

CHURCH EVENTS

March 1

Lord's Supper
1:30p Deacons' Mtg.

March 4

5:00p Potluck Dinner

March 7

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

March 8

Time Change
Spring Forward

March 14

10:30a Annual Foosball
Tournament

March 15

Business Meeting

March 19-20

CBF Annual Meeting

March 24

Newsletter Input Due

March 29

Palm 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

MARCH DEACON MINISTRY:

Steve Couch / John Frederick

OCC ITEM OF THE MONTH:

LOTION

OCIM ITEM OF THE MONTH:

DRY PASTA / PASTA SAUCE

Mount Hermon Baptist Church



sprout



grow



bearfruit

March
2026

Pastor's Pen

Greetings to my brothers and sisters in Christ. We don't celebrate Lent like we do Advent. We don't put up a Lent tree or decorate our homes with Lenten lights. I suppose it's not that sort of season. Lent calls us to quiet reflection, fasting, sacrifice, repentance and gratitude toward our Savior who walked steadfastly to the cross where He saved us from our sins.

Our culture also doesn't embrace Lent like it does Thanksgiving or Christmas. We live in a world that celebrates success and self-confidence, not surrender and devotion. For those outside the church, contemplating the suffering and death of Jesus doesn't make sense. It doesn't fit with the values and ambitions of the world. In these ways, Lent invites us to set ourselves apart from the culture around us, even as it calls us to pray for those who have not yet received Jesus as Lord.

You may notice as we go through the weeks leading up to Easter that we will sing more hymns about the cross and that I will preach about God's grace made visible through Jesus. I hope these Lenten themes help focus your heart on Jesus' sacrifice and on His call to take up your cross as you follow Him.

You may also think about fasting during Lent. For some believers, fasting is a common devotional practice during this season, as people give up certain foods or activities to symbolize the sacrifice Christ made for us. Fasting from a favorite food may be helpful for your spiritual life, but let me suggest a few other Lenten fasts that can nourish your soul and may also impact the world around us.

For example, you could fast from dwelling on anxious thoughts and negative ideas. It's hard to break the cycle of negativity, especially when the world is drowning in it, but God invites you to bring your needs and worries to Him. He can help you overcome fear, replacing anxious thoughts with the peace that passes understanding. When worries rise in your mind, turn quickly to God in prayer and give thanks for all the blessings He provides.

You could fast from arguing and expressing your opinion, especially on political topics that have divided our nation and torn families apart. There's nothing wrong with feeling strongly about certain issues and political agendas. We Americans like having opinions and cherish the right to express them, but sometimes holding your tongue is wise. Sometimes it's best to make peace instead of winning an argument.

Similarly, you could fast from posting unkind or judgmental comments online. Humans have invented countless ways to hurt each other, and now we've added social media to the list. While you fast from posting hurtful comments, perhaps you could also fast from reading and sharing what others post. You could fast from putting yourself first and from insisting you get your way. Jesus told us that in His kingdom the first will come last and the last will be first. He cautioned us against selfish ambitions and self-seeking demands. Instead, Jesus told us to put the needs of others ahead of our own and to lay down our lives for our friends.

The weeks leading up to Good Friday bring our Lord's suffering and death into focus for us. However you choose to celebrate Lent, I hope you will dedicate yourself all year long to honoring Jesus and remembering the sacrifice He made on your behalf. May you know God's truth and experience His grace, and may the good news of Jesus continue to radiate from your life and from our church. Grace and peace be with you, Pastor Scott

DISCIPLESHIP

Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true. That statement comes from Acts 17:11. After Paul and his fellow missionaries had run into true difficulties in Thessalonica, they were taken to Berea.

It's interesting to see such a small mention that continues to have such a huge significance for us today. Advent and Lent are very important seasons for preparation of the heart to celebrate focal events in the life of our Savior. However, it's easy to look around and be tainted by things going on in the world around us and become slanted toward a protest or counter-protest of the events we see. Rather than lamenting our culture, as Christians, it's our duty to dig into the Bible and search for what it says about the kinds of events that challenge us.

That challenge isn't something we have to undertake alone. Hopefully, you are realizing the benefit of a small group either through a Sunday School Class, mid-week worship or possibly another random group of believers from different congregations. In those scenarios, we develop trusted friends that have also read and are reading the scriptures to determine the direction their lives should take. We're blessed with the opportunity to be able to rub elbows with one another and compare notes on God's revelations to us.

