

CHURCH EVENTS

April 1

9:00a Baptist Men's Mtg
9:00a Ladies' Fellowship

April 2

Palm Sunday

2:00p Deacons' Meeting

April 6

7:00p Maundy Thursday Service

April 7

Good Friday

7:00p Prayer and Songs
at the Cross

April 8

1:00 Easter Egg Hunt

April 9

Easter Sunday

7:30a Sunrise Service
Potluck Breakfast
9:30a Easter Service

April 12

5:00p Potluck Dinner

April 14-15

Mission Conference

April 16

Business Meeting

April 22

Church Workday

April 24

Newsletter Input Due

April 29

Youth Outing to Palace Point

April 30

Favorite Hymn Sunday

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday

9:30a Adult Study Groups
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

Mount Hermon Baptist Church



sprout



grow



bearfruit

April 2023

Pastor's Pen

The Kingdom of God

Lent is a period of preparation, of fasting and self-denial, of repentance and confession, of putting our spiritual house in order. It is about embracing the Resurrected Christ with a whole and longing heart. And it involves putting some things away so that we can fully claim all that God offers. We are called to consider Jesus' invitation to follow him. Jesus calls us to leave behind much of what we have known and accepted to join him in a journey that continues through every stage of our lives. The invitation is offered to us not only at the start of the life of faith, but it is an offer that is extended to us again and again throughout our journey. We face the Lenten season 2023 glimpsing the promise of resurrection in a way we have never, which also means we can face this remaining "wilderness" with renewed strength and promise.

In the Gospel of Mark, Jesus begins his public ministry with these words: "*The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news*" (Mark 1:15). Whenever Jesus speaks about the kingdom of God coming near, we nod like we understand. But do we really understand? These days are "wilderness" days, filled with chaos, uncertainty, violence. The glimmers of hope we see today certainly seem a far cry from the full-fledged kingdom God promised.

The kingdom of God has come near, Jesus told us. The kingdom of God touches this wilderness road and we can see it in glimpses throughout the journey. But we must be looking. And we must take the time to not just believe the good news, but to embody the good news ourselves.

As we travel in this Easter journey with Jesus to the Cross, let us be intent to bring a greater sense of mercy and justice into our world. We prepare and journey through prayer, repentance, good works, fasting, and sacrifice. We renew our faith and reflect on Jesus' love—His living, dying, and rising from the dead. He is our Savior and our Lord. He has redeemed us from our sins. He gives us eternal life. May God lead us in His way to bring unity and fellowship to us at Mount Hermon Church. My best to you in your journey. You are in my prayers. It is my hope you are praying too.

In Jesus' name, David Morton, Interim Pastor

APRIL DEACON MINISTRY

Assisting the Pastor:
Bob Brewer / Kevin Shinn

Services Available on CD upon request and on our YouTube Channel

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

Children and Youth Ministry

This newsletter is going to be a little different than my previous ones. I normally thank the church for how much they support us at the end of my articles, but this entire article will be a big thank you and information on how your support will enable our students to be on mission and be disciplined on youth trips. Our mission trip to Kentucky will almost be fully funded by your generosity. Passport, a camp where students are disciplined, learn about the Bible and God's character, and participate in mission projects. The other events where these funds could be used are events like Cheerio where students are able to rest and focus on Jesus. Once again, thank you so much for how you support the student ministry and enable them to live out their faith on mission trips and retreats. Blessings, Brydon John DeWitt



PASTOR SEARCH

Dear Church,
The Pastor Search team has been meeting each Monday to pray over this process as we seek to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit and formulate a plan to prepare our search for the next Pastor of Mount Hermon. We have received over half of the surveys we sent to the congregation. If you have a survey you have not turned in yet, please pass it on to the search team. We want to give everyone a chance to share their thoughts. In the coming months, the search team will host discussions in small groups to share what we have gathered from the surveys. In the meantime, we hope each member is dedicating part of their prayer time to praying for the future of Mount Hermon, our outreach to the local community, and the path God is laying before us. Boldly pray that God will use every member in this time of transition to impact those around us for the advancement of His Kingdom.

Grace and Peace, The Pastor Search Team

Shaina Riley, Bill Butler, Beth Brewer,
Steve Paschall, Don Riley, Shirley Robinson



This year's Easter Mission Offering will be donated to
Alamance-Orange Prison Ministry.
Church Goal \$1,200

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.



Saturday, April 1 9:00 am - Event Room
Two special projects are planned for April:
Reorganizing/cleaning our nursery
and
Designing greeting cards for
Meals on Wheels recipients

All ladies are invited to this special time of fellowship.

DEACON ASSIGMENTS:

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

Nursery Workers Needed!!

We are looking for volunteers to assist in the nursery on a rotating bases during Worship Service on a rotating bases. If you are willing to help please contact John DeWitt or Teah Shinn.

OCC ITEM OF THE MONTH: Shampoo

OCIM ITEM OF THE MONTH: Canned Meats

"Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually!" - 1 Chronicles 16:11

Stewardship

2023	February	Year-to-Date
Budget Income	\$17,225	\$35,560
Budget Need	\$17,360	\$39,060
Difference - (short)	(\$ 135)	(\$3,500)

2023	February	Year-to-Date
Budget Income	\$17,225	\$35,560
Budget Expenses	\$19,027	\$36,757
Difference - over	(\$ 1,802)	(\$ 1,197)

February PRP Balance \$ 15,913

The new camera and projectors have been installed and while we continue to tweak a few sound issues, it has made a huge difference to our online worship experience. Thank you to everyone who gave so generously to this project.

Please continue to support the Property Renovation Phase (PRP) fund for future needs of the church along with your general tithing and gifts.

~Peggy Mason, Treasurer

You shall give to him freely, and your heart shall not be grudging when you give to him, because for this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake.

