

## CHURCH EVENTS

### March 2

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

### March 10

2:00a Daylight Saving  
Time Begins  
Lord's Supper  
2:00p Deacons' Meeting

### March 17

Business Meeting  
Following Worship

### March 21

Newsletter Input Due

## Holy Week

### March 24

Palm Sunday

### March 28

7:00p Maundy Thursday  
Service

### March 29

7:00p Good Friday  
Service

### March 31

Easter Sunday  
7:30 Sunrise Service  
Potluck Breakfast  
10:00a Worship Service

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

### Sunday

9:30a Adult Study Groups  
9:30a Children/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

March 2024

## Pastor's Pen

All four Gospels provide an account of the last days of Jesus. They include stories of failure and courage, despair and hope, political plots, and theological inspiration. The meaning of the stories grows as we learn the history and contexts behind the words of the Gospels. As we look at the history and literature of the Passion accounts, we can find ways to understand our own lives through the stories, trials, and choices of Jesus. This Lenten season, we are challenged to examine our conscience and find that our own relationship with Jesus and the Bible bring us into closer relationship with others and the world.

The Easter Season is upon us, and we celebrate this wonderful time. The Good News of Easter is that Jesus Christ lives. He lives in us as we live the truth. We cannot deny the truth and still be free. As Christians, we are "in Christ" and we are new creations. "All this is from God, who reconciled us through Christ" and this is truly the greatest news of all. Mount Hermon Baptist needs willing hands and committed hearts as we continue to strive together for faithful ministry. To reach the potential God offers us, we must dedicate time and energy, and treasure and talent. We must practice forgiveness and grace and pray for God's will to be done in each of us. God calls us to faithfulness.

Followers of Jesus share God's love with others. A follower is a missionary. Both "goers" and "senders" should work together for God's mission. We know that opportunities abound for mission services around our world.

I look forward to seeing you in services and fellowship. We truly have a blessed community of faith. Join us as we serve together. May we all strive for faithfulness.

David Morton, Interim Pastor

**MARCH DEACON MINISTRY:** Steve Couch / Kevin Shinn

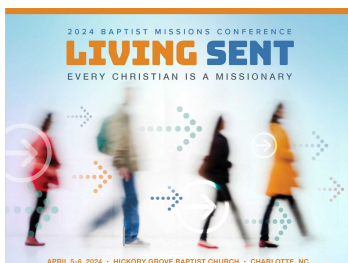
Services Available on CD upon request and on our YouTube Channel

## **OCIM ITEM OF THE MONTH**

Dry Pasta / Pasta Sauce

## **OCC ITEM OF THE MONTH**

Lotion



## Baptist Mission Conference Information

**April 5-6, 2024 is the date for the 2024 Missions Conference.**

We will be meeting at Hickory Grove Baptist Church in Charlotte. Special features include 3 General Sessions, 100 different mission breakout sessions, Friday night missions opportunities supper, mission testimonies, mission fair exhibits and much more.

See Steve Couch or the Baptist on Mission website for more information



## Notes from Anne



### How Big is God to you?

How big is God to us? Quite a question... We sing many songs of His greatness. Here are a few...

How Great is Our God  
How Great Thou Art  
Holy, Holy, Holy

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah  
Goodness of God

And we are learning a new one - You are Worthy of It All.

How BIG is God to us? When we pray, do we pray expecting God to answer? Not that He'll answer the way we want but THAT He'll answer. Do we doubt He is capable; doubt we are worthy of His time? Most of us would say we don't doubt Him, but our lifestyle or prayer life depicts otherwise.

We've heard that Jesus addresses the Pharisees in Matt. 22: 34-40 with the 2 greatest commandments: Love God with everything that you are and love others as you love yourself. Sometimes, I think we get things out of order. We consider how we love others before how we love God. We worry about pleasing others more than we worry about pleasing God. Our people are bigger than God. BUT we are to love God with EVERYTHING we are and have. If we do that then there's no room for people to take His place.

