

Mt Hermon Lutheran Church

3600 Hwy 601 S

Concord NC 28025

704-892-2326

February 2021

God is Love

Message from Pastor Michael

Judy and I appreciate all of the cards, gifts, well wishes, and prayers. Thank you, so much! They have been a blessing to us.

My recovery has been slower than I had expected. Two weeks after the surgery, an infection developed in the surgery area. Antibiotics seem to be clearing that up. The pain that I am experiencing now seems to be in the muscles that had to be disturbed during the surgery. They seem to be healing well.

I am wearing a wrap-around brace that makes me look like a mutant ninja turtle. I wear it during the day and sleep without it at night.

My return to leading worship may be delayed another week or so. I will have better information about that soon.

As far as in-person worship goes, the stay at home order from the state has been extended for another month. The NC Synod supports those guidelines. Since Covid 19 infections seem to still be high in the state, we will stay with our current plan.

One exciting thing is in the works. A radio transmitter has been purchased that will allow us to broadcast the service over your car radio. Details are still being worked out, but this would allow you to be at church, although in the parking lot. Holy Communion would be served to you in your vehicles. We will also continue live streaming the service, so you will have some choices.

As soon as we can resume inside worship, we will let you know. As members are vaccinated over the coming weeks and months, we will be able to open up more. However, masks and social distancing will continue to be expected.

I miss all of you, and I look forward to the time when we will be together again. God bless you richly with his grace and peace.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Michael

Announcements



Church services are streamed on
YouTube each Sunday @ 10:00 am



Bible Study: The Monday night Bible Study group meets each Monday @ 6:00 pm. This group welcomes everyone. It's an informal discussion on the next Sunday's readings. The meeting is on Zoom. Contact the office for the meeting ID and password.



Boys and girls, we hope you are enjoying your monthly Sunday School packets. The February packets will be delivered next week. The story will be about the Canaanite woman's daughter from the Gospel of Matthew.

December was a busy month and I want to personally thank all of the boys and girls who participated in the Children/Youth virtual Christmas program. Everyone did an excellent job and I am sure the church family enjoyed it. Special thanks to Nancy Jones and producer, Olivia Jones, who pulled all the parts of the program together to present virtually.

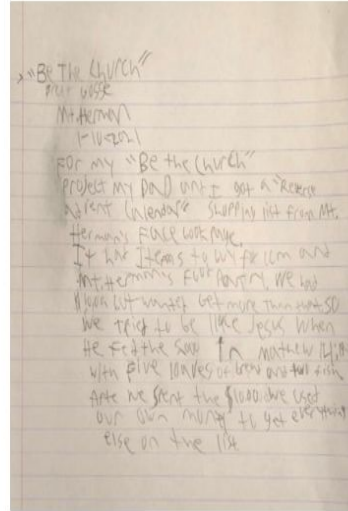
We look forward to Sunday School at church when deemed safe. Remember, 'Jesus gives us life'.



All items together

Thank You Brett!

Brett G. completed his "Be The Church" project for scouts in January. For his project, he to the "Reverse Advent Calendar" idea and went shopping. The ministries who benefitted from his project were CCM, The Free Little Pantry and the Veteran's Food Pantry. So proud of Brett for using this wonderful ministry and sharing with his scout troop!



Caleigh is selling girl scout cookies through March. The girls will donate a portion of their earnings to Second Harvest Food Bank and to use some of the earnings for an end of year (socially distanced) party.

Here is the link to her cookie site.

<https://digitalcookie.girlscouts.org/scout/caleigh322681>





Dear Sisters in Christ:

WELCA has some exciting plans for 2021. Hard to believe January is almost over. We invite all woman of Mt. Hermon to stop by a meeting and see if you would like to be a part of helping people, fellowship, and snacks.

We have several exciting plans in the works. One being ELCA Good Gift. We are trying to raise enough to buy a couple Goats, flock of chickens and a rooster (\$75.00) and more if we get enough. We have extended this through the end of February so that we can send our order in the first week of March. We are asking anyone who would like to donate to make check out to WELCA and note for ELCA. Thank-you to those who have already donated through us or on your own.

