

HAPPENINGS AT THE MOUNT

November 2025

THE NEWSLETTER OF MT. HOREB LUTHERAN CHURCH | CHAPIN, SOUTH CAROLINA



Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

As we say goodbye to October and hello to November, I fondly recall the events of just this past weekend where we celebrated the affirmation of baptism of three young people of varying ages. Ava Williams and Wes Hill both in their middle teens which is the time in life when many teens affirm the promises that their parents made when they were baptized as infants. And Brandon Miller who as a young adult, did the same. They continue the journey of faith and responsibility as they are offered equal opportunities to serve the mission of Christ in leadership and participation. We are a blessed congregation that no matter the age our people sense God tugging at them to take their faith seriously. We also welcomed our preschool ministry to worship with us in costume and receive a blessing of protection when they go trick or treating late in the week. On this same day, our congregation offered to the community a Trunk or Treat event. It is always exciting to see the young people who have graduated from Preschool come back and express their excitement to be back at Mt. Horeb for another outreach event.

It is events like these where we celebrate our youth and honor our Golden Agers who have faithfully served the ministry since they were young trick or treaters. At Koon's funeral I shared the story his sister, Mary Nell, told about

the year their mom made him a homemade red devil costume out of red fabric and a scary mask. It was an especially hot and humid Halloween and when little Al took his costume off his skin and hair had turned as red as the fabric and mask!

We are experiencing unprecedented times in our country where the political parties cannot agree on much of anything. Wars rage while peace deals seem fragile. Then there is the internal woes over immigration, health care, social security changes, taxes, food costs, and so on.

This month we will continue in Luke where we will find encouragement and strength. We must keep ever vigilant in our reading of scripture and deepening our relationship with God through His Word. It is through this discipline that we are inspired by the Holy Spirit to testify to others to endure the concerns of the world without fear because we know where our faith relies, and it is not in what we read in the news, it is what we know is true in God's word!

May God's peace dwell with you as you testify to his glory,

Pastor Ron



NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS



NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

We are thrilled to celebrate New Member Sunday on **November 2 at 10:00 a.m.**—a special time when we welcome those who have decided to make Mount Horeb their church home. Join us as we officially receive new members into our congregation and celebrate this meaningful step in their faith journey.



LEISURE TIMERS

The Leisure Timers will meet at the church on **Tuesday, November 4 at 10:30 a.m.** Join us for a great time of fellowship, food, and connection. The main dish will be provided—please bring a side dish to share. Please sign up at the Information Desk.



DF CHORAL SOCIETY WINTER CONCERTS

The Dutch Fork Choral Society presents Sing Out, My Soul!—a celebration of music's power to uplift, heal, and connect. Enjoy songs of joy, honor, and renewal, including a special tribute recognizing each branch of the Armed Forces. Theme: Music is the Gift of Life. No tickets required.

- **Thursday, Nov. 13 at 7:00 p.m.**
 - St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
- **Friday, Nov. 14 at 7:00 p.m.**
 - Lake Murray Presbyterian Church



FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

Ladies are invited to the next meeting of the Friendship Circle on **Friday, November 21** at Little Mountain Antique Mall Café. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect with others, enjoy a delicious meal, and build lasting friendships. Women of all ages are welcome. We'll meet in the back parking lot of the café at **11:15 a.m.**—come join us for food, fellowship, and fun!

NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS



ANGEL TREE

This year we will be sponsoring 35 children through the Angel Tree program. The tree will go up **November 1** and gifts should be returned by early December (*more details to come*). Please consider taking a tag from the tree and helping make a child's Christmas extra special. Your generosity is a beautiful way to share Christ's love this season!



POINSETTIA ORDERS

If you would like to purchase a poinsettia please fill out the order form insert in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate along with your payment marked "Poinsettia." Payment should be made to Mt. Horeb Lutheran Church. Poinsettia's are \$13 each. All orders are due by **Sunday, November 9.**



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

We are honored to announce that this year's **Wreaths Across America** ceremony at Mt. Horeb Cemetery will be held on **Saturday, December 14 at 1:30 p.m.**, as part of the national effort to remember, honor, and teach.

Thanks to the generosity of our community, all 118 veterans buried at Mt. Horeb Cemetery will receive a sponsored wreath—ensuring their service and sacrifice are never forgotten.

To purchase a wreath for a military spouse or a veteran in another cemetery, please contact Laurie Schmidt **no later than November 14.** Wreaths are \$17 each.

Join us as we lay wreaths, share stories, and reflect on the legacy of those who served. Everyone is welcome to attend and participate in this meaningful tribute.

