

CHURCH EVENTS

December 6

9:00a Baptist Men Mtg

December 7

Lord's Supper
1:30p Deacons' Mtg

December 8

6:00p Church Council
Meeting

December 14

Business Meeting
Following Worship

December 13

10:00a-1:00p Youth
Christmas Gift
Wrapping Fund Raiser
Followed by Children/
Youth Christmas Party

December 17

5:00p Potluck Dinner
Brown Bag Christmas
Pageant

December 19

6:00p Christmas Caroling

December 21

Lessons and Carols
Christmas Service

December 22

Newsletter Input Due

December 24

Christmas Eve Service

December 25-26

Christmas
Church Office Closed

December 28

9:30a Church-wide
Breakfast and Sunday
School

December 31

No Wednesday Night
Activities

Mount Hermon Baptist Church



sprout



grow



bearfruit

December
2025

Pastor's Pen

Isaiah 7:14 New International Version: *Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.*

Luke 1:30 But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. **31** You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. **32** He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, **33** and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end."

The season of Advent is a season of preparation, a time in the liturgical calendar when we are encouraged to reflect on how to best prepare ourselves for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. I love the season of Advent with its invitation to slow down and to reflect on where we find ourselves in our journey of faith, and to prepare ourselves for the changes the coming of the Lord makes in our lives. Advent is a contemplative time in the church year, a time to transition from the 'ordinary time' of the season of Pentecost to the joy of the birth of Christ. That Advent is a time of transition is important; transitions move us forward to the future and prepare our hearts to embrace desired changes in the new year ahead. Please join us at MHBC this December to find joyful and meditative rest, relief, and restoration for your life journey. You will find dates and times for all of our worship, concert, and celebration moments within this December newsletter. Our church is thankful for the gift of serving and loving each one of our members.

May you and your family have a peaceful and memorable Christmas season,
Rev. Scott Wasdin

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

Services available on CD upon request and on our YouTube Channel

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

OCC ITEM OF THE MONTH:
TOOTHPASTE

OCIM ITEM OF THE MONTH:
PERSONAL HYGIENE PRODUCTS

DECEMBER DEACON MINISTRY:
Steve Clayton/Shirley Robinson

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

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

DISCIPLESHIP

It's December again. There's an advent devotional to share, greenery all around, all of us talking about how the Christ child came into the world in such a harsh environment. Yet, in the backs of our minds we wrestle with the same issues people wrestled with at the time of Christ's birth. How does our national administration align with the needs of humanity, does our religious framework provide for our spiritual needs? To various degrees, those items impact every one of us. When we look around like that, we have an inclination to lose hope.

Once again, we need the time, as a community of believers, to refresh our hope and bring to mind why the Messiah came to live with us, teach us and ultimately die for us. We read in Romans 8:19-25;

19 For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. 20 For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God. 22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. 23 Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. 24 For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? 25 But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

So, here we are in Advent season. Back to the eager expectation noted in verse 19. Yet, we need to constantly consider the hope noted in verses 24 and 25 realizing that the cure for the evils of the age already lives within us and look forward with eager anticipation for the time we can commune face to face with Christ.

Let's pivot back to the necessity of relationships in all of this. We need one another to rely on when our confidence gets shaken but not only then. We need one another's testimony of what Christ has done in each life to inspire confidence and restore hope. Let the Holy Spirit lead you in hope and share it every chance you get. ~ Bill Butler

CHRISTMAS MISSION OFFERING:



In this season, we once again have the opportunity to help spread the Word of God that gives us confidence. This year we continue to participate in a Christmas offering for Good Shepherd Children's Home in Guatemala. Please prayerfully consider your offering for this work and contribute as the Lord leads your heart. Our goal is \$2,100.

The mission tree needs to be decorated again and for every \$25 given, please take a ribbon from the basket and place it on the tree.

The post office is open in the church hallway for your cards to members. The children and youth will deliver the cards to the members and you may donate your "postage" to the Good Shepherd Ministry.



CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRY

It has been a busy fall for our youth and children's ministry and it will continue into the holiday season.

Our **Christmas wrapping fundraiser** will be **Saturday, December 13 from 10:00a to 1:00p**. Our youth Christmas party will be held immediately after at the Wasdin's.

Finally college students, we will take you out to lunch **Sunday, January 4** immediately after worship! It is free and we will go to Pueblo Viejo in Hillsborough. ~ Cookie, Teah, John and Kevin

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)

ORANGE CONGREGATIONS IN MISSION

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Canned Vegetables
Canned Pasta / Pinto Beans
Macaroni & Cheese
Fruit Bars / Canned Fruit
Applesauce / Oatmeal / Jelly
Canned Chicken / Rice

Soups / Cereal / Crackers
Pasta Sauce / Beef Stew
Mayonnaise / Deodorant
Toothbrushes / Toothpaste
Toilet Paper / Baby Wipes
Laundry Detergent

STEWARDSHIP

2025	October	Year-to-Date
General Budget Income	\$15,846	\$173,512
Budget Need	<u>\$19,740</u>	<u>\$212,205</u>
Difference	(\$ 3,894)	(\$ 38,693)

2025	October	Year-to-Date
General Budget Income	\$15,846	\$173,512
October Expenses	<u>\$14,178</u>	<u>\$144,371</u>
Difference	\$1,668	\$ 29,141

Property Renovation Fund - \$14,469

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

To provide an opportunity for members to study the 2026 proposed budget, copies are being mailed in the coming days.