Deuteronomy 15:10

Those Needing Our Prayers

Candy Brady	Joan Dixon	Linda Morton
Jody Brady	Alex Fitzgerald	Jerry Nowell
Beth Brewer	Mike Fitzgerald	Joan Page
Judith Carrig	Ann Harper	Peggy Parker
Donna Chamberlain	Carolyn Harper	Betty Jane Poole
Bill Clayton	Ann Hicks	Ridge Riley
Jacob Cook	Sue Johnson	Robbe Riley
Terri Anne Darby	Lucille King	Peggy Rhodes
Vic Davis	David Lewis	Bob Winecoff
Danny Dennis	Laurie Loving	Virginia Winecoff

Our Shut-ins and hospitalized

Brookdale - Bonnie Andrews
Pruitt Health-Carolina Point - Ruby Clements
Signature Heath Care - Wendy Dixon
Friends Home Assisted Living - Betty Fera
Cambridge Hills (Roxboro) - Edith Lee
Home Health Care - Stacy Lee
The Oaks of Alamance - Bob Link

Pray For:

The victims and families of the Nashville school shooting
 The people in MS and area affected by the recent Tornadoes
 The Pastor Search Committee
 Reverend David Morton and our Church
 The safe gathering of our Church
 The Children and the Children's Ministry
 Our Brothers at OCC and the Alamance-Orange Prison Ministry

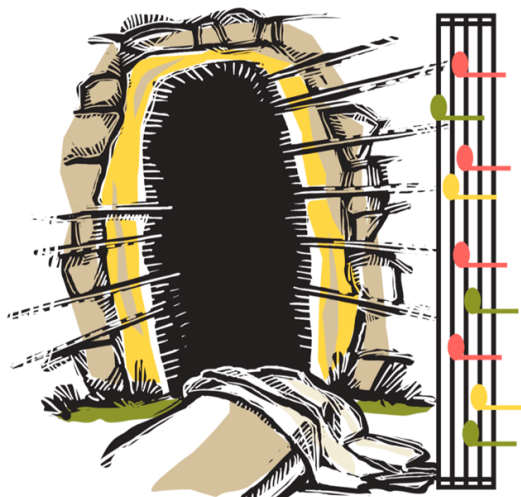
AROUND THE WORLD

Rev. Gideon Thuam, missionary to Myawaddy Myanmar
 Pastor Hammer serving the people of Togo, West Africa
 Roger and Vicki Grossmann, missionaries to Guatemala
 Josh & Maggie Miller, missionaries to Cambodia

♪ Music Notes ♪

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP DURING THIS EASTER SEASON

He is Risen!



O Praise the Name (Anástasis)*

Then on the third, at break of dawn,

The Son of heaven rose again.

O trampled death, where is your sting?

The angels roar for Christ the King!

O praise the name of the Lord our God.

O praise the name forevermore.

For endless days we will sing Your praise,

O Lord, O Lord our God.

* Resurrection

Pastor: David Morton
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 David's Email: morton10@centrylink.net

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

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

04/02 Noah Dellinger
04/06 Blanca Serrano Gonzalez
04/08 Virginia Pasour
04/09 Dan Vogel
04/15 Katrina Paschall
04/16 Steve Lopez
04/24 Amanda Clayton

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

04/28 John & Cookie Frederick

MAY BIRTHDAYS

05/01 Brian Tedder
05/04 Terri Anne Darby
05/07 Stacy Lee
05/31 Abby DeWitt

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

05/17 Dan & Ethel Vogel
05/18 Gary & Katrina Paschall

DISCIPLESHIP

How would you describe God's call on your life and what is it? I was recently asked this question and I had it think about how God has called me even when I wasn't listening. The story is long but I will make this brief. I have been called by God to be a daughter, a sister, a relative, a friend, a church member, a youth leader, a Sunday School teacher, a minister's wife, a mother, a nurse, a mentor, missionary to Haiti, discipleship leader, VBS worker, special events committee member.... Get the picture? We often feel like our call is some miraculous, wondrous thing where we hear angels singing and we are called to greatness. If that is you, congratulations! For me, my call has always been in the everyday life happenings that come my way. I have been able to use my gifts of singing to children in the hospital, offer comfort to parents in the most stressful times of their lives, offer hope to parents whose children have special needs because God had given me that call.

What is your call from God? Are you listening? Are you ready to take up that call and do what God is calling you to do? Pray about it. Jehovah Jireh our Provider is going before you preparing the way, getting all you need there before you go. You just have to say yes! ~Cookie Frederick

OUTREACH Here am I, Send Me

As Isaiah saw God when he entered the temple we are allowed to see what happens to mankind when we encounter the Holy God. First we become disheveled, then we seek forgiveness, then we seek service. Missions happens when we answer God's call to share His love with all humanity. That happens in our back yard, down the road, in another community, or in other countries. It's much the same, just sometimes takes us longer to get there. Our model is Acts 1:8.

We are aggressively seeking to become a missions driven church. Last year we studied Richard Stearns' book "The Hole in Our Gospel." He writes: "The idea behind The Hole in Our Gospel is quite simple. It's basically the belief that being a Christian, or a follower of Jesus Christ, requires much more than having a personal and transforming relationship with God. It also entails a public and transforming relationship with the world. If your personal faith in Christ has no positive outward expression then your faith —and mine—has a hole in it."

We want to celebrate missions in this church by developing a missions small group study. The goal is to "pray and obey" (from pastor Cho) God's call to missions. Our motto is that of Isaiah's "send me." We will hold our preparation time during the Sunday School hour beginning in April. If you feel led to follow Christ to the mission field, then join us. Please let me know of your interest in this mission study group. ~Steve Paschall