NOVEMBER 2025

Sundays:
9:00 am Faith Formation Classes
10:00 am Worship & Holy Communion

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 All Saints Day
2 All Saints Sunday Daylight Saving Time Ends 10:00am New Member Sunday 11:30am Worship Team Meeting 3:00pm Daisy Girl Scouts Meeting	3 10:00am Visitation Team 12:30pm Chapin Chirpers 6:00pm Chapin Jr. Woman's Club	4 Election Day 10:30am Leisure Timers 6:30pm DF Choral Society	5 10:00am Fiber Friends	6 10:00am Social Ministry Committee Meeting 5:30pm Agape Circle	7	8
9 9:00am Budget Forum 11:45am Council Meeting	10 10:00am Visitation Team 12:30pm Chapin Chirpers 6:30pm Lutheran Men in Mission	11 Veterans Day 6:00pm Chapin Jr. Woman's Club 6:30pm DF Choral Society	12 10:00am Fiber Friends	13 7:00pm Dutch Fork Choral Society Winter Concert	14 7:00pm Dutch Fork Choral Society Winter Concert	15
16 3:00pm Daisy Girl Scouts Meeting	17 10:00am Visitation Team 12:30pm Chapin Chirpers	18 5:30pm LutheReaders 6:30pm DF Choral Society	19 10:00am Fiber Friends	20	21 11:30am Friendship Circle	22
23 Christ The King Sunday 11:30am SONshine Bags Delivery 11:30am Worship Team Meeting	24 10:00am Visitation Team 12:30pm Chapin Chirpers 6:00pm Fellowship Committee Meeting (Zoom)	25 6:30pm DF Choral Society	26 10:00am Fiber Friends	27 Thanksgiving Day	28	29
30	1	2	3	4	5	6

PRAYER REQUESTS



Long Term Prayer Requests for Members at The Mount

Brady Amick
Sandra Ayoub
Phyllis Barton
Millie Courtney
Nancy Crogen
Gerri Heintz
Jim Johnston
Dot Kleckley
Holly Knight
Aubrey Metts
Anne Mitchell
Lynette Shealy
Vie Wilmot

Can we pray for you?

Visit mthoreb.net to submit a request. We would love to support you and your loved ones in prayer.

Prayer Requests for Friends of Our Church Family

- Jimmy Jones, brother of Herbie Jones
- Kit Alewine, brother of Tess Wessinger
- Leon Rippy, friend of Jim Pope
- JoAnn Williams, mother of David Williams
- Friends and family of Jaheil "JD" Thompson, former student of Mattie Smith
- Linda Hill, friend of Wanda Burleson
- Sally Thompson, sister-in-law of Susan Addy
- Eddie Shealy, son of Gene & Ann B. Shealy
- Tommy Ward, friend of Jim Pope
- Landon Derrick, Wes Hill's classmate & friend
- Jimmy and Liane Talbert, uncle and aunt of Mattie Smith
- Heidi Smith, wife of Lew Smith
- Roy Talbert, father of Mattie Smith
- Bill Plump, friend of Bill Stockdell
- Debbie Bickley Wise, niece of Margaret Robinson and cousin of Joe Lassiter, Cathy Rodgers and Camille Joseph
- Karen Bonno, daughter of Lynette Shealy
- Michael Driggers, friend of Jerry & Vicky Shealy
- Bill Warner, brother-in-law of Robbie Koon DeFreese
- Aaron Ellis, Son-in-law of Beth Edgerton
- All those serving in the military

On behalf of the congregation, we extend our heartfelt Christian sympathy to the family of Al Koon following his passing. We pray that God's comforting presence will bring peace, strength, and hope to his family and friends in the days ahead, as they find comfort in knowing they are surrounded by love and prayer.

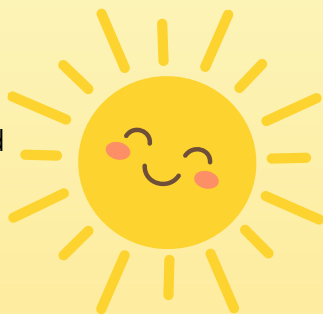
To make updates to prayer requests, please email outreach@mthoreb.net

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONSHINE BAGS

Help us spread SONshine to members unable to attend church by joining the Social Ministry Team in filling our fall **SONshine bags**. Bags will be in the Narthex from **November 2–23** for you to drop in goodies. We'll have about 26 bags to fill.

