



Mount Hermon Baptist Church



sprout



grow



bearfruit

February 2021

Pastor's Pen

Renovations

"Even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning. Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity. Joel 2:12-13 NIV

The church has begun renovations on our Parsonage with the clearing of the kitchen. We have contracted with Danny Dennis to renovate the kitchen and bathroom, to repurpose a closet as a laundry closet, and a few other incidentals. So far, Danny and his crew have done a superb job.

It was shocking to walk into the room that served as my kitchen for the last decade and see nothing but bare walls. That is, until I looked more closely. A few water pipes were discovered in a corner. Apparently, a washing machine sat in this room years ago. Also, part of the wooden subflooring had been replaced. Danny suspected that the refrigerator had leaked for a while without notice, causing the wood underneath to rot. When repaired, that part of the subflooring was replaced.

This Parsonage has a history, some hidden, some forgotten. As we tear away layers, that history is revealed and possibly remembered. Each of us has a history, and some of it we would prefer to forget. As a defense mechanism we sometimes cover over parts of our lives that we prefer not to visit, but they nonetheless persist under the surface.

As we enter the season of Lent, we are offered the opportunity to tear out our defense mechanism to expose the raw truth of our hearts. We are offered a season to renovate our hearts, to make confession and pursue reconciliation with God and others. Instead of trying to hide or forget our past mistakes, let us expose them to the light and finally deal with them. On this journey, we will discover a God who is gracious and compassionate beyond our imaginations.

In Christ, Pastor Rich

Sunday:

9:00a Multiply Class Group Study
(Fellowship Hall)

11:00a Worship Service
In the sanctuary and on YouTube

Wednesday:

6:00p Prayer and Adult Bible Study
on Zoom

2:00p Children and Youth
on Zoom

Thursday:

6:00p Amen Class Group Study
(Event Room)

Each Sunday, we gather for worship in the sanctuary maintaining safety guidelines. We also YouTube Live the service for those that want to join at 11:00a from their home. The service is also available on our YouTube channel later in the week.

Small Sunday School groups are meeting at various other times during the week. Contact your teacher for information regarding your class.

Wednesday Night Adult Bible Study is being held on Zoom at 6:00p.

The church office is open 9-11:30a M-F. Please contact the church office with any questions or concerns as we re-gather as a community.

Schedule for November 2020

February 7	Many a Conflict, Many a Doubt	Nehemiah 4:1-12
February 14	Nehemiah Helps the Poor	Nehemiah 5:1-13
February 17	Ash Wednesday	
February 21	Just Making It Up	Nehemiah 6:1-9
February 28	Remembering God's Word	Nehemiah 8:1-12

Outreach Team

Light Up Someone's Life with Jesus

"You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father. Matthew 5:14-16 NLT

Jesus preached "The Sermon on the Mount" from a mountainside. The crowds were gathered below. What a scene this must have been! What a sermon! You can read and study the entire sermon in Matthew 6&7.

What is our responsibility to "light up" our community with Jesus? As individuals and a church body we are called to penetrate the darkness. Carrying the torch of hope, love and encouragement, all focused on the offering of eternal life with Christ. This life-altering message impacts life on earth immediately and of course for eternity.

Think about this as you interact with others. Let us be honest. It takes sacrifice, effort, courage and passion to build these relationships. It also takes an intentional slow down and assessment of what is important in the Christian life. Start with reading Matthew 6&7. Mediate on your relationship with Jesus and then pour out your love to others. Let your good deeds shine!

Check the Box

Our lamps should not be under a basket. Here are some ideas to let it shine brightly for Jesus:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Phone Call | <input type="checkbox"/> Visit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Text | <input type="checkbox"/> Day Trip |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Email | <input type="checkbox"/> Meal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Card | <input type="checkbox"/> Invite to church/bible study/small group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food | _____ fill in this blank |
| | _____ I will connect with |



Prayer: Lord, help our church to corporately shine Your Light in this community and beyond. Let us be known as a light on this little hill called Mount Hermon. Amen.

Children and Youth Ministry

Greetings from the Children and Youth Ministry at Mount Hermon Baptist Church! The children and youth are meeting regularly on Sundays on Zoom and we are having great participation! We have finished up a series on Heaven and we are now discussing the person of Christ. Interacting with the children and youth every Sunday is one of the highlights of this minister's week. Something that the ministry will focus on in the month of February is raising money for PASSPORT Kids and PASSPORT Missions which we will attend in July, God willing. We are so excited to have the opportunity to go to PASSPORT with our sister church, Yates Baptist Church. PASSPORT has been influential in my life both as a camper and as a chaperone. PASSPORT provides a safe place for students to learn about God and a place for students to be involved in local mission opportunities. More information about fundraising will be coming soon!



Another announcement is that the Souper Bowl is upon us! This will take place on February 7th. Be sure to bring canned goods or donations to church that Sunday to be collected after the service.

I look forward to another great month at Mount Hermon Baptist Church! ~ John

Stewardship Committee: A called business meeting was held on January 3, 2021 to vote on the proposed 2021 budget.

The vote passed 26/0.

