

CHURCH EVENTS

August 2-9

Serve NC

August 2

9:00a Baptist Men

9:00a Ladies'

Fellowship

August 3

2:30p Deacons'
Meeting

August 6

5:00p Potluck Dinner

August 9

6:30p Meet & Greet
Rev. Scott Wasdin

August 10

Trial Sermon by
Rev. Scott Wasdin

August 15-16

Vacation Bible School

Aug 15; 5:30p-8:00p

Aug 16; 9:00a-1:30p

August 17

Lord's Supper
4:00p-6:00p Children/
Youth/Family Party

August 21

Newsletter Input Due

August 24

Business Meeting
Following Worship

August 31

Favorite Hymn Sunday

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

August 2025

Pastor's Pen

"God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." — John 3: 16

The story of salvation begins with God's people making a huge error. The scriptures tell us the story of Adam and Eve. The story unfolds and we read they disobeyed God and brought sin into the world (Genesis 3).

If we were in God's position, would we have wanted to restore Adam and Eve? We might have wanted to start over with someone else. Perhaps we would even create an entirely different world and fill it with something other than humans. But God chose not to abandon His creation. God stays in relationship with us. He clothes us. He guides us. And he promises that evil will be defeated.

Throughout the Old Testament we find that God's people fell into sin and dysfunction repeatedly. And God remained faithful. He stayed with his people and promised that one day a Savior would come, break the cycle, and free people from the curse of disobedience and sin.

The message found in the book of John was written to help people understand that Jesus is the Savior (Messiah). God loved us so much that he sent Jesus to become one of us to pay for our sin and restore our relationship with God. In Christ we see that God's love for us is unconditional. It is God's grace. It does not depend on us doing enough to please him; instead, salvation is freely given as an undeserved gift.

We can be certain that nothing will ever tear us away from God's love. Nothing in this life or the next, nothing seen or unseen, not even our fears or worries, absolutely nothing can separate us from God's love. It means that nothing will ever win out over God's love. It isn't because of our strength or anything that we do, but because of Jesus Christ who calls us His own. (Romans 8:38-39)

What a privilege to be in fellowship with a loving God. What an opportunity to accept His invitation of love. What an honor to be in fellowship with each other. Thank you for your faithfulness to God, to each other, and to me during these days. You are all a blessing. And you know what it means that nothing will ever win out over God's love. Be safe and well. Please rest in the assurances of God our Savior. God bless you. David Morton, Interim Pastor

Services available on CD upon request and on our YouTube Channel

OCIM ITEM OF THE MONTH:
CANNED VEGETABLES

OCC ITEM OF THE MONTH:
LOTION

AUGUST DEACON MINISTRY:
Peggy Mason/Janice Thompson

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

DISCIPLESHIP

Following the youth trip to Kentucky, it set me to ponder a couple of concepts. Those concepts are found in 1 Corinthians 13 and 1 Peter 3. Our mutual discoveries through discipleship should prepare us to have a purpose in outreach and that's what we should look for in these two fairly brief passages. 1 Peter 3:15 says, *"but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect"*.

Let's ask first, what would put us in a position to want to serve others? That's the draw of 1 Corinthians 13. It focuses us on the necessity of love for humanity to desire to relieve suffering wherever we might find it. That's true whether the suffering may be of an emotional, physical or spiritual need. The spiritual need is listed last because that's the segue to 1 Peter 3:15. As we serve with love that sometimes puts us in a position where we will be called to answer, "Why are you doing this?" While defense as mentioned in 1 Peter 3:15 may seem a strong word in relation to answering the question it truly is a defense of your positive actions, it's also an opportunity to offer a response that states how Christ has changed your life and compelled you to do good for others.

The passages I've cited are short. Please take an opportunity to read them again. While 1 Peter 3 begins with a description of the relationship between wives and husbands, I'd also like you to consider reading that passage with the understanding that the church is often referred to as the bride of Christ. That broadens the perspective considerably and puts all of us on equal footing as we read the scripture.

Take your time in our small groups. Discuss the instruction inspired by love as well as the compelling charge similarly driven out of love.

May the joy of Christ continue to fill your life. ~ Bill Butler



CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRY

Wow! What a wonderful week we had in Kentucky. Watching two groups coming together as one was wonderful. You could tell that God was there before us paving the way for service. Our youth stepped forward and were shining examples of God's love.

One moment I would like to share came while Teah and I were alone at Pastor Buffy's church. After we had completed the small but necessary projects, we took a tour of the church. Her grandfather had been the pastor of the church and now here she is filling his shoes. If that isn't enough just let me tell you. When we opened the doors leading into that sanctuary, you could feel the presence of the Lord. Goosebumps, brought to tears feeling. Oh how I wish I could have lingered longer. The term small but mighty comes to mind. They choose a mission project each month and their congregation brings items each week to donate. People, they have an older congregation of 5 mighty warriors that are the mainstay and the pew where they placed those items was full. It reminded me of the widow's mite. They are not giving of their excess, they are giving sacrificially. How humbling that was to see that story put into practice. I wish I lived closer, but I look forward to going back and worshipping with that congregation. God is on the move and I am so glad I got to be a part of it! ~ Cookie

Vacation **B**IBLE SCHOOL

Come join us for Vacation Bible School on Friday August 15th, 6:00-8:00pm. Dinner will be at 5:30 in the fellowship hall. August 16th 9:00am-1:30pm lunch will be served.