I'll have to confess that what set this line of thinking in motion was the simple title of one of the Lent devotionals reviewed in preparing to move into this Lenten season. Rather than responding to points that some may find to be divisive we need to be like the Bereans and dig back into scripture for instruction. The parable of the good Samaritan is without a doubt the best illustration of how we should respond to our fellow man. I encourage you to find that parable during this time of Lent and keep it in mind along with the other readings you may be undertaking. Share with one another how it speaks to you today. ~ Bill Butler

2026 Baptist Missions Conference Hickory Grove Baptist Church in Charlotte, NC April 10-11, 2026



A great line up of speakers; Jennifer Rothschild, Tom Richter, Lee Strobel, and Tim Tebow, Laura Story will be leading our worship. We'll have 100 different breakout sessions, the Friday missions supper, personal testimonies, exhibits and much more.

COST

Friday only - \$20; optional Friday supper - \$10
Friday and Saturday - \$35; optional Friday supper - \$10
Saturday only - \$20

REGISTER

For registration, hotel information and additional details call 919-459-5596.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

March 29: Palm Sunday

April 2: Maundy Thursday Service
at 7:00p

April 3: Good Friday Service at 7:00p

April 5: Easter Sunday
7:30a Sunrise Service
8:15a Potluck Breakfast
(No Small Groups)
10:00a Worship Service

Upcoming Youth Event:

Discipleship Now
April 24-25

Watch for more information to come.

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.

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

STEWARDSHIP

2026	January	Year-to-Date
General Budget Income	\$ 6,082	\$ 6,082
Budget Need	<u>\$19,576</u>	<u>\$19,576</u>
Difference	(\$13,494)	(\$ 13,494)
2026	January	Year-to-Date
General Budget Income	\$ 6,082	\$ 6,082
January Expenses	<u>\$16,338</u>	<u>\$ 16,338</u>
Difference	(\$ 10,256)	(\$ 10,256)
Property Renovation Fund - \$15,854		



Steve Clayton	A-B
John Frederick	C-Dem
Shaina Riley	Den-G
Steve Couch	H-L
Janice Thompson	M-O
Bill Butler	P-R
Peggy Mason	S-Z



March 8 @ 2:00a

Those Needing Our Prayers...

Georgia Barnette	Ruth Crispin	Peggy Rhodes
Ronda Barton	Joseph Dennard	Ridge Riley
Edna Berry	Brittany Harper	Robbe Riley
Donna Chamberlain	Lucille King	Rosa Shambley
Alice Clayton	Mark King	Anna Stevens
Bill Clayton	Peggy Parker	Renee Thomas
Byram Clayton	Betty Jane Poole	Crystal Wasdin
		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 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 and victims of violence

AROUND THE WORLD

Peace in Ukraine and Israel and an end to all wars
 The people of Iran and the Christians in Nigeria
 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

Easter Missions Offering - Alamance Orange Prison Ministry

Mount Hermon has a long history of involvement with the Alamance Orange Prison Ministry (AOPM). Our Easter Offering goes to support the ministry. AOPM helps prepare correctional residents at Orange Correctional Center for successful reintegration into their communities and families upon release.

Your offering will be used to support this meaningful ministry. Our church goal is \$2,000. The ministry receives no direct government funding. AOPM relies on churches and individuals to provide funding to support a full-time chaplain and provide other services to the incarcerated men. Please participate in this ministry through your prayers and financial support.



~ Undies Madness ~ Meeting Essential Needs with Compassion

At our February meeting, we had a great time assembling gifts for teachers and instructional assistants at two local schools. These educators work tirelessly to support students with diverse learning needs, and we wanted to recognize their compassion, creativity, and commitment. Thanks to those who contributed through hands-on help or cash donations.

Our next meeting will be at **9:00 am on Saturday, March 7**. We will share a light breakfast, spend time in prayer and hear a devotion. We will also prepare care kits for this month's project, "**Undies Madness**" to benefit residents at the **Durham Rescue Mission's Good Samaritan Inn**.

Supplies for this project have purchased, and you are once again invited to help cover the cost (goal: \$320). Donations can be made directly to Kathryn or Janice or by marking "Ladies Fellowship" on offering envelopes.

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!