Questions will be addressed at the **December 14, 2025** Business Meeting (following the Morning Worship Service). A vote to approve the proposed budget will be taken by secret ballot at a **Called Business Meeting on Sunday, January 4, 2026.**

Please be in prayer as you consider your tithes and offerings for the coming year.

Those Needing Our Prayers...

Georgia Barnette	Joseph Dennard	Brenda Redman
Ronda Barton	Wendy Dixon	Peggy Rhodes
Edna Berry	Judy Hanson	Ridge Riley
Donna Chamberlain	Brittany Harper	Robbe Riley
Bill Clayton	Lucille King	Rosa Shambley
Byrum Clayton	Peggy Parker	Crystal Wasdin
Ruth Crispin	Betty Jane Poole	Bob & Virginia Winecoff

Brookdale - Bonnie Andrews

TerraBella - Joyce Dennis

Friends Home Assisted Living - Betty Fera

Home Hospice Care - Sue Johnson (David Morton's MIL)

Pray for

Reverend Scott Wasdin and our Church

The Personnel and Nominating Committees

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 and 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



Operation Christmas Child

140 Shoeboxes packed

\$1412 Collected for Shipping

Thank you to everyone who helped make this project a success!



December 13; 10:00a-1:00p
Gift Wrapping Youth
Fundraiser

OUTREACH

Christmas is the time of year when we celebrate God's most gracious and significant reaching out, his "outreach", to humanity. The incarnation of his son provided us the opportunity to be redeemed from our sin. No greater gift could be given to us.

Jesus challenges us to reach out to the world. To minister to the poor, the widows, and the prisoners in our midst. We must be true to that challenge.

On November 16, our church sponsored a Sunday night worship service at Orange Correctional Center. Approximately 70 men attended the worship service. Pastor Scott brought the message to the men and to the volunteers that were present. Thank you for supporting this outreach effort, the desserts, and snacks that many of you provided brought a lot of joy to the men. They really appreciate being remembered!

There are many other opportunities for service in our community. The need for food is great. Orange Congregations in Missions (OCIM) operates a thrift store and food pantry. Our church has cooperated with them for many years. Food collection boxes are placed around the church for your convenience. If you would like to contribute food for the food bank. The need is great!

The Tri-West Baptist Network also has a food bank and they sponsor a special Christmas Toy Store that provides gifts to families in need. Flyers describing the toy store ministry will be posted in the church with further information.

Thank you for your past support of various ministry outreach projects in our community.

Merry Christmas!! ~ Steve

Pastor:
Secretary:

Scott Wasdin
Peggy Mason

Church Office

Hours: Monday–Friday 9 am–11:30 am

Phone: 919-383-2982

Email: mounthermondurham@gmail.com

Website: mounthermondurham.org

Pastor Scott's Email: swasdin@gmail.com

Pastor Scott's Phone: 423-637-5813

Please keep church office informed of change of address.

MOUNT HERMON BAPTIST CHURCH
4511 OLD NC 10
DURHAM, NC 27705

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Birthdays & Anniversaries

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

12/02 Chris Lewis	12/21 Louis Tedder
12/02 John Mark Frederick	12/25 Jesus Christ
12/05 Catalina Gonzalez	12/25 Wendy Riley
12/06 Mike Ostoyich	12/25 David Parrott
12/17 Elizabeth Millar	12/26 Lisa Parrott

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

01/08 Ivan Serrano	01/20 Dean Bidgood
01/17 James Compton	01/22 Janice Thompson
01/19 Dean Dixon	

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

**Holiday Potluck
and Brown Bag Christmas Pageant**

**Join us for a holiday potluck on
Wednesday, December 17th @ 5:00p.**

The Wasdins will bring a pot of white chicken chili. Please bring your favorite holiday hor d'oeuvre, dessert or drink.

After the meal, everyone is welcome to participate in a very unusual Nativity: The Brown Bag Christmas Pageant. It's unusual because everyone will have role. What will your role be? Come and find out!

♪ *Music Ministry* ♪



Sunday, December 21, 2025 - 11:00 am

As Christmas draws near, you are invited to join us for a celebration of hope, light, and promise. This special service of Lessons & Carols will weave together scripture, song, and reflection in a reverent retelling of the Christmas story.

There's no better time to extend to others the warmth of our fellowship. A simple invitation could be the light someone needs this season.