

CHURCH EVENTS

July 2

5:00p Potluck Dinner
6:00p Reading Program

July 4

Church Office Closed

July 6

Lord's Supper
KY Mission Trip
Commissioning
1:30p Deacons' Meeting

July 13-19

Kentucky Mission Trip

July 20

Business Meeting
Following Worship

July 22

Newsletter Input Due

July 26

Cookout/Ice Cream
Social

July 28

6:30p Church Council Mtg

Looking Ahead

August

8/2-9 Serve NC
Vacation Bible School

September

NC Missions Offering
9/9 PrimeTime
9/14 Homecoming

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

July 2025

Pastor's Pen

Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so.

Genesis 1:11

God created an earth to be green, with vegetation, plants, and trees; they are to be fruitful so they will give humankind food abundantly to continue life. All this and all acts of God's creation are for us as his creation. What does it take for a plant/tree to bear good fruit? It requires land made of good soil. The Garden of Eden is described as having plentiful vegetation, all that Adam and Eve needed to eat. The soil in Eden must have been extraordinarily good. Adam and Eve were to have stewardship over the garden but their labor was light. Plants produced; they bore good fruit. Vegetation needs water/rain at the right time and in the right amount in the growing cycle. Too much water is as bad as too little. Plants need sunshine, all created by God. These are the basic needs for vegetation to bear good fruit. Plants yielding good fruit is a good metaphor for the Christian today. How do we as Christian disciples bear the good fruit Jesus speaks about? Like the plant, we need to have good soil. Soil is the foundation for our roots to grow deep and hold strong. Soil can be likened to a strong faith foundation to nourish and sustain us.

Jesus told the parable of two builders: one built his house on a shallow foundation built upon unstable, sandy soil. It could not stand before a storm of harsh conditions. The other builder built on a foundation that was rock that would remain in the face of adversity. To bear good fruit, we must have a strong faith, a practiced faith, and a growing faith as our foundation. We need to intentionally cultivate such a faith foundation.

Christians need to be watered by the Holy Spirit that seeps down to their roots that hold onto the foundational soil. The Holy Spirit provides the essential knowledge, awareness, and perseverance needed to bear good fruit. This requires prayer, reflection, and study of God's will and character. If we allow the Holy Spirit into our faith journey, we have a Christ-like attitude that leads us to represent what God calls us to be. Our bearing good fruit is a disciple making disciples - producing disciples in kind. Our seeds are sown throughout all nations and peoples. These, in turn, may become disciples as the Holy Spirit works. And Christians require God as the plant needs sun. God causes a change in us as we relate to him through his word. Jesus is the sun and the life. Without sun, plants would not live; without God, humans could not thrive. Bearing good fruit in the work of God is a blessing to us. Let's sprout, grow, and bear fruit together as the Lord provides His grace. We have a story to tell others and to all nations. I'll see you soon. David Morton, Interim Pastor

Services available on CD upon request and on our YouTube Channel

DISCIPLESHIP

A big part of our discipleship pilgrimage is embracing and supporting the many others that go alongside us in our journey. Psalm 139:14 reminds us of the uniqueness of each individual, *I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. As we walk with one another, that should be enough to give us the insight to encourage us to support and nurture one another in development. It should provide us with the knowledge to know that even with the same seed (Christ) and the same nutrients of prayer and Bible study, individuals are going to grow in ways unique to the individual. That's not done to foster disagreement but instead it's done by design to provide for all our needs as one church body.*

The necessity of individual uniqueness is then highlighted in 1 Corinthians 12:18-20, *But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, yet one body. With that statement, we realize that we are incomplete without our fellow Christians walking along with us. Does it mean we're walking in lock step all doing the same thing? No. It means that we're all being as supportive as possible to encourage each person's journey in faith.*

On July 26th, we'll be having a Summer Cookout get together. It's a cookout, it's a time to casually share life's events. Come and be who you are. Relax and celebrate the uniqueness of your brothers and sisters. Share your troubles and your celebrations. Take your time with a shared glass of lemonade, tea or soft drink. We're on this mortal sojourn together. Let's make it the very best it can be. ~ Bill Butler

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:34-35

OUTREACH

"Out of Our Seats and Into the Streets"

*"Seeing the crowds, Jesus felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and downcast, like sheep without a shepherd. Then He *said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore, plead with the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest." Matthew 9:36-38*

When we tune in to the news or read accounts of the events that are occurring all over the world, we see that many people "are distressed and downcast, like sheep without a shepherd." What can we do?

The Spring edition of the Baptist on Mission magazine, in an article addressing Community Mobilization, suggests that Christians must move "Out of Our Seats and into the Streets." The battle for the hearts and souls of the world's people cannot be won solely within the confines of our church walls. Christians must be the "hands and feet of Jesus" in the world. The power and truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ is best demonstrated through the lives of Christian people living in harmony with the gospel message and the spirit of Christ. Serving and loving people in our community and world is an essential step in introducing people to Jesus. Community mobilization and outreach must be an ongoing part of our personal evangelism and corporate ministry.

