

# *Mt. Hebron Lutheran Church*

October 2024

## *A note from the Pastor's desk:*

Happy October! As I sit here typing these words, I'm thinking about our most recent catechism class. We talked at length about the story of Noah's Ark, and how when it was all over, God promised never again to destroy the earth with a flood. And yet, I'm also listening to the sounds of a steady rain on my window, which will surely increase in intensity as the day wears on. Hurricane Helene is bearing down on the Florida coast at this moment, and areas in the path of this storm are guaranteed a great deal of rain the next two days. In fact, water-related deaths (from storm surge and flash flooding, for example) account for almost 90% of tropical storm and hurricane fatalities in the US.

We know that God isn't going to flood the earth again, but still - why do these catastrophes happen? Where is God in the middle of all this? I would respond by saying that's not how God operates. God doesn't step in to turn aside all potential disasters. God doesn't always prevent the things which cause us pain.

Perhaps a better question would be: What do we do when such calamities occur? What is the Christian response? The answer is we step in to help however we can. We see this in many places in scripture. For one example, we can look at 2 Corinthians. As Paul is traveling around and visiting the various congregations he has planted, he is also asking them for help. The believers in Jerusalem have fallen on hard times, and so Paul is collecting money for them. Paul reassures the Gentile Christians that God sees and rewards such generosity (2 Corinthians 9:6-12).

And so, as the earth turns and disasters continue to strike, let us work together to help those in need, and pray to God to bless our efforts.

**-Pastor Christopher**



The Lutheran Men in Mission of Mt. Hebron met Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am. Six men were present. The group discussed the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday SS breakfast to be held on Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup> and starting preparations for the Thanksgiving meal that will be November 24<sup>th</sup>. Our next meeting will be Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am. All men are welcome and invited to join in this brief time of devotion and fellowship.

AMEN FOR LUTHERAN MEN!

## SC SYNOD DISASTER RESPONSE FUND

From now until the end of the year, the SC Synod is making a special appeal to increase funding for the SC Synod Disaster Response Fund.

If you wish to donate, you can send a check to:

SC Synod, 1003 Richland St., Columbia SC 29201.

Please make out your check to "SC Synod," and write "SC disaster response" in the memo line.

Or, you can give online at [scsynod.com](https://scsynod.com). Click on the "Give" button under "SC Synod Disaster Fund Appeal."

# Mt. Hebron Lutheran Church

## Announcements

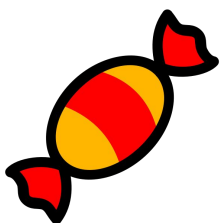
### DECOMMISSIONING SERVICE

In January 2025, Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary will relocate from its Columbia campus to the campus of Lenoir-Rhyne University in Hickory, NC. As part of that transition, LTSS will host a special decommissioning service on **Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm**. Worship will include Holy Communion and a special liturgy for decommissioning the LTSS Columbia campus. A reception will follow. The service will also be livestreamed and viewable online. If you're interested in watching the service or registering to attend, please contact the pastor for more details!

### SYNOD OFFICE NEWS

There have been a number of recent changes in the synod office staff. Bishop assistant Emily Hartmann has reentered parish ministry and now serves as pastor at Zion Lutheran in Lexington. Her position has been filled by Deacon Kim Heindl, who comes from an administrative role at the seminary. Director of Evangelical Mission James Henricks has reentered parish ministry and now serves as pastor at St. Michael Lutheran in Blacksburg, Virginia. Office assistant Jenny Spearen resigned in March and was replaced by Deborah Slice, who is leaving a similar position at the seminary. Lastly, Deacon Sarah Bowers resigned her role as Creative Director in June to spend more time on other pursuits. In all these transitions, we give thanks for faithful service and pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance!

### CANDY DONATIONS



The Youth and Child Development Committee is asking for candy donations in preparation for the Fall Festival. If you feel led to bring candy, you can find a donation box in the narthex.

*Please make sure all candy is individually wrapped.*

Catechism class will meet **October 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am in the music room.**

Church council will meet **Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am.**

Council members, please remember to bring your minutes from the last meeting.

WELCA will meet on **Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.**

The Youth and Childhood Development Committee will meet **Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am.**

### FALL FESTIVAL

It's time for our annual Fall Festival! The Youth and Child Development Committee is busy making plans for this event. The date is **Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> from 4:00 to 6:00**. There will be food, games, a hayride, s'mores, a cakewalk, and other fun activities! There is a sign-up sheet for cakewalk donations in the narthex.

The committee is also raising money this year for the school district backpack program (see below for more details about how you can help).

Please tell your family and friends, and help spread the word! Everyone is invited, and we look forward to seeing you there!

### PIE IN THE FACE

During the month of October, our Youth and Child Development Committee and WELCA are partnering to raise money for Lexington School District Three.

All donations will go towards the **Backpack Food Program**. This is a weekly food assistance program that provides "kid friendly" food to students in the district.

To assist us in our fundraising goals, we will have a friendly competition! In the narthex, you will find two jars; one for Benji Leaphart, and the other for Brad Derrick. Whichever individual raises the most money will be pied in the face the night of the Fall Festival!



# Mt. Hebron Lutheran Church

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Sara Shealy has been a part of Mt. Hebron for 40+ years. She was born and raised Baptist, attending several different congregations over the years. After marrying her husband Bobby, a member of Mt. Hebron, she continued to attend Beulah Baptist Church for some time before deciding to attend Mt. Hebron.