What does His love look like? God's love is multi-faceted. His commands originate from love; He shows His power because He loves; His justice is grounded in love; His expectations of our hearts, souls and minds are because He loves us and wants what is best for us.

But we won't really know what that looks like until we dive into God's Word with gusto and determination to seek Him with all our hearts. ( Jer. 29:13) Then we can better understand Paul's prayer from Eph. 3:14-21. Let's seek God first and His righteousness (Matt. 6:33) so that our God gets Bigger and Bigger.

### Children and Youth Ministry

Hello, Church!

With John DeWitt's leaving, the torch has been passed (at least temporarily) to this rag tag group of volunteers.... John Frederick, Kevin Shinn, Teah Shinn, Peggy Mason and me, Cookie Frederick, who will serve as point person. John will be teaching on Sunday morning with Peggy and Kevin as his assistants.

On Wednesday, we will be leading the students and would like other volunteers to come alongside us and help. If you would be willing to help, please let me know. A physical presence is sometimes all that is needed to comply with our safety standards.

Another area that we may need help is on Sunday morning in the nursery. Teah has been my helper most Sundays, but her dad is in poor health, and she is having to go to Virginia to help her mom and sister with his care. On those Sundays, I may need help with the children. Would you be willing to be some [1]one that I could call at the last minute to be my helper? You don't have to teach, only assist. It would be so greatly appreciated!

We are planning an **Easter Egg hunt on Saturday, March 23rd at 10:00** and we need candy to stuff the eggs. Would you be willing to donate? We DO NOT need plastic eggs, just candy. There will be a table beside the glass case to place your donations. Thank you in advance. As usual the youth are busy, and we hope to continue to help them along in their spiritual journeys. Pray for us and pray for yourselves that God will lead you to serve in our youth program.  
~ Cookie

**Shrove Tuesday  
raised \$410 for  
Youth Missions  
Thank You!**



**Easter Egg Hunt  
March 23  
@10:00a  
Candy Donations  
Appreciated**



**Upcoming  
Youth Event  
D-Now  
April 26-27**

*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*

## Stewardship

2024	January	Year-to-Date
Budget Income	\$14,688	\$14,688
Budget Need	\$19,880	\$19,880
Difference	(\$ 5,192)	(\$ 5,192)

2024	January	Year-to-Date
Budget Income	\$14,688	\$14,688
January Expenses	\$12,632	\$12,632
Difference	\$ 2,056	\$ 2,056

Property Renovation Fund - \$17,584

Pray for the financial health of the church.

~ Peggy Mason, Treasurer



## **Prayer Room**

Our Prayer Room is open and available at all times for those who may need a quiet moment in prayer.

Instructions for the room's use are provided along with prayer materials.

**Prayers needed for the Pastor Search Team and the Personnel Committee during this time of transition.**

## *Those Needing Our Prayers...*

Georgia Barnette	Dale Dixon	Joan Page
Edna Berry	Joan Dixon	Peggy Parker
Donna Chamberlain	Alex Fitzgerald	Betty Jane Poole
Bill Clayton	Marlo Jackson	Peggy Rhodes
Ruth Crispin	Lucille King	Justin Riley
Robbie Davidson	Stacy Lee	Ridge Riley
Vic Davis	David Lewis	Robbe Riley
Joseph Dennard	Jerry Nowell	J.R. & Mary Webb
Joyce Dennis	Chuck Olson	Bob & Virginia Winecoff

Brookdale - Bonnie Andrews

Pruitt Health - Ronda Barton

Friends Home Assisted Living - Betty Fera

Reverend David Morton and our Church

The Pastor Search Committee

The Personnel Committee

The Children and the Children's Ministry

Our Brothers at OCC and the Alamance-Orange Prison Ministry

Those in our community with drug and alcohol addiction

The homeless people in our community

Families affected by violence

President Joe Biden & NC Governor Roy Cooper

Unity for our Country

## **AROUND THE WORLD**

Peace in Ukraine and Israel

Rev. Gideon Thuam, missionary to Myawaddy Myanmar

Pastor Hammer serving the people of Togo, West Africa

Graham & Debbie Frith, Missionaries to Bolivia

Roger and Vicki Grossmann, missionaries to Guatemala

and the Good Shepherd Ministries

## **Directory Correction**

Make the following correction to your 2023-2024 Church Directory  
Replace email for Mike Ostoyich for Val's Email; ostoyichva@aol.com