The article ends with a series of questions that I would like for you to consider. "Will our church answer the call? Will you answer the call? Every person uses their gifts to bring glory to God, bless and preserve the community, and make disciples- that is the church on mission." As is written in Matthew 9, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore, plead with the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest." Prayerfully seek an answer to the question, "How will we do God's work together?" ~ Steve Clayton

"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

STEWARDSHIP

| 2025 | May | Year-to-Date |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| General Budget Income | \$16,738 | \$86,540 |
| Budget Need | <u>\$19,740</u> | <u>\$103,735</u> |
| Difference | (\$ 3,002) | (\$ 17,095) |

| 2025 | May | Year-to-Date |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| General Budget Income | \$16,738 | \$86,540 |
| May Expenses | <u>\$17,184</u> | <u>\$69,301</u> |
| Difference | (\$ 446) | \$17,239 |

Property Renovation Fund - \$30,920

During the April business meeting it was approved to replace the HVAC units that control the main hall and classrooms off of the main hall. These units were the oldest in the church and were not operating properly.

The cost of \$29,750 will be paid by using the PRP Fund (1/2) and the Money Market Account (1/2).

Pray for the financial health of the church.



CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRY

Dear Church,

Again thank you so much for your generosity and all you do

to enable our Children and Youth programs to thrive.

We will soon be leaving for Kentucky for our mission trip, fully funded by you! Let me tell you a little bit about our trip. Middlesboro, Ky is a town in southeastern Ky. that sits inside a meteor crater, sort of a bowl. We stay at First Baptist Church where they have converted space to accommodate mission teams that come to the area. We will be helping in their VBS for the week as one of our projects. Other projects may include delivering lunch to children, working with the reading program delivering books. We may also visit a nursing home. The key to this trip is flexibility and leaving ourselves open to doing what God calls us to do. Please be praying for us as we prepare and go.

Also be in prayer for our Vacation Bible School in August. If you would like to help with planning, let me know as soon as possible.

Cookie ~ 919-815-3533

Those Needing Our Prayers...

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Georgia Barnette | Joyce Dennis | Betty Jane Poole |
| Ronda Barton | Judy Hanson | Peggy Rhodes |
| Edna Berry | Brittany Harper | Donnie Riley |
| Bill Butler | Lucille King | Ridge Riley |
| Donna Chamberlain | Stacy Lee | Robbe Riley |
| Bill Clayton | Joan Page | Rosa Shambley |
| Ruth Crispin | Peggy Parker | Bob & Virginia Winecoff |
| Joseph Dennard | | |

Brookdale - Bonnie Andrews
Duke Hospital - Byram Clayton
Friends Home Assisted Living - Betty Fera

Pray for

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 and an end to all wars
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

INDEPENDENCE DAY

For Christians, Independence Day is an opportunity to reflect on both the political freedom of their nation and the spiritual freedom found in Christ. It's a time to be grateful for the blessings of liberty and to commit to living out their faith with responsibility and love.

While patriotism for one's earthly nation is encouraged, Christians are also reminded to have a higher allegiance to God's kingdom, seeking first His righteousness. The Bible encourages believers to be good citizens while also remembering that their ultimate loyalty is to God.



Train up a child in the way he should go, and even when he is old he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6 (ASV)

Pastor:
Secretary:

David Morton
Peggy Mason

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

JULY BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 07/02 Betty Fera | 07/15 Shelby Edmonds |
| 07/04 Gio Poma-Butron | 07/16 Gary Paschall |
| 07/06 Bill Butler | 07/19 Betty Jane Poole |
| 07/08 Dixie Paschall | |

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

07/05 Bill & Kate Butler
07/11 Eddie & Stacy Lee
07/25 William & Amanda Clayton

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 08/09 Peggy Parker | 08/26 Alice Clayton |
| 08/20 Donna Adair | 08/27 Alex Mayse |
| 08/24 Ella White | 08/30 Edna Berry |
| | 08/30 John Frederick |

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

08/05 Kevin & Teah Shinn

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

**LADIES' FELLOWSHIP
BAPTIST MEN**

The Ladies' Fellowship and Baptist Men will
not meet this month. We hope you will enjoy
the weekend of July 4th with family and
friends!

ORANGE CONGREGATIONS IN MISSION

**FOOD PANTRY
NEEDS**

HELP US RESTOCK OUR SHELVES!

CANNED VEGETABLES (MIXED, PEAS, BEETS,
TOMATOES)

CANNED PASTA (RAVIOLI, SPAGHETTI O'S, ETC.)

PINTO BEANS (DRY/CANNED)

MACARONI & CHEESE

SCHOOL SNACKS/FRUIT BARS

CANNED FRUIT & APPLESAUCE

OATMEAL

JELLY

CANNED CHICKEN

RICE

SOUP (CHICKEN NOODLE, TOMATO, CHUNKY)

CRACKERS

CEREAL (HOT & COLD)

PASTA SAUCE

BEEF STEW

MAYONNAISE

DOG AND CAT FOOD

TOOTHPASTE & TOOTHBRUSHES

DEODORANT

LAUNDRY DETERGENT (POWDER & PODS)

TOILET PAPER

BABY WIPES



WELCOME NEW MEMBER

ETHEL ALLEN VOGEL

**TO THE COMMUNITY OF
MOUNT HERMON BAPTIST CHURCH**

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.

DEACONS

| | |
|----------------------|-------|
| 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 |

SAVE THE DATE

**September 14
HOMECOMING
2025**



Nursery/Children/Youth Workers Needed!!

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

Operation Christmas Child is collecting:
empty pill bottles
paper towel rolls
plastic water/soda lids