to sign up.

DECEMBER DEACON MINISTRY

Assisting the Pastor: David Lewis/Vic Davis
 Assisting the Treasurer: Jerry Nowell/Gisela Mayse

OCC ITEM OF THE MONTH

Toothpaste
 (6-8 oz)

OCIM FOOD OF THE MONTH

Personal Care Items



Memorials received in memory of Bill Andrews by:
 Dorothy Bane
 Edna Berry
 Rich & Judy Hanson
 Mount Hermon Sanctuary Committee

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: 1 Peter 4:10