

DISCIPLES MAKING A DIFFERENCE

October 2026

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

Save The Date

THE INSTALLATION OF
The Reverend Wade Roof

Bishop Elect

of the

South Carolina Synod

of the

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2026

10:30AM

ST. STEPHEN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

119 N. CHURCH ST.

LEXINGTON, SC 29072

2026 Save the Dates

Congregational Forum

October 24

November 15

Homecoming 2026

October 4th



Rooted in Faith

Bishop Wade Roof will be preaching and a covered dish Homecoming celebration will follow.

Homecoming Lunch:
Bring your best side
dish.

The Church will provide
brisket, tea, and
lemonade



Game Night

Friday, October 9th

5:30

in the Fellowship Hall

Chili and Cornbread are on the menu.

Bring your favorite games to teach
and share. Uno, Checkers, Spoons,

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Dear Mt. Hermon,

On behalf of the Mid-Carolina Daylily Society, thank you in advance for allowing us to host the Region 15 Daylily meeting at your church fellowship hall. It is a great facility, and we are very appreciative of your kindness.

Thanks again, Beverly Brewer, co-chair



Dear Church Family,

We will be forever grateful to all of you for your compassion, your many kind words, and the love shared with us when we all needed to be comforted following the death of our mother, Lauvenia Butts. The fellowship hall was beautifully decorated, and delicious snacks were prepared for our family and friends during the visitation before the service. We felt the love from the Care Team. We cherish the lovely cards and sentiments that you expressed. We thank you for being there for us. Your friendship is a gift to us.

Fondly, Debra and Dave Butts, Blenda and Tim Crout, Bryan Butts



A large donation of canned goods was donated by the **Pineview Ruritans Club** to our Food Pantry.

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THE HARVEST IS PLENTIFUL

³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸ therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." Matthew 9:36-38

As we enter the Fall season, I am often reminded of the faith of the farmers. Sometime in the summer, the farmer tills the soil, fertilizes, prepares, and then plants dried and dead-looking seeds into the ground. Not long after this burying of the seeds, God's work of bringing life from a seemingly dead seed happens as we see the crusty, hard soil crack, and a powerful sprout comes from the ground. That seed doesn't just sprout — it produces ears of corn, kernels still hidden inside the shucks. Only at harvest does the farmer know what that seed became. The farmer's trust in God, and the faith to plant and tend until the harvest, reminds me of what it means to live in complete trust in God through each of the seasons of our own lives.

As we continue reading Matthew's gospel and deepening our discipleship journey, we hear of workers in the vineyard — laborers who are promised a fair wage for a day's work, then quietly calculate what they might receive when they see how much the "latecomers" were paid. We hear, too, of workers who say they are going — and then never show up. Discipleship, like the harvest itself, asks something of us beyond fair calculation and good intentions. It asks trust, and it asks follow-through.

This October, we get to see God's work in His people here at the harvest! On **October 4th**, Mt. Hermon's Homecoming will celebrate what God has done through His child, Wade Roof, now Bishop of the SC Synod. On **October 24th**, we witness the official installation of Bishop Wade at St. Stephen's. On **October 25th**, we celebrate Reformation Sunday and Martin Luther's faithfulness in asking the hard questions and seeking biblical clarity — and that same day at 4:30, Mt. Hermon and Mt. Hebron will gather together at Mt. Hebron for a Harvest Festival.

There are so many opportunities this month to see the fruits of the harvest, and I hope to experience this gathering of the fruits together with you. As the workers in the vineyard remind us, being sent into the harvest calls for more than showing up in word — it calls for showing up in deed. This is what it means to live out Mt. Hermon's mission: **we go to make a difference in the world**. May this Fall harvest season be one where we go — faithfully, together — to be that difference.

Serving alongside you,

Pastor Gina

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CHURCH COUNCIL HAPPENINGS

Congregational Council Minutes August 9, 2026

ATTENDANCE: Present-Pastor Gina, Ronnie Fulmer, Al Stevens, Jamie Addison, Diane Boulware, Marion Leaphart, Melanie Jackson, Sherwood Garrett, Terry Swygert, Wayne Corley, Fran Bouknight, Jennifer Miller, Hayden Eargle, Frank Bouknight **Absent** –Jerry Price, Jamie Addison

DEVOTIONS: Wayne Corley led devotions

CARES AND CONCERNS: Prayers for: Jamie Addison, Kay Bryant, Erin & Joshua Bouknight, Cindy Maples, Skyler Miller

MEMBER CARE: NA

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Accepted as presented.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: June & July called meeting - Accepted as presented.

