

HAPPENINGS @ THE MOUNT



Mt. Horeb Lutheran Church, Chapin, SC

December 2023

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR PAT

Dear Mt. Horeb Family,

The late Theodossia Pickering Garrison in her poem *The Annunciation* wrote:

God whispered and a silence fell and the world
Poised one expectant moment like a soul
Who sees at Heaven's threshold the unfurled
White wings of cherubim, the sea impearled,
And pauses, dazed, to comprehend the whole;
Only across all space God's whisper came
And burned about her heart like some white flame.

Then suddenly a bird's note thrilled the peace,
And earth again jarred noisily to life,
With a great murmur as of many seas.
But Mary sat with hands clasped on her knees,
And lifted eyes with all amazement rife,
And in her heart the rapture of the Spring
Upon its first sweet day of blossoming.

The first two words of this beautiful poem strike deep in my heart as I ponder the coming Advent and Christmastide, "God whispered".

In order for us to hear a whisper, we need quiet and careful listening. During this coming Holy Time, Jan

Patrick W. Riddle, Interim Pastor

Bob Hawkins, Interim Parish

Musician

Camille Joseph, Admin

Lisa Smith, Treasurer

Peggy Miller, Preschool Director

WORSHIP, LEARN, WITNESS

SERVE, SUPPORT

Newsletter Deadlines

*Happenings @ the
Mount deadline is the
18th of each month.*

and my prayer for all of us is that we sensitize our ears and our hearts that we might better hear the whisper of God.

God whispered that he loved us and came to us deep in the flesh in the birth of Christ Jesus. In years past in former congregations after the final service of Christmas Eve at 11:00 pm after everyone had left the church it was past midnight. I cherished sitting quietly outside on the church steps feeling the deep peace and listening to the quiet. I always pondered that after the Shepherds left and Bethlehem slept that God had whispered, the earth fell silent on Christmas Eve. Jan and I wish you a “whisper filled season” of God's love and spirit in your lives.

Peace,

Pastor Pat and Jan





WE CARE Look in your December bulletins for We Care food needs for this month. As always, they need toiletries, paper products and cleaning supplies. They also accept pet food.



FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE meets Friday, December 15th at 11:30am at the church for soup and sandwiches.



LEISURE TIMERS meet December 5th at 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall. Travis Goodman will speak to us regarding Thrivent Action Teams. For those interested in lunch, we will be going across the street to Catch 22.



THE FAMILY OF HERBERT 'HUB' LINDLER sincerely thanks the members of Mt. Horeb for all their thoughts, prayers, cards, food and calls during Hub's illness and death. All thoughts of kindness and comfort were very much appreciated by Cathryn, Juleen and Vicky. With love, *Cathryn*

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING is set for December 10 to vote on 2023 Constitution. The church council has approved an updated 2023 Constitution and has called for a special congregational meeting on Sunday, December 10. The Constitution will be presented to the congregation for approval by vote at this time. Copies of both the 2007 and the proposed updated 2023 Constitution will be available at the Welcome Center in the narthex and the church office. Please let the church office know if you would like to receive them by mail.

There will be a Q & A session after worship on December 3 in the Fellowship Hall with members of the Constitution Task Force available to answer any questions about the 2023 Constitution.

Many thanks to the Council Constitution Task Force - Rae Davis, Billy Griffin, Laurie Schmidt, and Lisa Smith for their work on this endeavor.

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE We have been actively interviewing and have asked someone to be our primary candidate. To ask someone to be your primary candidate means this is the only person we are currently working with. That in turn applies to the candidate. Being in the primary candidate stage also means we have certain steps we must take with this candidate before we can approach the council with a recommendation. At this point we are actively engaged in taking those steps. You can consider the primary candidacy stage “the getting to know you“ phase of the search. We are getting to know our candidate better and he is getting to know us better. The next step after the getting to know you phase, upon mutual agreement, will be to present our candidate to council and make a recommendation that council accept this candidate to present to you. Council will also have to approve a mutually agreed upon compensation package. Once that step is completed, then we will have a “meet and greet” event for you to be introduced to the candidate. Once a meet and greet event is held, then we will have a called congregational meeting to recommend you vote to extend a call to the candidate and if that passes, we will vote on a compensation package. If that is approved, then we would notify our candidate and he will have 30 days to accept the call. While the Call Committee would love to joyfully announce the candidate’s name, we ask that you honor our pledge to confidentiality during this phase. We also continue to ask for your continued prayers through this discernment process.

YOU’RE INVITED The Dutch Fork Choral Society will present a Winter Concert at Mt. Horeb on Sunday afternoon, December 10, at 4:00pm. An interesting mix of familiar Christmas selections and other choral music will be performed. Several Mt. Horeb members sing in this choir. Mt. Horeb provides practice space and music storage space for the choral society. There is no admission fee but there will be provisions for a free will offering. Please plan to join us on December 10th.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES There will be two services on Christmas Eve, Sunday December 24th. There will be one at 10am and one at 7pm.