Over the years, Sara has participated in the life of the church in various ways. Until recently, she served as the weekly bulletin folder. Having served in this capacity for about 20 years, the pastor estimates that Sara folded upwards of 50,000 bulletins!

Sara has many special memories from her time here at Mt. Hebron. Most notably, she fondly remembers when her children were baptized, and watching her children and grandchildren participate in the church. Her favorite part of worship was always listening to the beautiful music and singing the hymns - even though they were different from the hymns she learned as a child in the Baptist church!

Something Sara likes to do for fun is word puzzles! Something interesting you may not know about her is that she used to work as a seamstress. At first, she worked at Old School Sewing Room in Prosperity, moving from the pants department to the jacket department, and finally to the shirt department. Later, she worked at JB Martin. Sara, thank you for the example of faithfulness that you have set for us!

## SAINT OF THE MONTH

Teresa of Ávila (birth name Teresa Sánchez de Cepeda Dávila y Ahumada) was born March 28<sup>th</sup>, 1515 in the Spanish town of Ávila. She was raised in a Christian household. Her mother died when she was eleven, at which point Teresa developed a closer spiritual connection with the Virgin Mary. In 1536, at the age of twenty, she entered the local Carmelite convent.

Not long after becoming a nun, Teresa began to experience visions, which continued for most of her life. She also noticed that her convent and others of the Carmelite order had grown lax. These observations, together with her visions, convinced her to undertake a series of reforms and start her own, stricter convents.

In 1562, Teresa founded her first reformed convent, the Convento de San José in Ávila. Starting in 1567, she began to travel extensively throughout Spain, founding fifteen additional strict convents. Quite often, her work was opposed by political and religious authorities who were skeptical of her reforms and her visions.

During this time, Teresa wrote about her remarkable visions and how she interpreted them. She was concerned with spiritual progression through meditation and prayer, and the soul's ascent to God. In addition to her autobiography, her most prominent works are *The Way of Perfection* and *Interior Castle*.

Rarely slowing down, Teresa founded five convents in the last three years of her life. She died early in the morning on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 1582, travelling to the city of Alba de Tormes. She was buried in the convent there, which she had founded. The church commemorates her on the day of her death, October 15<sup>th</sup>.

(Adapted from *More Days for Praise: Festivals and Commemorations in Evangelical Lutheran Worship* and *The Book of Saints: A Comprehensive Biography*)



*Portrait of Teresa of Ávila by Peter Paul Rubens*

# Mt. Hebron Lutheran Church

## Memory Verse of the Month

Let's memorize scripture together!  
Take time this month to memorize  
the following verse:

*"He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will  
supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase  
the harvest of your righteousness."*

-2 Corinthians 9:10

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for the victims of Hurricane Helene - those who  
have lost loved ones, and those whose property has  
been damaged or destroyed. Pray that recovery efforts  
would proceed smoothly.

Pray for victims of violence the world over, and  
especially in the Middle East. Pray for peacemakers  
who are working to negotiate between various groups.

Pray for our committees as they plan various fall  
events. Pray that all our efforts would be for the glory  
of God and the sharing of God's love in the world.

As we transition into the cooler months, pray that  
seasonal illnesses would not be so bad this year, and  
pray for God to grant us good health.

Praise the Lord for the faithful men and women of Mt.  
Hebron, who work together and serve those around us  
as the body of Christ in the world.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

10/1 - Clay Derrick  
10/4 - Sarah Shealy  
10/6 - Scott Kavanagh  
10/7 - Todd Waites  
10/8 - Cole Cromer  
10/10 - Del Derrick

10/12 - Denise Derrick  
10/20 - Wade Oxner  
10/26 - Martha Oxner  
10/27 - Janine McCartha  
10/31 - Jillian Cromer

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

10/2 - Glenn & Amy Harman  
10/10 - Del & Elaine Derrick  
10/16 - Beverly & DJ Barr  
10/21 - Benji & Farrah Leaphart  
10/24 - Kevin & Carlin Shealy

## OCTOBER HELPERS

### Greeters / Ushers

Del, Elaine, and Chris Derrick

### Lectors

10/6 - Jan McCartha  
10/13 - Ethan Barr  
10/20 - Glenn Harman  
10/27 - Wade Oxner II

### Tabulators

Brad Derrick and Glenn Harman  
*Alternate: Jim Worthy*

### Altar Guild

Tommy and Betty Oxner

### Acolytes

10/6 - Kellen Shealy  
10/13 - Ahyler Derrick  
10/20 - Garrett Barr  
10/27 - Kellen Shealy

### Crucifers

10/6 - Atley Derrick  
10/27 - Matthew Leaphart

### Torchbearers

10/6 - Garrett Barr and Matthew Leaphart  
10/27 - Ahyler Derrick and Atley Derrick

### Flowers

10/6 - Glenn and Amy Harman  
10/13 - Elaine Derrick  
10/20 - Kevin and Carlin Shealy  
10/27 - OPEN

### Nursery

10/6 - Denise Derrick and Amy Harman  
10/13 - Sarah Shealy and Heather Worthy  
10/20 - Farrah Leaphart and Carlin Shealy  
10/27 - Kristen Derrick and Benji Leaphart

## Contact Pastor Christopher!

If you have a prayer request, questions,  
or would like to speak with our pastor,  
you can reach him at:

803-580-5215 (office)  
803-940-7143 (cell)  
mthebronpastor@gmail.com