



Mount Hermon Baptist Church



sprout



grow



bearfruit

March 2021

Pastor's Pen

Waiting for God

So many stories in Scripture are marked by one thing. Waiting for God. Noah waited for God as rain fell on the earth for 40 days (Genesis 7). Ezekiel was told to lie on his side for 40 days as he waited for God (Ezekiel 4). The Israelites waited 40 days at the base of Mount Sinai, waiting for Moses to return with a word from God (Exodus 24:18). Later, because of their sin, the Israelites had to wait 40 years before entering the Promised Land.

Why are there so many stories of waiting for God? Perhaps because the book of our lives is full of times where we are forced to wait on God. Even now, we are in a season of waiting. Perhaps it is waiting to see if our loved one will recover from illness. Or waiting for the inevitable when we will have to say farewell to a loved one. Many of us are still waiting for the vaccine. We also eagerly wait for a chance to go back to a store, a restaurant, our church. And of course, as Christians, our lives are punctuated by waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to return.

Lent is a season of waiting for God. We are anticipating the greatest day of the year, Easter, which is right around the corner. We emulate Jesus as he prepared to begin his ministry by first spending 40 days in the wilderness. Some of us, like Jesus, are so desperate in hearing from God that we would be willing to forego food as we wait for that which truly sustains. Or we give up another habit or luxury or distraction in order to focus on waiting for God.

What do we learn about these Biblical stories of waiting? First, we learn that God's promises are always fulfilled. Waiting on God is a sure bet. Do not lose faith. Our Lord is the Good Shepherd. Second, God answers on a timeline unlike our own. Sometimes the person in Scripture waits their whole life, but the promise is always fulfilled (Hebrews 11:13).

As we wait for God this season, do not lose hope. Support those who need help waiting and pray for the resolve of the whole Church during this time. As the people of God waited in the past, we wait today. As God was faithful then, God will be faithful today.

In Christ, Pastor Rich

Sunday:

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

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

2:00p Children and Youth
on Zoom

Wednesday:

6:00p Prayer and Adult Bible Study
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.

Upcoming Events

March 14

Daylight Savings Time begins

March 28 - April 4

Holy Week



\$261 was collected to support OCIM during the Souper Bowl of Caring, along with several bags of food items. Thank you to all who gave!

Outreach Team

Back to Basics:

It is never a bad time to remind ourselves who we are in Christ. Why do we exist as individuals? What is the purpose of the church?

*Mount Hermon Baptist Church is a community that seeks to sprout, grow, and bear fruit in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We believe that our Father in heaven is ever active in this world, to **sprout** new life in and among us. We continually **grow** in our relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. We furthermore **bear fruit** by the power of the Holy Spirit. Come join us in living this reality as a community!*

Sprout Newness, Freshness, Richness, Change, Excitement, Observance

Grow Commitment, Educational, Confess, Commit, Pray, Connect, Spiritual Renewal

Bear Fruit Love, Proclaim, Serve, Witness, Share, Listen, Act, Encourage

Check the Boxes

Which of these areas could you put more emphasis on? Which area would you like to see Mount Hermon focus more on in this community?

Sprout I can _____
Grow I can _____
Bear Fruit I can _____

Prayer: Lord. Forgive us for our sins of omission and commission. Help us to always assess ourselves and reset our focus. Deepen our passion to love others with our words, actions and deeds. Allow us the opportunities to share with those who do not know You. Amen.

Children and Youth Ministry

March is upon us! The children and youth have been meeting regularly for Bible Study on Zoom throughout February, but as the weather begins to warm, we are anticipating going back in person for outdoor gatherings. We cannot wait to see all of the children and youth's smiling faces in person rather than on a Zoom screen. The children and youth team have been meeting regularly and we are so excited for what we have in store as the weather warms up! Thank you Mount Hermon Baptist Church for being such a supportive part in the Children and Youth Ministry. ~ John



This year's Easter Mission Offering will be donated to the Alamance-Orange Prison Ministry.

Church Goal: \$800.00

"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' Matthew 25:40

Alamance-Orange Prison Ministry exists to provide and promote spiritual comfort and growth to the men assigned to Orange Correctional Center through services rendered by a full-time funded chaplain. Further, the ministry strives to better prepare OCC residents with skills, abilities and motivation to successfully reintegrate into their communities and families upon release.

