



Mount Hermon Baptist Church



sprout



grow



bearfruit

December 2021

CHURCH EVENTS

December 5

2:00p Deacons' Meeting

December 11

2:00p Ordination Service
of John DeWitt

December 12

Business Meeting
Following Worship

December 19

God is With Us! Alleluia!!
Presented by
Mount Hermon
Music Ministry

December 23

Newsletter Input

December 24

Church Office Closed
5:00p Christmas Eve
Service

December 26

9:30a Combined Sunday
School Classes

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday

9:30a Multiply Class
9:30a Friendship Class
9:30a Children and Youth
11:00a Worship Service

Wednesday

6:00p Adult Bible Study
6:00p Children & Youth
7:15 Choir Rehearsal

Thursday

6:30p Amen Class

Nursery Coverage

12/05 Don Riley / Robbe Riley
12/12 Susan Walker / TBD
12/19 No Coverage
12/26 No Coverage

Pastor's Pen

Children of Light

You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. (1 Thessalonians 5:5, 8 NIV)

I always appreciate when Daylight Saving Time ends. I can once again wake up with the sun (and the crows of my rooster) instead of an alarm that compels me to start my day in darkness. Of course, this only staves off the inevitable. The nights continue to lengthen, and the days grow shorter. In this month of December we experience the shortest days and the longest nights of the whole year. It seems like the sun is working harder to rise and the night chases the sun away earlier each evening that passes. But that will change soon.

We Christians are living in the last days. The days are dark, and sometimes we can get discouraged and lose hope. But all of a sudden, in the darkest days of the year, a light shines in the darkness. An Advent light. And a second shines. And a third and fourth. And suddenly the world is filled with light!

We are in the midst of the Advent season as you read this article. We have probably lit a couple Advent candles so far. As the Jews read the prophets so long ago and found hope that a Messiah was to come to redeem the world, so we can join them in our hope for the Messiah to come in these last days. For us Christians, we discover that the light that rekindles our hope in the darkness is none other than Jesus Christ. He proclaimed one dark night in Jerusalem, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life (John 8:12)."

Jesus is coming soon. Until then, we are to walk in the light. Let us throw off any darkness in our life and pursue light. It might be hard in these dark days, but the world is counting on you. You may be the only light a friend, a neighbor, or an enemy sees in this world. Show them that there is still hope in this world, and that hope is Jesus.

In Christ, Pastor Rich

Sermon Schedule for December 2021

12/05	Refiner's Fire	Malachi 3:1-4
12/12	The Wells of Salvation	Isaiah 12
12/19	God is With Us! Alleluia!!	Music Ministry Presentation
12/26	John DeWitt Preaching	TBD

Children and Youth Ministry



November was a bit of a slower month in the student ministry activities-wise. We had one event; Youth Cheerio. Abby preached three sermons on God's goodness shown in Genesis 1.

Wednesday nights are going very well. On Sundays, we continue to have life-giving conversations about how to be a Christian. I am very proud of all our students and the way they have created such a close-knit community.

Some other exciting news is that we have a new logo! I tried to design it in a way that incorporated all of the elements of the original Mount Hermon Logo. We have a white one--which is more neutral--and a green one--which reflects the original Mount Hermon logo. Check them out here!



Thank you all for the ways you support the students at Mount Hermon. Blessings, Brydon John DeWitt

OUTREACH

Please meet Josh Benfield and his family. They are foreign missionaries who work in the Research Triangle Park area. Josh delivered a powerful message on Missions at Mount Hermon this past month. They are active in reaching unreached people groups that live in our neighborhood. We have asked him to help us reach out to our new neighbors who lived in Afghanistan just months ago. Let's pray for Josh and his mission. Let's pray that Josh might help us get involved in reaching our new neighbors.

In Christ, Steve Paschall



Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship committee has finalized the proposed budget for 2021. The budget will be mailed to the members the first week of December. Any questions on the budget will be discussed at the business meeting after worship service on December 12, 2021.

A called business meeting will be held on January 9, 2021 to vote on the new budget.

Stewardship

2021	October	Year-to-Date
Budget Income	\$16,558.00	\$159,041.50
Budget Need	\$19,895.00	\$173,674.00
Difference (short)	\$(3,337)	\$(14,633)

Property Renovation Fund—October 2021

Beginning Balance \$ 23,609.53
Ending Balance \$18,507.96



The Advent Daily Devotional Package that was published in 2020 has been revised for 2021. Copies are available at the church and online. Please

contact the church office if you did not receive one and would like to have it. We hope you will enjoy reading (or re-reading) the stories written by many in our congregation.



Operation Christmas Child

Thank you! to everyone that helped make Operation Christmas Child a success!!

Due to the efforts of all who donated, packed, and prayed for this project, 77 shoeboxes were packed. We also collected \$693 for shipping. These boxes will bring joy to children in need around the world.