We are planning a couple of drives for community needed items; more information to come. We will have a tentative year calendar on February 4th, at our meeting 10am or 6pm. February 28th is Bold Woman Sunday.

Hope all are staying Healthy, Safe, warm, and enjoying life.

God is Good...

Laurie

*But I show my love to thousands of
generations of those who love me
and obey my laws.
Ex 20:6*

We have extended until Feb. 28th. Please
make checks out to WELCA with memo-ELCA gift
Thank-you
Mt. Hermon WELCA
ELCA.org/goodgifts



Gifts that make a difference

Goat

Fresh goat milk provides daily nutrition for children and their families.

Goat **\$50**
page 5



Chicks

Eggs from chickens are not only an ongoing supply of protein-rich meats for a family; they can also be the start of a small business and a steady source of income.

Chicks **\$10**
page 4

Help the farm grow!

Add a rooster.

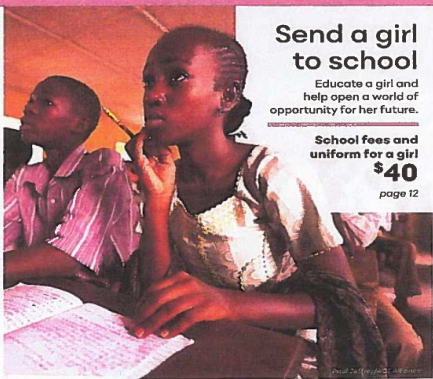
\$15



Send a girl to school

Educate a girl and help open a world of opportunity for her future.

School fees and uniform for a girl **\$40**
page 12



ELCA.org/goodgifts

Give online and create a **FREE, personalized card*** to mail, email or print at home.



*Personalized cards are available for online orders only. Give by mail and you can choose to receive a blank card for each of your gifts. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

WELCA's Good Gift

Donate today to help make a difference...Make checks out to Mt. Hermon Lutheran Church and designate to WELCA. Help us make our goal by February 28th.

Lent

I know it seems hard to believe but Ash Wednesday is February 17th. More will follow on Pastor Michael's Ash Wednesday service.

This also is a time we do not have altar flowers but it is a time when we order Easter lillies. Please check your bulletins each week for more information on the ordering process this year.

We are ruled by the love of Christ, now that we recognize that one man died for everyone, which means that they all share in his death.

2 Corinthians 5:14

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays in February

Elizabeth Detsch	02/06
Tim Kirk	02/06
Ann Marie Barrier	02/07
Becky Barrier	02/08
Justine Keever	02/08
Betty Barringer	02/08
Haley Doorley	02/08
Robert Litaker	02/10
Andrew Dibernardo	02/15
Steve Sousley	02/17
Danny Garmon	02/19
Kacy Howard	02/21
Kitty Smith	02/23
Joshua Kline	02/24
Jennifer Ennis	02/25

Anniversaries in January

Neal and Mary Fudge
02/04

Mike and Susan Faggart
02/29



CROSSWORD PUZZLE FOR FEBRUARY

Love
Valentine
Flowers
Heart
Winter
Cold
Snow
Praise
Pray
God
Pastor
Topaz
Zion
Cross
Holy
Ghost

Z	K	P	A	H	H	N	O	I	Z
O	R	H	L	O	V	E	G	V	A
M	B	J	J	G	A	Y	A	R	P
S	R	E	W	O	L	F	E	R	O
E	V	W	P	D	E	T	S	O	T
C	O	L	D	Y	N	C	O	T	F
Y	R	D	L	I	T	J	W	S	F
X	S	O	W	G	I	O	D	A	H
G	H	O	S	T	N	E	C	P	T
P	R	A	I	S	E	P	L	G	R

Valentine's Day...



Valentine's Day, also called **Saint Valentine's Day** or the **Feast of Saint Valentine**,^[1] is celebrated annually on February 14. It originated as a Western Christian **feast day** honoring one or two early **Christian martyrs** named **Saint Valentine** and is recognized as a significant cultural, religious, and commercial celebration of romance and **love** in many regions of the world.

