

# Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church

3600 Hwy 601 S  
Concord, NC 28025

## March 2022 Newsletter

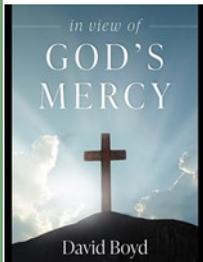


### A message from Pastor Emily

Growing up in North Carolina, March has always been synonymous with March Madness. Basketball fever hits this state as everyone cheers on their favorite teams, whether you root for UNC, NC State, Duke, Wake Forest, or a potential Cinderella team like Davidson. Brackets are created, watching parties are held, wins and losses occur.



But March is also linked with the season of Lent. The time of the church year when we have an opportunity to reflect, to move through the season more slowly, when we ponder the life of Christ, and how we are called to love others in a Christ-like way. Many people give up things for Lent modeling Christ's sacrifice. They sacrifice something they love like: chocolate, alcohol, social media, sodas. But giving up these things pales in comparison to the ultimate sacrifice Christ made for us.



This year I have a challenge for all of us. Instead of giving up something, I want us to take something on. We have devotion books available for us to use throughout the season of Lent. You will find them in the narthex. They are entitled: *In View of God's Mercy*. There is a line of scripture, a short reflection, and a prayer for every day. How impactful will this be if this whole church is reflecting on the same thing every day? What new insights will we gain from being in community together diving into God's word daily?

We will also study a book together: *Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers* by Anne Lamott. We will talk about our prayer relationship with God and practice ways of thinking outside the box in terms of prayer. Come participate if you pray every day or come to learn how to begin an active prayer life. More information on page 6.

I look forward to walking through Lent together with you this year. As Christ journeys toward the cross, may we also take on new challenges and grow in our faith. Remember that we never walk alone, and I'll be right there beside you the whole way!

God's Peace,

Pastor Emily



MOUNT HERMON LUTHERAN CHURCH  
MEETING OF CONGREGATION COUNCIL  
FEBRUARY 17, 2022

Our Congregation Council met Thursday evening to address the following matters:

President Kitty Smith called the meeting to order at 6:30 and a quorum was verified. Pastor Emily challenged us with the words of Luke 6 to love our enemies and do good to those who hate us.

The Minutes of the January meeting were approved as submitted by Secretary Karyn Dalton.

Mike Linker attended as a guest to discuss Mt. Hermon's Constitution and Bylaws as they pertain to our annual budget and expenditures.

Jo-Ann Popham attended as Mt. Hermon's newly-elected Treasurer and discussed instructions for tellers and financial information. Mark Jones also attended as the outgoing Treasurer. We discussed additional financial issues and applauded him for his years of service..

Pastor Emily reported on her activities during her first month in office, including worship services, Bible studies, female clergy text studies, workshops and Synodical functions on Reconciliation and Lectionary Study for Lent, planning sessions with the 10:55 Alive group to add new band members and discuss shared activities, and visits and calls with members.

President Kitty Smith shared the excitement of members and volunteers who are working with and donating funds to assist in the completion of the Coffee House kitchen renovation. She also reported on the restroom renovations and encourages members to continue their donations to these projects in order to lessen the cost to our church.

She also reported on the details of the upcoming Installation Worship Service and catered dinner for Pastor Emily at 3:00 this afternoon. We certainly encourage your attendance in her support.

If any of you would like to speak to Congregation Council at any scheduled meeting, please notify her at least 2 weeks in advance.

Mark Jones submitted the Treasurer's report. As of January 31, 2022, we have \$196,694.00 Total Cash on Hand, which includes \$102,164.00 in unrestricted funds, and \$94,630 in restricted funds. Our expenses were below budget for the month of January at \$14,472.00, leaving a positive cash flow of \$2,300.00.

Mike Faggart reported for the Property Team that projects have been undertaken in the education building including blown insulation, HVAC repairs, new breaker installation, and attention to a new water leak in the bell tower. Plans are underway to replace the rotten wood in the roof around the tower and also around the windows.

COUNCIL MINUTE CONTINUED...

Coffee House kitchen renovation is their current priority. Nancy Jones is getting quotes for the columbarium. Jim Doorley is heading up plans to replace the shrubbery around the main entrance to the sanctuary.

Elaine Vincent reported for Laurie Gleason that WELCA is furnishing dinner for the families at My Father's House on February 21 and will be assisting for Adopt-A-Room there, Bold Women Sunday is February 27, and the WELCA quarterly meeting is March 6.

A review and discussion of the Redevelopment Team was tabled.

Since Cheryl Opel is now part of the 10:55 Alive band, Rachael Kennedy volunteered to assist with training and working with our acolytes as a member of the Altar Guild.

