

CHURCH EVENTS

SERVE NC
August 1-8

August 1

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

August 2

Lord's Supper

August 5

5:00p Potluck Dinner

August 15

Burlington Park Outing

August 17

6:00p Church Council

August 23

Back to School Party

Looking Ahead

September 2

5:00p Potluck Dinner

September 5

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

September 6

Lord's Supper

September 13

HOMECOMING 2026

Guest Preacher:
Rev. John DeWitt



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

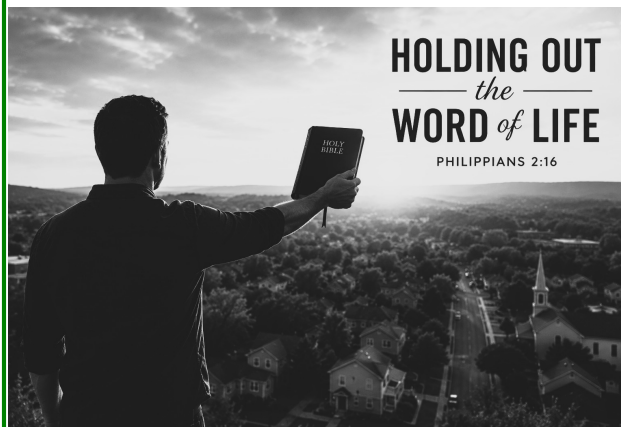


grow



bearfruit

August
2026



A Drone's View: **Holding Out the Word of Life**

As our Sunday morning Bible study has journeyed through Philippians, one phrase has continued to challenge us: "holding out the Word of Life" (Philippians 2:16).

Depending on the translation, Paul uses phrases such as holding forth, holding out, offering, or presenting the gospel—a gift to be shared with one another and

with the community around us. Other translations use *holding fast* or *holding firmly*, emphasizing spiritual endurance and personal holiness that ultimately lead us to share Christ with others.

Mount Hermon has always been a church that values worship, fellowship, missions, and discipleship. Those strengths are worth celebrating. Yet perhaps God is calling us to lift our eyes and take a "drone's view" of the mission field He has placed around us.

Within just a half-mile of Mount Hermon are approximately 125 homes. Expand that circle to one mile, and there are nearly 600 homes and families. The big idea is simple: God has entrusted us with this responsibility.

For 178 years, generations of believers have faithfully carried the light of Christ from this corner. While the world around us has changed and church involvement no longer comes as naturally to many families, our mission remains the same. We must continue finding new ways to hold out the hope, love, and truth of Jesus to our community.

As we seek God's direction in this new season, may we refocus on our mission, renew our vision, embrace a strategy, and become excited once again about being a lighthouse for those around us.

Together, let us cling to the Word, share the Word, and advance the Word of Life.

~ Steve Couch

DEACONS

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

OCC ITEM OF THE MONTH LOTION

OCIM ITEM OF THE MONTH: CANNED VEGETABLES

AUGUST DEACON MINISTRY:
Peggy Mason/Janice Thompson

SAVE THE DATE

HOMECOMING 2026

September 13

Guest Preacher:
Rev. John DeWitt

Services available on CD upon request and on our YouTube Channel

DISCIPLESHIP

We've been studying Moses and the Exodus on Wednesday evenings. Our transitional situation reminds us of a few verses in Exodus 2.

²³ During those many days the king of Egypt died, and the people of Israel groaned because of their slavery and cried out for help. Their cry for rescue from slavery came up to God. ²⁴ And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. ²⁵ God saw the people of Israel—and God knew.

As disciples of Christ, we should be in contact with God about our joys and pain. It's important to note in the verses above that it doesn't mention just a few people, it says, the people. It's important in our corporate prayer that we unite in prayer over our concerns about our community of believers. It's not just the issue that we pray about. We may get a grand idea and think, that's it, that's the solution to our problems. Then we go off and proceed to make a mess of it because we haven't relied on God to lead us through the execution of the plan.

At some point in our lives, most of us have heard, "be careful what you ask for, you may get it." There's an example of that in Numbers 11. Many will remember the Israelites wandering in the desert, being fed by manna and yet becoming weary of a gift from God. The people again cried out but it was obvious they didn't appreciate the gift of manna, they wanted meat. God gave them quail but apparently the quail were ill and many died from eating the meat. The lesson is that we need to carefully discern what the Lord has given us and whether we're being thankful and appropriate stewards of those gifts.