GIVING REFLECTIONS Advent and Christmastide

blessings be with you all during this Holy Time.

May we each take a moment to remember the gifts of family and friends and reflect that Christmas is indeed a time to be thankful for the many blessings that God has showered upon us. Most of all we rejoice for our precious gift Jesus the Christ. Our Lord Christ brings love, peace, faith, and hope into the world and into our lives. The treasures he bestows upon us we share with all the world. May his presence permeate every part of our lives now and always.

Your generosity in offerings (through PayPal, Tithe.ly, or the offering plate) makes an enormous difference in our mutual ministry.

Thank you for your joyful and generous support.



LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE We continue to support our brothers and sisters in time of crisis through the ELCA and Lutheran Disaster Response. Forms are on the Welcome Center to aid Ukraine. If you would like to assist in the Middle East, send to Lutheran Disaster Response.



Write "Middle East Crisis" on your check's memo line and send to:

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
P.O. Box 1809 Merrifield, VA 22116-8009.**



LUTHERAN MEN will meet Monday, December 11, at 6:30pm. Our meal will be catered with pork roast being our main entree. Pastor John Stoudemayer will lead us in a Christmas devotion and Jimmy Lindler will assist us with singing Christmas carols. Please sign up at the Welcome Center. Our ladies are invited.



Preschool Update

Jesus is the Reason...

Born in a stable so long ago, on that clear, starry night, a savior for all the world... Happy Birthday, Jesus!

The Preschool Christmas Program is Thursday, December 14, at 6:30pm. Join us after for milk and cookies with Santa.

We will return to school on Wednesday, January 3rd.

Have a safe and joyous holiday!

Peace,

Miss Peggy





CARD MINISTRY – HANDMADE CARDS Pick up a handmade card today from the card rack in the Fellowship Hall! \$3 donation and \$5 for two cards. All donations support local, regional and global missions!



PROGRAM Mt. Horeb has committed to provide 204 cans of pasta each week. This program continues through the school year, so we need your support. If you can help, please leave your donations at the Welcome Center.



AGAPE CIRCLE PLANTING PROJECT Agape Circle gathered on Saturday, November 4, to plant pansies, drift roses, and ornamental cabbages in planters in the front of the church. Two new planters were purchased and are in place. All this was made possible by permission from the Catherine E. Gates family to use a portion of her memorial funds to beautify the church grounds. Mrs. Catherine loved plants and flowers and lovingly cared for them in her own yard. This is a wonderful tribute to her by her family. Her daughter is Margaret Gates Robinson and Cathy Rodgers, granddaughter, is an Agape Circle member.



MORE FELLOWSHIP IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL There is now a place to sit in comfort in the Fellowship Hall. One corner has been transformed into a sitting area with a new sofa, chairs, and a counter table with stools – a perfect puzzle table. Using designated memorial funds, these items were purchased with a discount from Chapin Furniture. The Fellowship Team was responsible for choosing and placement of the items. Come by, sit, and have a cup of coffee in the Fellowship Corner.



DECEMBER 17TH - Christmas Program during worship at 10am. There is a role for all children. One practice 9am, Dec. 3rd.



Congregation Council Highlights for November 2023

The council met on Sunday, November 12th and took action on or discussed the following items:

- ⇒ Voted to allow the Town of Chapin the use of the parking lot for overflow of parking for the "Ole Timey Christmas" Tree Lighting and Carol Singing that will be held on December 9th.
- ⇒ The Call Committee is continuing in the interview process.
- ⇒ Discussed the 2023 Church Constitution for presentation and vote at the Called Congregational Meeting on December 10th, 2023.
- ⇒ The Serve Team put up the Angel Tree and thanks to you, all angels have been selected from the tree.
- ⇒ The new furniture in the corner of the Fellowship Hall has been set up by the Fellowship Team.
- ⇒ The Stewardship Team reported that a Time and Talent sheet was included in the mailed packet for the Annual Congregational Meeting" on November 19.
- ⇒ Thanks to the Fellowship, Youth and Witness Teams for hosting the Trunk or Treat. A great time was had by all!
- ⇒ Pastor and Ministry Team Reports were received and discussed.