Our policy on child safety will be revisited by Greg Popham, Rachael Kennedy, and Marie Grochoske to follow the guidelines as set out in "Safe Gatherings," an online abuse prevention program offered by the North Carolina Lutheran Synod that screens and educates staff and volunteers to help prevent abuse of children, youth and vulnerable adults. The price per applicant is \$37 for application, background and reference checks and online training program for 3 years. Barbara Linker, Nancy Jones, Zach and Melissa Fox, Cheryl Opel, Shelly Cooke, Rachael Kennedy, Tim Bolick, Ross Gosse, Steve Sousley, and Linda Woodard were selected to participate in this program. Council approved the cost of this program to be paid by our congregation.

President Kitty Smith introduced and Council approved purchasing a program known as Instant Church Directory for \$9.99 monthly, by which we ourselves can organize and maintain an online membership directory.

Mike Faggart suggested, and Council approved, returning our Bibles and ELW Hymnals to the sanctuary pews.

As is our custom, we prayed for each member and friend of the congregation individually by name, and closed with praying together The Lord's Prayer.

President Kitty Smith stated that the next Council meeting will be held March 17 and closed the meeting with a Motion To Adjourn at 8:36 pm.

Installation of  
The Rev. Emily  
Campbell Lemoine  
February 20, 2021



# Prime Time Events with Pastor Emily

Pastor Emily would love to have a full calendar of events. That's where you come into play. Starting in March, Pastor Emily is beginning a program entitled **Prime Time Events with Pastor Emily**. If you have an event coming up that you would like to invite Pastor Emily to, all you have to do is call the church or email her (PastorEmily@mounthermonchurch.org) to give her the info: day, time, place. She will then contact you to make sure the information is correct, let you know she's available, and she will put it on her calendar. Events can include (but is not limited to...): lunch or coffee dates, a walk in the park for a chat, a home visit, a school sporting event, a ballet or piano recital, a play date, or anything else you can think of. Pastor Emily wants to get to know you all better, and these are perfect ways to do just that. Get your **Prime Time Event** on her calendar today!!



LET'S GET SOCIAL!

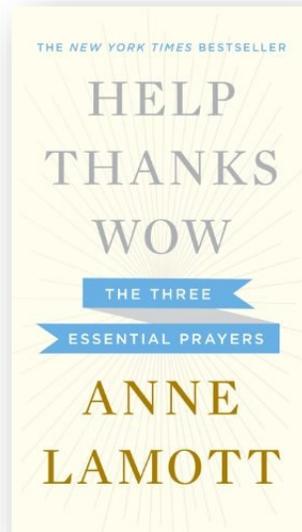


# OUR 10:55 ALIVE BAND!! COME TAKE A LISTEN!



You know them all...Keith, Cheryl, Cadence, Tyler, David Diane, Audrey. They sound great. Come take a listen at the 10:55 service!

# Lenten Book Study



A wonderful book study has been planned for five weeks during the season of Lent. We will read and discuss Essential Prayers. We will Anne Lamott's book Help Thanks Wow The 3 be introduced to these three prayers many of us have used in our conversation with God: help, thanks, and wow. We will be challenged to think about how these three different prayers affect our relationship with God and with others. We will discover that our prayers make more of a difference in how we begin to view the world around us.

It is these three prayers – asking for assistance from a higher power, appreciating what we have that is good, and feeling awe at the world around us – that can get us through the day and can show us the way forward. In Help, Thanks, Wow Lamott recounts how she came to these insights, explains what they mean to her and how they have helped, and explores how others have embraced these same ideas.

We will meet in the Coffee House on Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm from March 9 through April 6. We will also have a Zoom link provided for those who need to participate from home. Pastor Emily Lemoine is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

<https://zoom.us/j/96467964943?pwd=MEtNTEQ2dDBuNis3VU9oOEVDZ1U4dz09>

<https://tinyurl.com/mr2xskcn>

Pick up your book in the office



WELCA has been busy in February –My Father House Dinner (21) and Bold Woman Sunday (27)... Would like to Thank all who participated..

March is even busier. March 6<sup>th</sup> we are inviting the congregation to a Pot Luck Dinner 5 PM with a speaker from CCM—Debra Garcia—She will be talking about CCM Programs , especially My Father House and Mother/Child House.. We will be collecting donations the month of March for “Adopt A Room”.. List of items will be available at dinner.. Come to dinner—enjoy good fellowship, good food, and information about program we support. Please bring a dish to pass and donation of personal care or cleaning supply.. Thank you.. We could not do what we do without congregation support.. Thank you ..God is Good..

# Our Youth at Work...



The Mt. Hermon Youth Group entered into a video contest with the NC Synod called “2022 Tell It!”. The following is a response from the NC Synod office:

A message from Catherine Fin, NC Synod Director of Communications & Resources:

Dear Mt. Hermon Youth Group,

Greetings!