We will be traveling back to Jesus' hometown of Nazareth and visit with his mother Mary as she shares with us what Jesus was like from the very beginning.

If you would like to help, a sign-up sheet will be on the glass case in the hallway. I will send you the link for the child safety update. It has to be done yearly for all child workers.

There are many opportunities so make yourself available to share the love of Jesus with the children. Know any children, invite them. The more the merrier!



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)

STEWARDSHIP

2025	June	Year-to-Date
General Budget Income	\$17,970	\$104,510
Budget Need	<u>\$19,740</u>	<u>\$128,310</u>
Difference	(\$ 1,770)	(\$ 23,800)

2025	June	Year-to-Date
General Budget Income	\$17,970	\$104,510
June Expenses	<u>\$10,964</u>	<u>\$ 81,166</u>
Difference	\$ 7,006	\$ 23,344

Property Renovation Fund - \$16,402

During the June business meeting it was approved to spend \$6,000 to install a fence around the grass area on the back side of the church with plans for a future playground. This project can only be accomplished by your donations to replenish the PRP fund. Please consider giving to this fund in addition to your regular tithe.

Pray for the financial health of the church.

OUTREACH

Learn About Missions

During the month of August, Baptists on Mission will host a series of ten regional mission rallies across the state. The rally for our region will be held on Monday, August 18 at Faith Baptist Church in Youngsville, NC.

These rallies will highlight the variety of opportunities North Carolina Baptists have to be involved in missions across our state, nation, and world. The rally will include worship time, testimonies, mission videos, and a prayer time for missions.

These rallies are for anyone in our church who is interested in missions. The main focus of these rallies will be state, national, international partnerships and projects, including disaster relief, and the North Carolina missions offering. A meal is provided during the rally at no charge, but reservations are required. The meal will begin at 5:45pm, followed by the program from 6:50-8:30pm. Please see Steve Clayton if you have questions or are interested in attending.

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

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.

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



Duffel Bags Mission Project to Support Alamance-Orange Prison Ministry

Collection Period: On or Before August 2, 2025

Collection Bins: Located in Back Hallway

Donation Preparation: 9:00 am, August 2, 2025

Goal: Collect items to fill 24 duffel bags for those being released from Orange Correctional Center.

Information:

Flyers: Details are provided in email and flyers located throughout the church.

Preparing Donations: Baptist Men & Ladies' Fellowship - 8/2/25, 9:00 am

Can't attend? You can still contribute by dropping off items before August 2.

Monetary donations are welcomed (mark "Duffel Bag Ministry" beside the special offering line on your offering envelope).

Questions? Contact Janice Thompson or Steve Clayton

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

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

08/02 Monique Tedder	08/26 Alice Clayton
08/09 Peggy Parker	08/27 Alex Mayse
08/18 Sandra Shambley	08/30 Edna Berry
08/20 Donna Adair	08/30 John Frederick
08/24 Ella White	

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

08/05 Kevin & Teah Shinn

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

09/23 Sherry Stone	09/28 Tim Thompson
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SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

09/10 Ivan & Catalina Serrano

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

SAVE THE DATE

September 14th: HOMECOMING

Guest Speaker: Eric Porterfield
Youth Pastor/Interim Pastor 1992-1994

**In September we will be collecting for
the North Carolina Missions Offering**

Church Goal: \$2,500

"Fill the Truck" Update

July 26th was another successful "Fill the Truck" for OCIM. We collected 611 pounds of food and staples for our neighbors in need!

FROM THE PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE:

The Pastor Search Committee is pleased to announce that Reverend Scott Wasdin will be presented on **Sunday, August 10, 2025**, as our candidate for pastor. Scott will preach and then the church will vote to affirm or deny the committee's recommendation to extend a call to Scott during a called business meeting following the service. During the past year, we have prayerfully asked for God's discernment and guidance in leading us to our new pastor. The entire committee is convinced that the Lord has led Scott to Mount Hermon.

We invite everyone to meet Scott and his family prior to Sunday morning during a meet and greet time that will be held in the Fellowship Hall on **Saturday evening, August 9th at 6:30p**. This event will allow time for Scott to share information with us about his background, his calling, his views on ministry and provide an opportunity for you to ask him questions that you might have. We are looking forward to introducing Scott, and his family, to everyone and we strongly encourage you to join us for this special gathering of the Mount Hermon Church family.

Please continue to pray that our loving, Heavenly Father will continue to direct us as we experience our future together.



"Let all that you do be done in love." I Corinthians 16:14