Lost and Found

A bracelet was found in the Sanctuary, if it may be yours please contact Peggy Mason at the church to claim.

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

Discipleship

How can it possibly be Christmas already? Time is flying by. I remember as a child the eager anticipation of the holidays, the childlike wonder of going on the mountain with our family and cutting down our tree. We brought it home and set it up in the coal bucket with coal as its support and then decorated our tree with lights and lots of tinsel. We didn't have a lot of money so there was only one present under the tree on Christmas morning, but it was always very special and so greatly appreciated.

We have entered the season of advent...anticipating the birth of the Savior. Eagerly we watch for the signs of his coming, reading the Old Testament prophecies, putting out decorations and nativities, shopping for gifts for our friends and family ,,,watching and waiting.

As you anticipate His coming this year, think about what it truly means, the miracle of his birth, the celebration of the shepherds, the gifts of the Magi all part of the great plan God has for us so that we might be saved. Salvation....the reason for the season. Give thanks for His grace and mercy that from the very beginning He knew the sin of man and provided a way to bring us back to Him. I for one am very grateful. God's peace to each and every one of you during this Christmas season. ~ Cookie

Those Needing Our Prayers...

Maria Brooks	Lacey Doar Girouard	Jerry Nowell
Judith Carrig	Judy Hanson	Joan Page
Bill Clayton	Ann Harper	Peggy Parker
Rachel Clayton	Carolyn Harper	Betty Jane Poole
Joseph Dennard	Brenda Harsfield	Justin Riley
Linda Ferettino	Edith Lee	Ridge Riley
Joan Dixon	Stacy Lee	Sheila Seawell
Bill Dorrity	David Lewis	Phyllis Wallace
Jerald Fuller	Laurie Loving	

OUR SHUT-INS AND HOSPITALIZED

Brookdale - Bonnie Andrews
Friends Home Assisted Living - Betty Fera
The Covington Assisted Living - James Grasty
The Oaks of Alamance - Bob Link (Room 108)
Rex Hospital - Dough Lethco
Hospital - Linda Miller

Pray For:

The family of Patricia Rigsbee
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, minister in the 10/40 window
Tanya Pivovarova, missionary to the Philippines
Mandy and Brian Davis, missionaries to Thailand
Rev. Gideon Thuam, missionary to Thailand
Roger and Vicki Grossmann, missionaries to Guatemala



This year we will again support the Good Shepherd Ministries in Guatemala with our International Missions Christmas Offering. Our church goal is \$1,000. You may use a special envelope found around the church or mark your offering envelope accordingly. The post office is open in the church hallway for your cards to members. The children and youth will deliver the cards to the members and you may donate your "postage" to the Good Shepherd Ministry. Each donation of \$25.00 can be acknowledged by placing a bow on the mission tree during the offertory or at any other time.

"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

Grey Stone Church



Welcome Everyone to our 2nd annual Celebration of Lights. Our event runs from Thursday-Sunday, December 2-5 from 6:30-8:30 PM. It's our hope that each of these days are filled with fun memories for the whole family! We've expanded it to include more fun things now for even teens and young adults. We will once again feature the drive through for those still a little apprehensive about getting out in a crowd. Also the Park n' Walk is another option to get out and enjoy all of the festivities such as, hayrides, inflatable slides, food, games, musicians and much more. We also have an interactive Bethlehem Market and Nativity where you might get your picture taken with the Biblical characters. Our church loves telling the story about the birth of Christ while enjoying all of the festivities which makes Christmas one of the favorite holidays of the year! There is no charge for admission however there is a charge should you want something from our Food truck friends.

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	Wendy Riley
12/02	Chris Lewis	12/25	David Parrott
12/21	Louise Tedder	12/26	Lisa Parrott

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

12/24 Bill & Rachel Clayton

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

01/19	Dean Dixon	01/21	Steve Paschall
01/20	Edith Lee	01/22	Janice Thompson
01/21	Benita Burton	01/26	Nancy Dillard

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

Changes to sending mail to our friends at Orange Correctional Center. This policy is state wide and has been put in place to reduce contraband in our state prison system.

Offender Name and Opus Number
 Name of Prison (do not abbreviate)
 P.O. Box 247, Phoenix, MD 21131

DEACON ASSIGNMENTS:

Steve Couch	A-B
Peggy Mason	C-D
Bob Brewer	E-I
Tim Thompson	J-M
John Frederick	N-Q
Steve Paschall	R-S
Kevin Shinn	T-Z

OCIM FOOD OF THE MONTH

Personal Hygiene Products

OCC ITEM OF THE MONTH

Toothpaste

DECEMBER DEACON MINISTRY

Assisting the Pastor: Steve Paschall / Peggy Mason



♪ Music Notes ♪

Make plans now to join us on December 19 at 11:00a for "God Is With Us! Alleluia!" a service of music and reflection for this special time of year.

This is a great opportunity for all of us to invite someone to worship with us! Invitations to this special presentation will be available.