Stewardship

2021	January	Year-to-Date
Budget Income	\$13,152	\$13,152
Budget Need	\$19,890	\$19,890
Difference	(\$6,738)	(\$6,738)

Property Renovation Fund - January 2021

Beginning Balance \$15,533.69
Ending Balance \$15,823.69

The renovation of the parsonage kitchen and laundry area is completed. The main floor bathroom renovation will begin soon.

The cost of this renovation was voted by the church to be paid by contributions to the Property Renovation Phase Fund.

Please support your vote to complete this renovation with your contributions to the PRP fund.

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

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

Those Needing Our Prayers...

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

The Family of Marie Andrews
The Family of Jessica Nance Pittman (relative of Tammy Bowling)
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 Last month, I started an article to help me learn something about the star John DeWitt gave me — Christlikeness. This is the completion of that article. Hope you have learned something because I sure have

2) Becoming more Christlike is the result of freedom from sin. Since Jesus lived a sinless life, the more we consider ourselves “dead to sin” ([Romans 6:11](#)) and live a life of purity, the more like Jesus we will be. As we offer ourselves to God, sin is no longer our master, and we are more clearly identified with Christ ([Romans 6:1-14](#)).

Jesus invites us to follow Him, and we have His example of obedience ([John 15:10](#)), sacrificial love ([John 15:12-13](#)), and patient suffering ([1 Peter 2:19-23](#)). We also have the example of the apostles, who modeled Christ ([1 Corinthians 11:1](#)).

When it comes to restraining sin in our lives, we have divine help: praise the Lord for the Word of God ([Psalm 119:11](#)), the intercession of Christ ([Romans 8:34](#); [Hebrews 7:25](#)), and the power of the Spirit who indwells us ([Romans 8:4](#); [Galatians 5:16](#))!

3) Becoming more Christlike is the result of Christian growth. When we are first saved, we are immature in wisdom and knowledge and inexperienced in grace and love. But then we grow. In each of these things, our charge is to become stronger—and more Christlike. “Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” ([2 Peter 3:18](#)). “May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else” ([1 Thessalonians 3:12](#)).

Right now, God works in us: “We, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord” ([2 Corinthians 3:18](#)). One day, however, the process will be complete: “When he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is” ([1 John 3:2](#)). The promise of being fully Christlike in the future is in itself motivation for becoming more Christlike now: “Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure” ([1 John 3:3](#)).

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

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

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

04/06	Blanca Serrano Gonzalez	04/10	Skyler Paschall
04/08	Virginia Pasour	04/15	Katrina Paschall
04/09	Dan Vogel		

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

04/13 Don & Virginia Pasour
04/28 John & Cookie Frederick

*Memorial received in loving memory
of Elsie King by Cynthia Penny*
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*Memorials received in loving memory  
of Marie Andrews by:  
The Mae Durham Class, Antioch Church  
Mount Hermon Church Sanctuary Committee  
Melody Jones & Eloise Turner  
Frank & Mildred Turner  
Janice Thompson ~ Peggy Mason  
David & Gail Clapp*

**MARCH DEACON MINISTRY**

Assisting the Pastor:  
John Frederick/Robbe Riley

**NO NURSERY  
COVERAGE**

***♪ Music Notes ♪***

Many times, as I reflect on hymns I've known my entire life, I realize how I've tended to focus on melodies and not lyrics. A song can take on new meaning by doing just the opposite: letting the lyrics speak and inspire us in our daily walk.

I suspect all of you know the hymn "At Calvary" with its catchy and upbeat tune. But I wonder if you've ever stopped to really take in the beautiful and meaningful lyrics written in 1895:

***Years I spent in vanity and pride,  
Caring not my Lord was crucified,  
Knowing not it was for me He died  
On Calvary.***

***Now I've given to Jesus everything;  
Now I gladly own Him as my King;  
Now my raptured soul can only sing  
Of Calvary***

***Mercy there was great and grace was free;  
Pardon there was multiplied to me;  
There my burdened soul found liberty,  
At Calvary.***

Thanks be to God for the inspiration He gives to songwriters and that these hymns still speak to us today!

janice

**OCIM ITEM OF  
THE MONTH**

Dry Pasta  
Pasta Sauce

**OCC ITEM OF  
THE MONTH**

Lotion

*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*