## **OUTREACH**

## **Building Bridges**

The journey to Armenia has been a bridge building experience. The two books that were translated into the Armenian language are: "Bridges to Healing, Armenia", and "Women, War, and Trauma". These books address the physical, psychological, and Spiritual journeys to healing. Healing from life's traumas is part of that sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit in our becoming more Christ like.

There are 2 stark realities in this journey. Number 1 we have to confront our struggles, give them language, and share them with others hopefully in the community of faith. Number 2 is we then must lead others on this healing journey and help them heal by God's Spirit. We pass on His love to others.

Never in this process do we forget, becoming God's child is the first step with many to follow.

My fall and total hip replacement that followed simply magnified God's grace and healing in my struggles. We all know that God's grace through Christ Jesus is sufficient. Praise be to God!

Grace and Peace in Jesus ~ Steve Paschall

## **OCIM Update:**

We should be very excited that we were able to collect 226 pounds of food and \$478 for 'Souper' bowl Sunday going to Orange Congregations in Mission (OCIM) supporting the food pantry, meals on wheels and utility bill help for those who are struggling. Well done Mount Hermon Baptist Church! And.....in 2023 our congregation collected 2,328 pounds of food for the pantry! That is over a ton of food!

On Monday afternoons our Mount Hermon team has opportunity to pray with, encourage and comfort clients who pick up needed food. Thank you for supporting this wonderful ministry. ~ John Frederick

**Pastor:** David Morton  
**Secretary:** Peggy Mason  
**Worship Leader:** Anne Basden

**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*

**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

03/03 Maria Butron	03/13 John DeWitt
03/03 Jerald Fuller	03/16 James Warren
03/04 Donnie Riley	03/22 Teah Shinn
03/04 David Morton	03/24 Steve Clayton
03/06 Peggy Mason	03/29 Cookie Frederick
03/11 Shania Riley	03/29 Ted Darby
03/12 Kevin Shinn	03/30 Jody Brady

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

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

**APRIL ANNIVERSARIES**

04/28 John & Cookie Frederick

**If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please let us know so we can update our records.**

*Church DEACONS*

Steve Couch	A-B
Cookie Frederick	C-D
Bob Brewer	E-I
Shirley Robinson	J-M
Janice Thompson	N-Q
As Assigned	R-S
Kevin Shinn	T-Z

Deacon Chair: Steve Couch




**March 10**  
**Spring Forward to**  
**Daylight Saving**  
**Time**

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

**Church Goal \$1,500**

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.



Donations received in Loving Memory of  
 Ruby Clements  
 By:  
 Mount Hermon Sanctuary Committee  
 Edna Berry ~ The Friendship Class

To the Members of Mount Hermon Baptist Church,

Brothers and sisters in the Lord, it has been a true blessing for us as a church to be able to meet in your facilities over the past month. A very simple but significant part of that blessing is that your generosity has provided for a large part of our regular practical needs as a body; a safe and inviting place to gather regularly for worship and community. That is no small thing! Thank you for being so willing to open your home to us and for supporting us in such a tangible way.

The other major piece of that blessing has been the fellowship and warm hearts that all of you have received us with. From planning meetings, to sharing a service together in January, to rubbing shoulders with each other in and around the building, you have treated us with kindness, encouragement, and warm hospitality. In other words, you’ve treated us like family.

From all of us at Hillsborough Community Church, thank you for making the transition for us such a smooth one. Thank you especially for putting some flesh and bone on the idea of being the body of Christ for each other. We are looking forward to the coming months and what will hopefully be many opportunities for ministry together.

In Christ, Malcolm Pettigrew, Lead Pastor On Behalf of Hillsborough Community Church

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