REPORTS:

- Pastor Gina: Report for July 2026 was submitted. PG thanked the leadership for handling Mrs. Lauvenia's funeral and the replacing of the Fellowship Hall roof while PG was traveling and serving with the SC Synod Team to Tanzania.
- Financial Secretary: Funds report for June 2026 & July 2026 and year to date were submitted. Accepted
- Treasurer: 1a Balance Sheet for June 2026 & July 2026, 1b Budget Comparison for June 2026, & July 2026 and 1c Designated Funds for June 2026 & July 2026 were submitted. Accepted The mortgage on the Fellowship Hall will be paid by at least September 6th.

Team Reports/Recommendations:

Team for Ministry: Met August 3

Care: Written report submitted.

Outreach: Written report submitted.

Support: Written report submitted

Teach: Written report submitted.

Worship: No report

OLD BUSINESS:

- Director of Music search team – Held two interviews. Neither candidate was a match for Mt. Hermon. Advertising has gotten too expensive so the search team is now seeking candidates by word of mouth. Josh and Irina are committed through October.
- Admin Asst Search Team – D'Etta was great, but her schedule outside of Mt. Hermon has become too busy for her to continue as our admin assistant. We are starting the search again.
- Loan/Refinancing update:
 - The Support Team is continuing to get quotes on needed repairs and suggested improvements. We plan to have a Congregational Forum on August 30 to discuss these needs and possible improvements. Our Fellowship Hall is being paid off the beginning of September.
 - By Homecoming Sunday, October 4 we plan to gather the congregation's financial support information. We hope to have exact figures of the cost of repairs and improvements.

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- At the Congregational Meeting on November 15, 2026, the congregation will decide what building improvement projects Mt. Hermon pursues and the amount of money we will seek to borrow from the bank to complete those projects.
 - Fellowship Hall has a new roof \$19,000. The flat roofs of the Education Building, Kitchen, Fellowship Hall (Choir Room & Conference Room areas) are leaking and need to be replaced. Mt. Hermon has eight AC units. Two of these units have a cracked heat exchange must be replaced to provide heat. Their partner units are the same age. It is recommended that all 4 be replaced.
 - Parking Lot repairs – fill cracks, seal, repaint lines, paint entrance curb and handicap areas)
 - Fire Extinguishers need replacing
 - Fellowship Hall sound system needs replacing
- These projects would cost between \$385,000 – \$475,000. If the congregation has additional suggestions, this amount would increase.
- If members would continue giving to the Major Maintenance as they did before, we could handle a \$5,000 monthly payment.
- The air conditioning units keep needing to be repaired.
- If the repairs approved come to less than \$500,000 Mt. Hermon can likely have an in-house fund-raising effort. If the repairs/improvement are estimated to be greater than \$500,000, Mt. Hermon will probably have to work with an outside company to do a major fund-raising campaign.
- The congregation will have the opportunity to make an anonymous pledge to help determine how much money we can afford to borrow.
- We need to explain again to the congregation what the different funds listed on the offering envelopes. If needed, they can be changed at the quarter.
- We will have Ronnie and Wayne make some temple talks prior to the Aug. 30.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Budget requests due September 13th to Finance Team
- October council nominations
- Finance Team loan/refinancing update
- Next Meeting: September 13, 2026
- Next Month Devotions and Lock Up – Jamie Addison

FEEDBACK:

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Boulware, Council Secretary

Motions from September 12, 2026 meeting

The Helen Evans CD which is held at Thrivent to be liquidated and the proceeds to be sent to the same investment firm which holds all of Mt Hermon's other investments. The CD amount will be kept in a separate fund so that the interest will continue to be designated as outreach to the community. APPROVED

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ATTENDANCE REPORT

	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>In-person</u>	<u>Live Streaming</u>	<u>Total</u>
September 6	23	75	123	221
September 13	43	76	118	237
September 20	33	88	123	244

TREASURER REPORT

2026 August	Actual Income	Actual Expense	Difference
Current & Benevolence	23,040.71	23,694.07	(653.36)
Building Improvement	1,431.72	1,135.00	296.72
Major Maintenance Fund	6,710.00	6,782.52	(72.52)

2026 Year to Date	Actual Income	Actual Expense	Difference
Current & Benevolence	173,447.24	181,081.26	(7,634.02)
Building Improvement	14,788.11	13,209.76	1,578.35
Major Maintenance Fund	38,585.47	41,463.88	(2,878.41)



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CARE TEAM HAPPENINGS

The Care Team meets on the 1st Monday of every month at 5:30 pm in the conference room. If you would like to serve on this team, please contact Sherwood Garrett or any team members.