There are a number of martyrdom stories associated with various Valentines connected to February 14,^[2] including an account of the imprisonment of Saint Valentine of Rome for ministering to Christians **persecuted under the Roman Empire** in the third century.^{[3][4]} According to an early tradition, Saint Valentine restored sight to the blind daughter of his jailer.^[5] Numerous later additions to the legend have better related it to the theme of love: an 18th-century embellishment to the legend claims he wrote the jailer's daughter a letter signed "Your Valentine" as a farewell before his execution;^[6] another addition posits that Saint Valentine performed weddings for Christian soldiers who were forbidden to marry.^[4]

The Feast of Saint Valentine was established by **Pope Gelasius I** in AD 496 to be celebrated on February 14 in honour of Saint Valentine of Rome, who died on that date in AD 269.^{[7][8]} The day became associated with romantic love in the 14th and 15th centuries when notions of **courtly love** flourished, apparently by association with the "**lovebirds**" of early spring. In 18th-century England, it grew into an occasion in which couples expressed their love for each other by presenting flowers, offering confectionery, and sending greeting cards (known as "valentines"). Valentine's Day symbols that are used today include the heart-shaped outline, doves, and the figure of the winged **Cupid**. Since the 19th century, handwritten valentines have given way to mass-produced greeting cards.^[9] In Italy, **Saint Valentine's Keys** are given to lovers "as a romantic symbol and an invitation to unlock the giver's heart", as well as to children to ward off **epilepsy** (called Saint Valentine's Malady).^[10]

Saint Valentine's Day is not a public holiday in any country, although it is an official feast day in the Anglican Communion^[11] and the Lutheran Church.^[12] Many parts of the Eastern Orthodox Church also celebrate Saint Valentine's Day on July 6 in honor of Roman presbyter Saint Valentine, and on July 30 in honor of **Hieromartyr** Valentine, the Bishop of Interamna (modern **Terni**).^[13]

Scheduled Meeting Times when our "normal" returns...

Bible Study - Monday @ 6 pm -- Zoom.com

Visitation Committee - First Thursday @ 2 pm - Pastor's Office

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 @ 6 pm - Parkway House

Fellowship Quilters - Fourth Tuesday @ 10 am- Coffee House

Congregation Council Meetings - Third Thursday @ 7 pm - Coffee house

Homebound: Louise Isenhour, John & Brenda Thompson

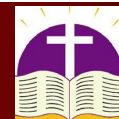
In Special Facilities: Jeanine Woody (First Assembly Assisted Living), Peggy Morgan (5 Oaks)

Continued Prayers for: Dan Gleason, Nancy Wilcox, Mitch Simpson, Jo-Ann Popham, Kelly Tanner, Dick Tolbert, Pastor Michael Frye, Joann Foster, Lisa McKinnon, Brenda Cauble, Brent Giles, Jeff Lorenz, Neal Fudge





February Bible Readings



Feb 7	Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11, 20c; 1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39
Feb 14	2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9
Feb 21	Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15
Feb 28	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22:23-31; Romans 4:13-25; Mark 8:31-38

If you would like to study the next week's scriptures in advance, join the Monday night Bible Study group at 6:00 pm

Happy Valentine's Day

Mt. Hermon Standing Committees

CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

Keith Opel President
Kitty Smith Vice President
Mark Jones Treasurer
Valerie Frank Secretary

Bonnie Walsh
Elaine Vincent
Greg Popham
Jason Bumgarner
Marie Grochoski
Mike Faggart
Rachael Kennedy
Ross Gosse
Steve Sousley

Evangelism Team

Ross Gosse

Finance Team

Mark Jones – Treasurer
Kitty Smith
Ann Bolick
Jo-Ann Popham

Property Team

Danny Garmon
Keith Opel
Rachael Kennedy

Music 9:00 am service

Chris Beaver – piano & organ
Brenda McCarn – piano & vocal
Diane Frank – vocals & liturgy
Valerie Frank – vocalist
Melissa Fox/Nancy Jones – PowerPoint
David Bowles
Diane Olszewski

Daily Maintenance

Tim Bolick
Mike Faggart—704-773-9047

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 – JoAnn Stowe

Lay Readers – Ann Bolick

Communion Assistants – Patti Stuver

Crucifer – Tim Bolick

Acolyte – Cheryl Opel

Before You Go...
Remember...

