

Mount Hermon Baptist Church



sprout



grow



bearfruit

January 2025

CHURCH EVENTS

January 1

Church Office Closed
No Activities

January 4

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

January 5

Lord's Supper
1:30p Deacons' Meeting

January 8

5:00p Potluck Dinner

January 19

Business Meeting
Following Worship

January 23

Newsletter Input Due

January 27

6:30p Church Council
Meeting

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

Pastor's Pen

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 everywhere and every day.

Disciples of Jesus share Christ's love with others. We are called to become a mission church and a mission people every day. Let's not forget Jesus' Great Commandment: *"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age."* (Matt. 28:19-20)

How many of us feel that God is with us as we share our spiritual gifts? What are our daily lives like when our spiritual gifts are in full operation, and we are doing the things that the Holy Spirit placed in our hearts, heads, and hands to do? Mount Hermon calls for willing hands and committed hearts as we continue to strive together for faithful ministry. To reach the potential God offers us, we are called to dedicate time and energy, and treasure and talent. We need to practice forgiveness and grace and pray for God's will to be done in each of us. God calls us to be faithful. As the old hymn says, "Lord I want be like Jesus in my heart." This is the message for everyone.

There are so many needs and so many opportunities to serve. One of Annie Armstrong's quotes still applies *"The future lies all before us . . . shall it only be a slight advance upon what we usually do? And ought it not to be a bound, a leap forward, to altitudes of endeavor and success undreamed of before?"* Let us pray for God's blessings and direction as we give our energy, our prayers, and our financial support to the abundant needs in our community and world. We are blessed to be Faithful Servants. The old year is over and gone and it does not define us forever. We embrace the new year, new opportunities, and a new life. The Apostle Paul tells us in 2 Corinthians that in "Christ we are a new creation." We have fresh chances to serve and more prospects to love. Let's embrace them.

God bless us all in 2025. I look forward to seeing you in church this Sunday.

Many regards to you and yours, David Morton, Interim Pastor

Services available on CD upon request and on our YouTube Channel

OCIM ITEM OF THE MONTH:
SOUP AND CRACKERS

OCC ITEM OF THE MONTH:
DEODERANT

JANUARY DEACON MINISTRY:
Bill Butler / Cookie Frederick

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

OUTREACH

“Commit Your Work to the Lord”

The New Year will be full of opportunity and challenges. How can we as individuals and a community of faith use our gifts to promote God’s kingdom and reach out to our community and world? The Bible provides many examples of how we can best prepare to live a meaningful and productive life as we seek to follow God’s plan for our life.

A powerful guide for living is found in Proverbs 16:3, "Commit your work to the Lord and your plans will be established."

In this verse, planning is taken for granted and the challenge is how can we plan in such a way that what we produce will have a long-term impact and not just pass away overnight? Will our plans and activities introduce people to Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit? The verse declares that the solution to a productive, full life is to commit our life to the Lord. In all that we do we should always seek the Lord's guidance and strength as we plan the work that we will do as individuals and the church. We must trust God’s wisdom and not our own. Then our plans will produce actions that bear fruit and bless us and those around us.

Over the course of the coming year, we will have many opportunities to reach out to our neighbors and friends in the name of Jesus. Invite them to join us in times of fellowship, prayer, bible study and worship. Let’s take advantage of the opportunities that God will place before us as we prepare our hearts and souls to serve him! ~Steve Clayton

DISIPLESHIP

Now that we’re emerging from the time of Christmas and New Year, many of us are probably inclined to take a well deserved rest. Let’s face it, decorating and gift selection can be stressful. Now let’s look back. Jesus said a lot about worry in Matthew 6. As you relax a little, take a look at the words from verses 25 through 34.

As you relax, ponder a little whether the Christmas season was filled with the gratitude, joy and peace that knowing Christ brings to our lives. What should change before next year so you could move on from the season refreshed and recharged from the reminder that the celebration is about a time to remember the greatest gift humanity ever received? Talk with those you celebrate with as to what would make that remembrance more genuine and refreshing to you. If the small groups you are in here at Mount Hermon are made up of different individuals, share your thoughts with them too.

Moving on to the New Year, a lot of times we come up with resolutions that pack even more angst into our lives. In your small groups, discuss how to pursue the peace and joy of Christ until we’re able to face life and always remember, ‘His grace is sufficient’. That’s easy to say but living it is tougher. That’s why we need our brothers and sisters in our small groups. They help us as we help them to find our way through the path that gets a little rocky at times.

My prayer for us in this New Year is that the peace and joy of Christ will pervade our lives to the extent that we’ll frequently be asked, ‘What puts that smile on your face?’ and we’ll be able to confidently answer, ‘It’s the joy that comes from the fact that Jesus has reconciled me with our creator and I’m loved beyond imagination’. ~ Bill Butler

Balcony Opportunity

The balcony operations are essential to the worship service and to our YouTube viewers. Two people are needed each time we have a worship service and broadcast to YouTube. Our homebound friends and others that are interested in our services look forward each week to listen/view our services. Please consider helping occasionally. Training is available and essential for everything to go smoothly. There are two components: audio and visual. There will be times when the two – three people will be unavailable, so help is welcome for this ministry to continue. Please contact Tim Thompson (audio) or Shirley Robinson (visual) if you are interested in serving. Thank you!