Stewardship

2020	December	Year-to-Date
Budget Income	\$23,551.00	\$196,030.94
Budget Need	\$15,832.00	\$205,831.00
Difference	\$ 7,719.00	\$ (9,800.06)

2020 Year to Date
Expenses - \$190,467.39
Income - \$196,030.94
Income Exceeded Expenses - \$5,563.55

Property Renovation Fund - December 2020

Beginning Balance \$14,448.53
Ending Balance \$15,533.69

Renovations to the parsonage have started. Please consider making regular donations to the Property Renovation Phase Fund (PRP) to cover the cost as voted. The church will need financial support for this renovation from all members that voted in agreement.

Please continue to pray for the financial health of the Church. Peggy Mason, Treasurer

Those Needing Our Prayers...

Marie Andrews	Lacey Doar Girouard	Peggy Parker
Fred Brooks	Irene Godwin	Lisa Parrott
Judith Carrig	Judy Hanson	Betty Jane Poole
Ed Chahine	Brenda Hartsfield	Patricia Rigsbee
Bill Clayton	Buddy Hartsfield	Hannah Riley
Rachel Clayton	Bobby Holloway	Justin Riley
Vic Davis	Edith Lee	Ridge Riley
Joseph Dennard	David Lewis	Sheila Seawell
Bill Dorrity	Laurie Loving	Brenda Sorrell
Joan Dixon	Barbara Nowell	Linda Talley
Linda Ferettino	Jerry Nowell	Art Ward
Bob Frederick	Joan Page	Roy Webb

OUR SHUT-INS AND HOSPITALIZED

Brookdale - Bonnie Andrews
Friends Home Assisted Living - Betty Fera
Hospice - Jeff Gallimore
The Oaks of Alamance - Bob Link (Room 108)

Pray For:

All affected by Covid-19 and Frontline Workers
The Children and the Children's Ministry
The Alamance-Orange Prison Ministry
President Joe Biden
North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper
Unity for our Country

AROUND THE WORLD

Farik Alenov, missionary to Turkey
Tanya Pivovarov, missionary to Italy
Mandy and Brian Davis, missionaries to Thailand
Rev. Gideon Thuam, missionary to Thailand
Roger and Vicki Grossmann, missionaries to Guatemala

Discipleship

Our esteemed minister of youth and children has given out stars with one word on it. This word was randomly selected for each person and through 2021 we are challenged to use these words to teach us something or use them to show us the gift within us. My word is Christlikeness. At first, I was excited and then not so much. So.. I asked myself:

Question: "How can I become more Christlike?"

Answer: Becoming more like Christ is the desire of every believer, and it is encouraging to know that God has the same desire for us. In fact, the Bible says that God "predestined [believers] to be conformed to the likeness of his Son" ([Romans 8:29](#)). Making us Christlike is God's work, and He will see it through to the end ([Philippians 1:6](#)).

However, the fact that God will transform us into Christlikeness doesn't mean we can sit back and be carried to heaven "on flow'ry beds of ease." The process demands our willing cooperation with the Holy Spirit. Becoming more Christlike requires both divine power and the fulfillment of human responsibility.

There are three things which contribute to our being more Christlike: our surrender to God, our freedom from sin, and our spiritual growth.

1) Becoming more Christlike is the result of surrender to God. [Romans 12:1-2](#) says that worship involves a total self-dedication to God. We volunteer our bodies as "living sacrifices," and our minds are renewed and transformed.

When Jesus said, "Follow me," Levi left his money tables immediately ([Mark 2:14](#)); so do we freely surrender all we have for the sake of following the Lord. As John the Baptist said, "He must become greater; I must become less" ([John 3:30](#)), so we focus more and more on Jesus and His glory, losing ourselves in His will.

Steps 2-3 will follow in February. I need time to get the #1 right first

See you next month ~ Cookie

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
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Birthdays & Anniversaries

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

02/03 Bob Brewer	02/17 Morgan Sorrell
02/04 Eddie Lee	02/28 Elizabeth Goodier
02/12 Valentina Serrano Gonzalez	

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

02/05 Tim & Janice Thompson

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

03/03 Maria Butron	03/13 John DeWitt
03/03 Jerald Fuller	03/22 Teah Shinn
03/04 Donnie Riley	03/26 Charles Harrison
03/06 Peggy Mason	03/29 Cookie Frederick
03/11 Shaina Riley	03/29 Ted Darby
03/12 Kevin Shinn	03/30 Jody Brady

*Memorial received in loving memory
of Claiborne (Tip Toe) Ellis
by Barry Mangum and Tony Burden*

FEBRUARY DEACON MINISTRY

Assisting the Pastor:
Jerry Nowell/Tim Thompson

**NO NURSERY
COVERAGE**

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

♪ ***Music Notes*** ♪

*As Lent approaches,
reflect on these lyrics:*

*Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
Pure and holy, tried and true;
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living
Sanctuary for you.*



**OCIM ITEM OF
THE MONTH**

Fruit and
Applesauce

**OCC ITEM OF
THE MONTH**

Toothpaste

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

*If anyone serves me,
he must follow me;
and where I am, there
will my servant be
also. If anyone serves
me, the Father will
honor him.
John 12:26*