The Engage the Bible Task Group of the NC Synod would like to thank the youth of Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church for your efforts in putting together your entry for the 2022 Tell It! Video Contest. It is a creative telling of the Lost Sheep.

We are thankful for your willingness to engage the Bible by participating in Tell It! And hope that the process itself was a blessing to your youth group and your congregation. In recognition, the Engage the Bible Task Group is sending \$100.00 for your youth group to be used any way you choose (safely, of course!).”

The video will be posted to the YouTube channel soon. Here are some photos of the last scene where Tyler Opel, Owen Fox, Gideon Sousley and Brett Gosse celebrate when the lost sheep (played by Cyrus Sousley) returns with the shepherd (played by Lucas Fox). And a scene where Anthony DiBernardo helped with.





Vera Doorley	3/1
Paul Hurley	3/3
Brooklyn Ennis	3/6
Annette York	3/6
Roxanne Fox	3/10
Blaine Walsh	3/11
Diane Olszewski	3/13
Emily Faggart	3/15
Annie Stancil	3/19
Mitch Simpson	3/21
Deac Dawson	3/24
Kenny Mizelle	3/27
Keith Opel	3/21

Gary & Diane Frank

3/5

Tim & Ann Bolick

3/28

John & LeRene Brantley

3/30

If I missed a  
birthday or  
anniversary, please  
let me know.





### ***JESUS IS OUR STRONG FOUNDATION***

***We are finishing the lesson of “The Prodigal Son” (The Lost Son) and how God’s promise for us is that He will always be there for us no matter what. The lost son in the story learns the value of love and his father being there for him. We also played gameboards with the “Lost Son” theme. A mini-movie on the parable and games on the computer rounded out our activities for this month. The children also labeled cans to put in the “Free Little Pantry” and sent valentines to our senior church members. Sunday School packets will go home to those who were not able to come during February.***

***In March, the children will be looking into the foundation of LOVE. With the season of Lent, we see Jesus as a servant to all, especially in the washing of the disciples’ feet at the Last Supper. Jesus demonstrates the ultimate example of LOVE when he takes on our sins and dies for us. LOVE is the strongest of the foundation blocks of our faith. May we show Christ’s love to others and be Christ-like servants to all.***

***We would love to have all the children participate in Sunday School each Sunday. Parents remember the baptismal promise you made for your children to bring them to church for worship and studying His word. Family members of Mt. Hermon, remember to support these children in their faith journey through prayer and encouragement.***

***Love and God’s peace,***

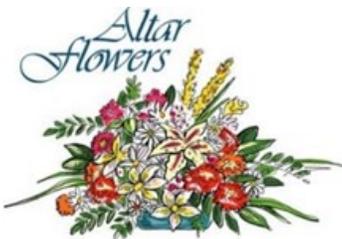
***Barbara Linker and Nancy Jones***





*In Special Facilities:* Jeanine Woody (First Assembly Assisted Living), Peggy Morgan (5 Oaks Manor), Sylvia Faggart (Concord Place)

*Continued Prayers for:* Junior Barringer, Pr. Larry Yoder, John Hahn, Barry Granda, Tom and Kathy Kennedy, Kelly Tanner, Tim and Jeannie Burns, Kathy Benson (Eileen's mother), Louis Pokorney (Pastor Carrie's father), Brenda McCarn



**Altar Flower Sign-Ups for 2022 are now posted in the Narthex for your convenience.** Please consider signing up for a vase (or two). Each vase is \$27. Drop your check in the offering plate and designate as altar flowers. Please write clearly. We do not do Altar flowers during Lent.

# CCM DONATIONS

## March Needs

Boxes of CEREAL (each family gets a box of cereal with each visit)

Canned beans (any kind)

Jugs of washing detergent

Jelly

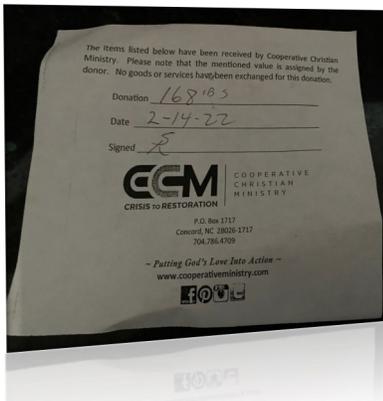
Toilet Tissue

12 count egg cartons

Plastic Bags

As always all bags of pet food are welcome. They will be delivered to the Human Society.

Thank you for your awesome donations. Keep up the good work!