He-Brews supper club will meet again
Saturday, November 14th. Sign up online or in the
breezeway

SUPPER CLUBS

Game Night
Friday, October 9th ~ 5:30
in the Fellowship Hall
Chili and Cornbread are on the menu.

Bring your favorite games to teach and
share. Uno, Checkers, Spoons, etc.



Mitch McVicker
October 15th
6:00pm - 8:30pm
Fellowship Hall

Popcorn, drinks, and sweets will be served.

Arrive early.

A love offering will be collected for Mitch during the concert.

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OUTREACH TEAM HAPPENINGS

*The Outreach Team meets on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm in the conference room. If you would like to serve on this team, please contact **Charlene Corley**, or any team member and attend the next meeting.*

The **Comforting for Kids** project has collected 96 sheets, 88 pillows, 43 blankets and 62 comforters. Please continue to support this project. The main needs currently are pillows and ANY size comforters. The comforters can be new or gently used. Place all items outside of nursery door in the education wing.

The Outreach team will partner with Mt. Hebron for the **Fall Festival** again this year. It will be held October 25th 4:30-6:30pm. There will be Trunk or Treat Cars, inflatables, food, and many other activities. We need everyone's help to make this a success. There is something for all to participate in. Please look for sign up sheets in the breezeway and weekly announcements in the bulletin. We will also be collecting candy/treat bag items for this event. Please drop your donations in the bins in the breezeway. If you have any questions please contact any Outreach Team member.



Scooter Scott Project – Outreach in coordination with the Scooter Scott project is going to sponsor another Drivers Training class. The dates for the class will be October 20-22. Each night the class will run from 4:30 pm until 7:00 pm. This event will be held at the Scooter Scott office - If you are interested in assisting with this, please contact Charlene Corley at 803-636-5352.

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SUPPORT TEAM HAPPENINGS

*The Support Team meets on the 4th Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm in the conference room. If you would like to serve on this team, please contact **Ronnie Fulmer** or **any team members** and attend the next meeting.*

Maintenance/Repairs Completed:

- Floor Boys repaired buckling laminate in the downstairs hallway below the Sanctuary.
- Sprayed for weeds and grass for landscaping.

Future Maintenance & Projects:

- Dominion to provide estimate to change fluorescent lights to LED
- Kitchen Sink Drain needs attention.
- Midlands Lock and Key to service locks around church.
- A cabinet will be obtained for Pickleball “equipment storage” in the Scout Hut.
- Sound vent fabric in the Sanctuary needs replacing.

Major Future Projects that require Immediate Attention:

- The support team continued discussions regarding future major improvements, timelines, and financial strategies to replace aging roofs and HVAC throughout church property.
 - **Updated Quotes for final estimate will be required.** Quotes below are conditional.
 - The support team recommends repairing four (4) units simultaneously due to the need for hiring a crane. **Crane costs are not included.**
 - **Estimates are as follows:**

Shingle Roof	\$20,000	Completed
Flat Roof	\$225,000	Leaks have occurred
HVAC Units (4)	\$110,000	Recommended 4 out of 8 units
Parking Lot	\$10,000	Fill, Seal, and Repaint (lines, curbs, & handicap)
Fire Alarm	\$5,000	9 duct detectors, damaged covers to meet code
Sound System (FH)	\$50,000	For Fellowship Hall
TOTAL ESTIMATE	\$420,000	

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TEACH TEAM HAPPENINGS

The Teach Team meets on the 3rd Sunday of every month at 11:30am in the Education Wing. If you would like to serve on this team, please contact Mary Koon, or any team member and attend the next meeting.



Mt Hermon Pickleball Tournament A Fundraiser Event for Mt Hermon Youth Group

Join us for some friendly competition & fellowship
All skill levels welcome!

Sunday, October 11 4:00pm-6:00pm

Mt Hermon Pickleball Courts

Competition Fee: \$50 per team (2 players per team)

Spectator Tickets: \$5

Hot dogs with all the fixings will be served.

Team Registration: Sign up in Breezeway

Spectator Tickets: Purchase in advance or on arrival

Come cheer on your fellow Lutheran players,

Enjoy the fellowship,

and support our Mt Hermon Youth.