ON GOING PRAYERS FOR:

- +Vie Wilmot
- +Jim Johnston
- +Nancy Hess
- +Nancy Crogen
- +Charlie Shealy
- +Margaret Greene
- +Henri Bishop
- +Jane Ramsey
- +Aubrey Metts
- +Pauline Wodtke
- +Brady Amick
- +George Wessinger
- +Steve Cartin
- +Audrey Fulmer
- +Bob Irwin
- +Anne Mitchell
- +Bill Stockdell
- +Holly Knight
- +Randy Bundrick
- +Phyllis Barton
- +Lois Bundrick



- + Tyler Richardson, son-in-law of Pastor Dick & Jeannie Webber
- + Landon Derrick, Wes Hill's classmate & friend
- + Jimmy and Liane Talbert, uncle and aunt of Mattie Smith
- + Richard Gregerson, son of Vie Wilmot
- + Heidi Smith, wife of Lew Smith
- + Tom Naughton, father of Michael Naughton
- + Tyler Shepke, friend of Roger Lindler and Michael Naughton
- + Chris Shealy, son of Gene and Ann B. Shealy
- + Roy Talbert, father of Mattie Smith
- + Bill Plump, friend of Bill Stockdell
- + Alice Faye Bedenbaugh-Shealy, aunt of Robbie Koon DeFreese
- + Wayne Lineberger, friend of Millie Courtney and Margaret Robinson
- + Philip Kleckley, son of Dot & Heyward Kleckley
- + All those serving in the military

PRAYING FOR FRIENDS OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

- + Marie Fulmer, niece of Loretta Griffin & family
- + Amelia Kinard, sister of Billy Griffin
- + Sue Carver, friend of Joanne Hill
- + Tyler Grubbs, friend of Lillie Free
- + David Owens, friend of Tommy Hill
- + Lorraine Revels, daughter of friend of JoAnne Hill
- + Al Zaback, cousin of Jerry & Vicky Shealy
- + Sally Thompson, sister-in-law of Susan Addy
- + Evren Ray, great-niece of Susan Addy
- + Eddie Shealy, son of Gene & Ann B. Shealy
- + Tommy Ward, friend of Jim Pope
- + William Eckley, cousin of Vicky Shealy
- + Payton Dominick, great-nephew of Glenda Lindler





BIRTHDAYS

- 1 John Rodgers, III
Ann B. Shealy
- 3 Catherine Nelson
Bill Moser
- 8 Dot Blaney
Kelly Gowans
- 9 Keith Summer
- 10 Holly Knight
Kim Shealy
David Williams
- 11 Austin Bundrick
- 12 Katie Morgan
- 13 Debbie Humm
- 14 Robbie Frick
- 18 Jimmy Lindler
- 19 Bill Stockdell
- 20 John Rister
Bart Teal
Wes Hill
- 22 Holly Comalander
- 23 Mary Grace Leininger

- 24 Nancy Crogen
Tammy R. Shealy
- 27 Carly Comalander
- 29 Jennifer Rister
- 31 Lillie Free

ANNIVERSARIES

- 8 Jimmy & Melinda Morris—22
- 15 Geo. Jr. & Teressa Wessinger—60
- 17 Heyward & Dot Kleckley—74
- 18 Ken & Susan Crabtree—52
- 20 Bill & Phyllis Barton—43
- 31 Tim & Laurie Schmidt—22

If you do not see your birthday or anniversary (or if our info is incorrect), please contact the church office. Thank you.

DECEMBER 2023 CALENDAR

Sat Dec 2	9:30	Agape decorate Chrismon trees
Sun Dec 3 (blue)	9:00 10:00 11:15 11:15 3:30	Learn Livestream with Holy Communion Worship Team Q&A Session Girl Scouts
Mon Dec 4	12:30	Chapin Chirpers
Tue Dec 5	10:30 6:00 6:30	Leisure Timers Jr Women's-conf rm DF Choral
Wed Dec 6	10:00 11:00	Fiber Friends Dorcas Circle
Thu Dec 7	7:00	Finance
Sun Dec 17 (blue)	9:00 10:00 3:30	Learn Livestream with Holy Communion/ Christmas Program Girl Scouts
Wed Dec 20	10:00	Fiber Friends

Sun Dec 10 (blue)	9:00 10:00 11:15 Noon 4:00	Learn Livestream with Holy Communion Congregational Mtg Council DF Choral Concert
Mon Dec 11	12:30 6:30	Chapin Chirpers LMM
Tue Dec 12	6:00	Jr. Women's
Wed Dec 13	10:00	Fiber Friends
Thu Dec 14	6:30 5:30	Preschool x-mas Program Agape Circle Rm203
Fri Dec 15	11:30	Friendship Circle
Sun Dec 24 (blue)	9:00 10:00 7:00	Learn Livestream with Holy Communion Christmas Eve Svc.
Mon Dec 25		MERRY CHRISTMAS
Tue Dec 26/27		OFFICE CLOSED

MHLC

101 E. Boundary St.
Chapin, SC 29036

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UPCOMING EVENTS

December's Youth Calendar at a glance:

--Sat., Dec. 16: Wreaths Across America ceremony, Shady Grove United Methodist Church, Irmo. Meet at Mt. Horeb, back parking lot, at 11:15am. All 6th-12th grade youth are invited and welcome!

--We will also be visiting Generations this month, but we haven't firmed a date for that yet.

--All youth and families: If you are not on the email list for youth news, please send current contact info to Stephanie Stoudemayer: sjz85@sc.rr.com.

We hope to see you soon!!

Contact Us

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