STEWARDSHIP

2024	November	Year-to-Date
General Budget Income	\$17,719	\$208,525
Budget Need	<u>\$19,880</u>	<u>\$233,674</u>
Difference	(\$ 2,161)	(\$ 25,149)

2024	November	Year-to-Date
General Budget Income	\$17,719	\$208,525
November Expenses	<u>\$ 15,023</u>	<u>\$176,402</u>
Difference	\$ 2,696	\$ 32,123

Property Renovation Fund - \$22,006

Non Budget Renovation Expenses - \$11,836
(courtyard renovation)

HCC Usage Fee: October: \$1,600 YTD: \$16,800

Stewardship Update

Sunday, December 29th we voted to adopt our proposed 2025 budget. The budget was approved with a unanimous vote of members present. Our budget includes salary needs, properties needs, mission opportunities, along with other needs of the church. A positive vote for our budget needs to be supported by your giving to the church so our needs and our mission to expand the kingdom of God can be met. Please pray for the financial health of the church.

2025 BAPTIST MISSIONS CONFERENCE



The 2025 Missions Conference will be held on March 14-15 2025 at **Calvary Baptist Church Winston Salem NC.**

The conference is open to all men, women, and youth. Conference includes worship, general sessions, breakout sessions, missions fair exhibits, missions testimonies, volunteer supper and more!

Speakers include Anne Graham Lotz, Tom Richter, Sheila Walsh, Lee Strobel, Jennifer Rothschild and Kyle Idleman. Worship will be led by Michael O'Brien.

Special features include 100 different breakout sessions, Friday missions supper, mission testimonies, mission exhibits and much more.

Friday and Saturday \$20, Friday and Saturday with Friday supper \$32. (Cost includes General sessions, breakout sessions, event materials and lunch on Saturday.)

Those Needing Our Prayers...

Georgia Barnette	Joyce Dennis	Betty Jane Poole
Ronda Barton	Kay Hall	Peggy Rhodes
Edna Berry	Lucille King	Ridge Riley
Donna Chamberlain	Stacy Lee	Robbe Riley
Bill Clayton	David Lewis	Rosa Shambley
Ruth Crispin	Mike Ostoyich	J.R. & Mary Webb
Robbie Davidson	Joan Page	Bob & Virginia Winecuff
Joseph Dennard	Peggy Parker	

Brookdale - Bonnie Andrews
Friends Home Assisted Living - Betty Fera

The Family of Jerry Nowell

Those lost to and affected by Hurricanes Helen and Milton

Reverend David Morton and our Church

The Personnel Committee

The Pastor Search Committee

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

Victims of violence

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

Asael Briones, Missionary to Honduras



Steve Clayton	A-B
Cookie Frederick	C-Dem
Shaina Riley (chair)	Den-G
Shirley Robinson	H-L
Janice Thompson	M-O
Bill Butler	P-R
Peggy Mason	S-Z



OCIM Needs Food items

particularly needed are cereal, jelly, soup, crackers, rice, peanut butter, oatmeal, condiments, pinto beans, pork n' beans, canned meats and vegetables.

Edna Berry would like to send a sincere **THANK YOU!** to everyone who has called, sent cards of encouragement, and prayed for her.

She appreciates all the love and concern shown to her as she navigates health concerns.

Nursery/Children/Youth Workers Needed!!

Sundays and Wednesdays

If you are willing to help please contact
Cookie Frederick or Teah Shinn

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

2 Corinthians 13:14

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

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

01/08 Ivan Serrano 01/21 Steve Paschall
01/19 Dean Dixon 01/22 Janice Thompson

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

02/01 William Clayton 02/12 Valentina Serrano Gonzalez
02/03 Bob Brewer 02/14 Kathryn Dempsey
02/04 Eddie Lee 02/19 Shirley Robinson

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

02/05 Tim & Janice Thompson
02/14 Glenn & Evelyn Lilly

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



Good Shepherd Ministries
Christmas Offering
Church Goal: \$2,025
Raised to Date: \$3,066

We will continue to collect this
offering through January 5th

Monetary Gifts

Memorial gifts made in memory
of Dan Vogel by:
Kathryn Dempsey ~ Jamie Riley
Hans & Lisa Vogel

Memorial gifts made in memory
of Jerry Nowell by:
Robin Hinton ~ Solas Financial
Mount Hermon Sanctuary Committee
Nancy Massey ~ Sherry & Andy Pyrant
Peggy Mason ~ Steve Couch
Calvin Griffin ~ Linda Warren

A memorial gift to the General Fund
was made in memory of Vic Davis by:
Joan Page

A gift was made honor of
Bill Clayton and his family by:
Lauren Gaydon

A generous anonymous gift
was made to the PRP fund.

Children and Youth Ministry



On behalf of the Youth and Children's
Ministry, we would like to say a huge
thank you to the church for
all your help and support over the last
year. It is wonderful to be a part of a
"family" that sees how important it is to
disciple and lead our young people, to help them grow
in their spiritual walk and to make them feel loved and
wanted.

2025 is upon us and we have a full calendar of events
planned for fun, fellowship and service. Keep a look-
out for ways you can help in the days ahead. Our big
project is a mission trip back to Middlesboro, KY in
July. We will be having several fundraisers throughout
the spring to help offset the cost. The first fundraiser
of the year will be the annual Foosball tournament in
February.

Love you guys and, again, thank you! ~ Cookie



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.

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