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WORSHIP TEAM HAPPENINGS

*The Worship Team meets on the 3rd Sunday at 11:30am in the conference room. If you would like to serve on this team, please contact **Marion Leaphart** or **any team member** and attend the next meeting.*

Homecoming 2026

October 4th



Rooted in Faith

Bishop Wade Roof will be preaching and a covered dish Homecoming celebration will follow.

Bring your best side dish.
The Church will provide brisket, tea, and lemonade

Reformation Sunday ~ October 25th

Everyone is encouraged to wear red

All Saints Sunday ~ November 1st

Coffee, Food, and Fellowship
will follow service in the Fellowship Hall

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SERVING IN WORSHIP

	October 4	October 11	October 18	October 25
Outside Greeters	Connor Eargle	Jeff Bucknam	Jamie Addison	Blake Allen
	Dan Cooper	Herb Bucknam	Frankie Jackson	Jeff Price
Ushers	Ronnie Fulmer	Angie Hydrick	Arron Kinard	Terry Swygert
	Parker Boulware	Jenny Scott	Kirby Johnson	David Marsh
Crucifer	Hayden Eargle	Dylan Whitaker	Sam Koon	Mackenzie Burns
Acolyte	Karl Dugan	Cameron Bucknam	Mary Koon	Abbey Carroll
Lector	Jamie Addison	Courtney Bucknam	Frank Bouknight	Ronnie Fulmer
Comm Assts	Hayden Eargle	Dylan Whitaker	Sam Koon	Denise Thurman
	Ronnie Fulmer	Cameron Bucknam	Mary Koon	Mackenzie Burns
	Jamie & Nancy Addison	Courtney Bucknam	Frank Bouknight	Terry Swygert
	Ricky & Fran Bouknight	Frankie Jackson	Jerry Price	Scottie Marsh
	Dani Martin	Melanie Jackson	Bryson Johnson	Daryl Leigh Anthony
Audio	Breanna Metze	Arron Kinard	Blake Allen	Brandon Donaldson
Video	Breanna Metze	Quentin Kinard	Breanna Metze	Marie Gardner
Flowers	Sheila Starkey	Marshs	Garrett	Joel & Devona Price

SERVING IN OCTOBER

LOCK UP & COUNCIL DEVOTIONS: Melanie Jackson

ALTAR GUILD: Jennifer Price, Angie Hydrick

TABULATORS: Ronnie Fulmer, Mary Price

** If you are unable to serve, please ask someone to serve in your absence.*

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♥ **Oct 03** Jason & Kim Addy

Oct 04 Georgianna Gray

Oct 09 Tanner Addy

Oct 11 Jennifer Price

Oct 17 Presley Kirven, Aura Swygert

Oct 18 Audrey Jennings

Oct 20 Jean Shealy

♥ **Oct 20** Rick & Daryl Leigh Anthony

Oct 21 Preston Bryant, Denise Thurman

Oct 22 Becky Johnson, Sophie Martin

Oct 23 Mackenzie Burns

♥ **Oct 26** Thomas & Danni Martin

Oct 28 Jackson Price

Oct 29 Marion Leaphart, Emily Morris

Oct 30 Gina McKelvey

Please let the office know if your information is not printed in this listing.
office@WeAreMtHermon.com or (803) 240-3143



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MT HERMON PRAYS

Continual Prayer

Patricia Bachman, *Asbury Arms*
Gloria Mathias, *home*
Jean Shealy, *Lakeside Place*
Linda Waters-Hamilton, *home*

Marie Kleckley, *Lex Ext Care*
Doris Carver, *Presby Home*
Georgianna Gray, *home*

Members in Special Need of Prayer

Bonnie Bouknight	Kay Bryant	Preston Bryant	Chris Carroll
Marie Carroll	Becky Ellisor	Jerry Ellisor	Joye Haygood
Robert Haygood	Kaytlin Hutto	Mary Frances Sease	Cyndi Thurman
Dennis Thurman	Scott Waters	Jim Whitaker	