So, in this time, please individually and corporately pray for the Lord's discernment and then cry out to the Lord for what has been revealed as a legitimate need.

Be steadfast in your faith and prayers. The Lord will provide what's good for His people. ~ Bill Butler

OUTREACH

Good Shepherd Ministry Notes and Prayer Requests -Guatemala

There is a lot happening in the ministry. We are especially moved by the new missions the NC Light the Way missionaries have begun in Barraneche, Totonicapan and Sta. Cruz del Quiché. We support and work with these incredible brothers and sisters in the Lord and appreciate your prayers and help for this ministry. We are stepping out in faith by renting a small house for the Sta. Cruz new church in July.

We ask you to pray every day for these two new missions. Missions are very hard to start and maintain and require dedication and hard work. We thank the Lord for His Hand of blessing on these new missions. Pray for the missionaries' safety and health. If you want to help the national missionaries, please write us and we will give you more information. *(Those of us that have been to Guatemala have gotten to know and love our brother in Christ, Marvin. He is our "chauffeur" and friend as we travel around Guatemala. He recently had emergency surgery and needs our help. Steve Clayton)*

Marvin's surgery: This took us all by surprise. The nature of the surgery is personal and critical. That was this past Saturday (from an email received Tuesday, July 21) He is now recovering. So far, so good. Please keep him in your prayers. I want to ask a favor from you too. His bills are around Q47,000, which is \$6000. Would you consider giving to help in his time of need? Should we have extra funds, we will put them aside for a future medical emergency for our workers.

Love to each one of you. Thank you for standing with Good Shepherd Ministries in prayer. We need your prayers. Roger and Vicki Grossman. ~ 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

MUSIC MINISTRY

After some initial user (i.e. mark simonsen)-related hiccups with the iPads and other new technologies we are trying to initiate for the accompanying instrumentalists, we are starting to experience the benefits of not shuffling around so much paper. Our Wednesday evening choir rehearsals continue to be filled with sweet music and joy. I am thankful to the entire leadership team including the choir for all of the positive encouragement and support. Also, there's been lots of excellent feedback from the congregation to whom I would extend a welcome to join us either Wednesday evenings for rehearsal or Sunday mornings for worship leadership. If you don't feel like you can contribute as a singer or instrumentalist, there may be other ways you can contribute, including sitting peacefully and enjoying the music. A congregational request has been made to receive unfamiliar music prior to the Sunday morning service to hear and maybe even practice. If you would like to be on a list to receive prior knowledge of less familiar music, please don't hesitate to contact us.

STEWARDSHIP

2026	June	Year-to-Date
General Budget Income	\$14,373	\$114,854
Budget Need	<u>\$19,676</u>	<u>\$127,519</u>
Difference	(\$ 5,303)	(\$12,665)

2026	June	Year-to-Date
General Budget Income	\$14,373	\$114,854
June Expenses	<u>\$14,876</u>	<u>\$100,563</u>
Difference	(\$ 503)	\$14,291

Property Renovation Fund - \$18,358
Roof Campaign Funds \$1,983

The roof replacement and the parsonage mold remediation have been completed. A campaign to cover as much of this expense as possible will run until Dec. 31. Pray for the financial health of the church.

**Raise the Roof
Campaign.
Goal \$50,000.**



Those Needing Our Prayers...

Georgia Barnette	Ruth Crispin	Ridge Riley
Ronda Barton	Martha Kay Hall	Robbe Riley
Edna Berry	Judy Hanson	Wendy Riley
Donna Chamberlain	Brittany Harper	Levirn Shoffner
Alice Clayton	Betty Jane Poole	Anna Stevens
Byram Clayton	Peggy Rhodes	Bob & Virginia Winecoff

Brookdale - Bonnie Andrews
Terra Bella (Hillsborough) - Joyce Dennis
Friends Home Assisted Living - Betty Fera
Home Hospice Care - Sue Johnson
Harmony House - Lucille King
Home Hospice Care - Rosa Shambley

The family of Bill Clayton
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
Victims of violence

AROUND THE WORLD

Peace in Ukraine and Israel and an end to all war
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

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace:

1 Peter 4:10



Raise the Roof

Mount Hermon Baptist Church

Campaign Goal:

\$50,000 by December 31, 2026

Purpose: To help cover the cost of our recent roof replacement—caring for our church so our ministries can continue serving our congregation and community.