# March Word Search

M	L	L	O	G	V	R	E	U	N	T	Y	<b>MARCH</b>
A	A	T	B	E	M	D	F	O	N	M	D	<b>INSTALLATION</b>
I	M	R	P	B	G	I	I	G	V	E	U	<b>ASHWEDNESDAY</b>
H	N	I	C	L	K	S	L	R	M	N	T	<b>SPRING</b>
O	P	S	Q	H	S	Y	R	A	S	T	S	<b>GRATEFUL</b>
J	U	V	T	A	W	A	X	T	Y	Z	K	<b>BOOKSTUDY</b>
A	B	C	P	A	D	R	L	E	N	T	O	<b>BIBLE/STUDY</b>
E	F	M	G	S	L	P	V	F	T	B	O	<b>SYNOD</b>
H	O	Y	S	H	B	L	M	U	O	P	B	<b>BIBLE</b>
C	V	G	H	W	K	E	A	L	L	L	G	<b>STUDY</b>
B	I	B	L	E	S	N	U	T	W	N	A	<b>LENT</b>
H	B	I	N	D	N	T	W	P	I	J	Y	<b>COMPASSION</b>
T	R	B	E	N	T	G	U	R	H	O	K	<b>PRAY</b>
O	P	L	N	E	Y	T	P	D	E	C	N	
F	R	E	B	S	N	S	H	Y	Y	T	R	
S	Y	N	O	D	R	F	G	H	H	N	M	
K	I	R	E	A	W	Q	S	X	C	V	G	
S	T	U	D	Y	G	B	B	H	N	N	M	



# CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS & COMMITTEES

Kitty Smith  
Steve Sousley  
Jo-Ann Popham  
Karyn Dalton  
Bonnie Walsh  
Elaine Vincent  
Greg Popham  
Jason Bumgarner  
Marie Grochoske  
Mike Faggart  
Rachael Kennedy  
Ross Gosse  
Valerie Frank

## **Finance Team**

Jo-Ann Popham – Treasurer  
Kitty Smith  
Ann Bolick  
Jo-Ann Popham  
Eileen Sousley

## **Property Team**

Danny Garmon  
Keith Opel  
Mike Faggart  
Rachael Kennedy

## **Worship**

JoAnn Foster - organist  
Chris Beaver – piano  
Brenda McCarn – piano & vocal  
Rachael Kennedy - keyboard  
Diane Frank – vocals & liturgy  
Valerie Frank – vocal  
Mike Fox – vocal  
Jay Perkins - vocal  
Melissa Fox/Nancy Jones – PowerPoint 9 am  
Bonnie Walsh – PowerPoint 10:55 am  
David Bowles - guitarist  
Diane Olszewski – vocal  
Cadence Olszewski – vocal  
Opel Family

President  
Vice President  
Treasurer  
Secretary

## **Evangelism Team**

Ross Gosse  
Bonnie Walsh

## **Daily Maintenance**

Tim Bolick  
Mike Faggart

## **Mission Team**

Ron Smith

## **Social Ministry**

Nanette Thompson

## **Visitation Team**

Karyn Dalton

## **Children's Ministry**

Barbara Linker  
Nancy Jones

## **Anniversary Team**

JoAnn Stowe

## **Fellowship Quilting**

JoAnn Stowe

## **Hospitality Committee**

Bonnie Walsh

## **WELCA**

Laurie Gleason

## **Worship Service Coordinators...**

Worship Assistants – Karyn Dalton  
Altar Guild – Patti Stowe  
Lay Readers – Ann Bolick  
Communion Assistants – Laurie Gleason  
Crucifer – Tim Bolick  
Acolyte— Rachael Kennedy

# *Meeting Times...*

Bible Study - Mondays @ 7 pm -- Zoom.com

Visiting Angels - First Thursday @ 2 pm - Coffee House

WELCA Meetings - First Thursday @ 10 am & 6:30 pm - Coffee House

Property/Safety Team Meeting - First Thursday of each month @ 6 pm

Social Committee - Second Tuesday @ 7 pm - Coffee House

Lutheran Men in Mission - Second Tuesday @ 7 pm - Parkway House

*Evangelism Team* - First Wednesday @ 2:00 pm via Google

Fellowship Quilters - Fourth Tuesday @ 10 am - Coffee House

Congregation Council Meetings - Third Thursday @ 6:30 pm

Adult Bible Sunday School - 10 am - Coffee House

Children's Sunday School - 10 am - Children's Building

*Youth (Middle & High School) Sunday School* - 10 am - Conference Room

## ***Congregation Council Leaders***

*Kitty Smith —President*  
*Steve Sousley —Vice President*  
*Karyn Dalton—Secretary*  
*Jo-Ann Popham—Treasurer*



# *March READINGS*

## *Lent*

- March 6 Deuteronomy 26:1-11, Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16; romans 10:8b-13;  
Luke 4:1-13*
- March 13 Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27; Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke  
13:31-35*
- March 20 Isaiah 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8; Psalm 63:1-8; 1 Corinthians 10:1-13;  
Luke13:1-9*
- March 27 Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 31; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3,  
11b-32*
- 



*April Newsletter*  
*March 29, 2022*

*Before you go... remember*