Family and Friends Who Have Requested Prayer

Stetson Cooper, *grandson of Dan Cooper*
Paula Miller, *friend of Brittany Allen*
Dawn McIlwain-Merck,
friend of Robin Ellisor
John Catoe, *family of the Ellisors*
Mrs. William L. Coleman Jr (Carolyn),
friends of Marion & Cyndi Leaphart
Nancy Lail-Hulon & Family,
friends of Debra & Dave Butts
Jaimie Womack,
friend of Ryan & Jennifer Price
Blase Rhine,
grandson of Frank & Bonnie Bouknight
Jeslyn, *friend of Scarlett Bryant*
Faye McCartha, *mother of Debra Butts*
Robbie Rector, *friend Jennifer Miller*
Bill Geddings, *father of Allison Swygert*
Sam Lockridge, *friend of Scottie Marsh*
Linda Bennett, *mother of Beth Jordan*
Joy Jordan, *friend of Michelle Gantt*
Dorris Layton,
friend of Earl & Mary Frances Sease

Scarlett Redmon, *cousin of Kinard Family*
Michael Williams,
son-in-law Georgianna Gray
Wayne & Kristen Watkins,
friends of Courtney Bucknam
Meredith Thorndike,
goddaughter of Wayne & Charlene Corley
Kristin Oliver, *sister of Michelle Gantt*
Paul Jacobs, *friend of Paul & Wanda Addy*
Aria and Shelly Hamilton,
friends of Scarlett Bryant
Sally Wise Kleber, *friend of Paul & Wanda Addy*
& neighbor of Ryan & Jennifer Price
Brian Goodwin, *father of Jessica Goodwin*
Robert Rikard,
brother-in-law of Linda Waters-Hamilton
Al Bates, *friend of Dan Cooper*
Connie Sox, *daughter of Cindy Chapman*
Sandy Busby, *sister-in-law of Susan Busby*
Eddie Rutherford,
grandfather of Brayden Rutherford



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 9:00amWorship 10:30amSunday School	28 9:30amFH: Walking	29 10:00amStaff Meeting	30 Apple Picking at Sky Top Orchard 9:00amFood Pantry (Addisons, Denise Royal, Sharon Keefe)	1 9:30amFH: Walking	2	3 9:00amFood Pantry (Koons, Elaine Clawson)
4 9:00amWorship-Homecoming (Bp Wade Roof) 10:30amCongregational Forum/Luncheon	5 9:30amFH: Walking 5:30pmCR: Care Team	6 5:00pmExecutive Team	7 9:00amFood Pantry (Fran Bouknight, Angie Hydrick, Sherwood Garrett)	8 9:30amFH: Walking 6:00pmCR: Travel Team	9 5:30pmFH: Family Fun Night	10 9:00amFood Pantry (Boulwares, Marcia Wadford)
11 9:00am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 11:30am Council Meets 3:00pm Confirmation 4:00pm Pickleball	12 Columbus Day 9:30amFH: Walking 6:30pmFH: Lutheran Men & Women	13 6:30pmLIFE Group at Jackson's	14 9:00amFood Pantry (Ann Addy, Dave & Debra Butts, Sharon Keefe) 12:05pmOneBody in Christ	15 9:30amFH: Walking 6:00pmCR: Outreach Team 6:00pmFH: Mitch Vickers	16	17 Family Apple Picking at Sky Top Orchard 9:00amFood Pantry (Stevens, Frank Bouknight)
18 9:00amWorship 10:30amSunday School 11:30amCR: Worship Team 11:30amEW: Teach Team	19 9:30amFH: Walking	20 4:30pm Drivers Ed 6:00pmCR: Finance Team 7:00pmSACK	21 9:00amFood Pantry (Diane Boulware, Mary Frances Sease, Mary Price) 4:30pm Drivers Ed	22 9:30amFH: Walking 4:30pm Drivers Ed	23	24 9:00amFood Pantry (Corleys, Kathy Cooper) 10:30amSC Synod Bishop Installation at St. Stephens Lutheran
25 Reformation Sunday 9:00amWorship 10:30amSunday School 4:30pm Fall Festival	26 PG: Lutheridge (Convocation) 9:30amFH: Walking	27 PG: Lutheridge (Convocation) 6:30pmCR: Support Team 6:30pmLIFE Group at Jackson's	28 PG: Lutheridge (Convocation) 9:00amFood Pantry (Duvals, Addisons) 12:05pmFH: OneBody in Christ	29 9:30amFH: Walking	30	31 9:00amFood Pantry (Swygerts, Carrolls, Greg Bowman)



Mt Hermon Lutheran Church
3011 Leaphart Road
West Columbia, SC 29169

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Rev. Gina D. Metze, *Pastor*
Parish Administrator

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803.240.3143

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