Ways to Give:

- Online: mounthermondurham.org
- By Mail: 4511 Old NC 10, Durham, NC 27705
- In Person: Offering envelopes marked "Roof"

Your generosity helps cover God's house and strengthens our mission.



mounthermon
Baptist Church

In June the roof of our church was replaced at a total cost of \$112,561.75.

To help replenish a portion of these funds, we have launched a "Raise the Roof" campaign with a goal of \$50,000 by year's end. Reaching this goal will only be possible through your generosity and partnership.

Use the QR code to access the giving link on the church website.

You may also mail a check to the church with "roof repair" noted, or place a designated gift in the offering plate—either by marking your regular offering envelope or using a special envelope available at the church.

Contributions to the "Raise the Roof" campaign should be in addition to your regular giving to the General Budget.

Every contribution, large or small, is deeply appreciated as we invest together in the future of Mount Hermon Baptist Church.

The Stewardship Committee

Pastor:
Secretary:

Peggy Mason

Church Office

Hours: Monday–Friday 9 am–11:30 am
Phone: 919-383-2982
Email: mounthermondurham@gmail.com

Please keep church office informed of change of address.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

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

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

08/05 Kevin & Teah Shinn
08/31 Mike & Sandra Shambley

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

09/23 Sherry Stone 09/28 Tim Thompson

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

09/10 Ivan & Catalina Serrano

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

“Fill the Truck” Update

July 25th was another successful “Fill the Truck” for OCIM. We collected 279 lbs of food and staples for our neighbors in need!

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

Church Goal: \$2,000

College Student of the Month: Zemirah Washington

Starting this month we will be collecting for our college students beginning with a new youth group member.

Zemirah will be continuing her education at Durham Tech.

A collection box is located in the main hall.

CHILDREN and YOUTH

My take on our trip to Boone. First, it started with a blessing. We arrived safely, unpacked and set up and then went to eat at Cracker Barrel. Found out that a lot of places are closed on Sunday in Boone. We were spread across three sets of tables. Lots of conversation, lots of laughter. Our presence was felt in a good way. A man and his wife were sitting behind one of our tables and they asked what we were doing in Boone. The guys at the table told them that we were there to do Hurricane Helene Relief work. He thanked us for coming and left. Soon he came back and handed a Cracker Barrel gift card to them and said it was to help buy lunch.

Now, in my limited mind, I'm thinking the card was for \$50-100. I had three receipts to pay for. There was a problem with the first receipt and they had to take it back. So I paid for the other two while we were waiting thinking to myself that I would use the gift card to pay for part of the last receipt, \$165.89. I handed her the gift card with my credit card ready to pay the remainder and she handed me the receipt and said “You still have \$134.11 on this gift card. I was stunned, standing with my mouth opened, asking, “How much was the card for?” “Was it the man that bought one a few minutes ago?” I nodded my head. “It was for \$300”.

God showed up greatly through this blessing and in little ways all week. With the exception of a little rain, well maybe a lot of rain, the youth worked hard and had fun and got along well. We've been invited to come back to help with Baptists on Mission and we've been invited to stay at Rutherwood Baptist Church. That does not always happen.

Thank you, church, for your generosity during fundraisers for our youth. Without it some of our kids would not have been able to afford to go. You are planting seeds of faith in each of their hearts. I have the blessing of watching it grow. This church is something special!

Not to forget our younger kids, we will be going back to the Burlington Park and Amusement area on August 15th, meeting there at 10:00 for fun and a picnic and finishing at Smitty's for ice cream. This is a family time, so come on out and enjoy the fun! ~ Cookie



We had a wonderful time at Spring Glen in June. Thanks to all who helped to bring joy to the residents there.

All ladies are invited to join us for our next gathering at 9:00 am on Saturday, August 1. We'll enjoy a light breakfast, a short devotion, and meaningful time together. We'll also begin preparing for upcoming outreach projects (look for more detailed information in group texts).

We hope to see you there!

For questions, contact Janice Thompson.