Thank you for supporting this meaningful ministry that lets these members know they are in our thoughts and prayers. Bags will be ready for delivery after service on **November 23**. If you'd like to visit a member and deliver a bag, we'd love your help.



CHAPIN WE CARE

MOST NEEDED ITEMS

- Boxed Pasta
- Dry & Canned Beans
- Jelly/Jam (plastic jars please)
- Grits
- Canned Meats
- Soups (all sizes/varieties)
- Spaghetti Sauce (plastic jars/cans)
- Syrup
- Canned Peas
- Cookies and Other Snacks

ALWAYS Needed:
toiletries, dish soap,
laundry detergent
& cleaning supplies.



CHAPIN WE CARE FOOD DRIVE

Join us in supporting **Chapin We Care** by donating non-perishable food items in this spirited college football-themed food drive! Starting November 2 fans will compete to see which team's supporters can collect the most items. The winning team will be announced on **November 23**, and regardless of the outcome of the actual football game on November 29, supporters of the winning food drive team are encouraged to proudly wear their team colors on **November 30**.

This friendly competition is all about giving back—the winner will be determined by the number of items donated, not the weight. Let's show our team spirit and make a difference together!



WE CARE CENTER



A LETTER FROM CHAPIN WE CARE



Chapin We Care Center
Interfaith Outreach
P. O. Box 491 Chapin, SC 29036
Phone: 803-345-3244
Email: directorwcc@sc.twcbc.com

October 16, 2025

Mt. Horeb Lutheran Church
101 East Boundary Street
Chapin, SC 29036

Thank you for your generous donation! We are incredibly thankful for the community support that makes our work possible, and you are such an important part of that capacity!

So many of us look forward to the calendar change this month. October is a welcome relief to hot temperatures, and we look forward to cooler days and before long holidays that beg to be celebrated one after another. Fall reminds us of change, the moving from one season to another. For so many of us, fall is a joyful time of year as we celebrate that change.

For families struggling to feed their families, little changes from one season to the next. Month by month passes with needs hand to mouth, and our clients do the best they can to care for their families. As fall comes, winter is not far behind and is often anticipated with trepidation as the brief respite of fall temperatures will soon dip into the cold of winter and higher utility bills. Holidays mean gifts and special food needs. Fall is a relief to some, but for others, the burdens remain.

As our clients anticipate these changing needs as the seasons shift, so is We Care! We have already started taking applications from clients for Thanksgiving and Christmas, and we anticipate that we will again serve over 900 people Thanksgiving meals and 500 children Christmas gifts! We are also working hard to make sure that food, utilities and other necessities are provided for our clients as well. We will do everything we can to see that our clients' needs are met year round!

Thank you for making that attention to client needs possible through your support. We Care is incredibly blessed by such a caring community that makes our outreach possible!

Sincerely,

Alecia Klauk, Executive Director

Donation Receipt

Organization: Chapin We Care
Check Number: 13426

Date: 10/3/2025
Donation: \$500

We Care is a 501(c)3 organization providing food and emergency assistance to those in need in Chapin and the surrounding areas.



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMBER MESSAGE BOARD

This section of the newsletter is dedicated to members who wish to share messages of encouragement or gratitude with the Mount Horeb family. To be include in next month’s issue, please send your submission to outreach@mthoreb.net **by the 17th of each month** (please title the subject line “Member Message Board”).



ALTER FLOWERS

We need YOUR help! **Sign up for alter flowers for 2026.** Please pick up a form at the welcome desk, fill it out, and drop it in the offering plate.

Each Sunday’s altar flowers are a wonderful way to honor loved ones or celebrate special occasions. Thank you for helping make our worship space beautiful all year long!



JOIN THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Each year members are invited to serve as at-large nominees for the Congregational Council—a great opportunity to **share your gifts and help shape the ministry of Mount Horeb.**

If you or someone you know feels called to lead, please contact Laurie Schmidt, Cameron Prince, Travis Goodman, Katie Morgan, or sign up in the Welcome Center.



2026 PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

We’re creating a new pictorial directory, and we’d love to see ALL your smiling faces in the 2026 edition!

Please sign up at the Information Desk to schedule your individual photo appointment. Special orders are welcome!



NEWSLETTER EMAIL LIST

Let’s all be good stewards of the environment. Join our email list to receive your monthly newsletter.

Email frontdesk@mthoreb.net to be added to the monthly newsletter email list.

Please put “Newsletter” on the subject line and include your first and last name in the body of your email.



INSIGHT WITH DR. BOB

Formation, not Information, nor Trivial Pursuit

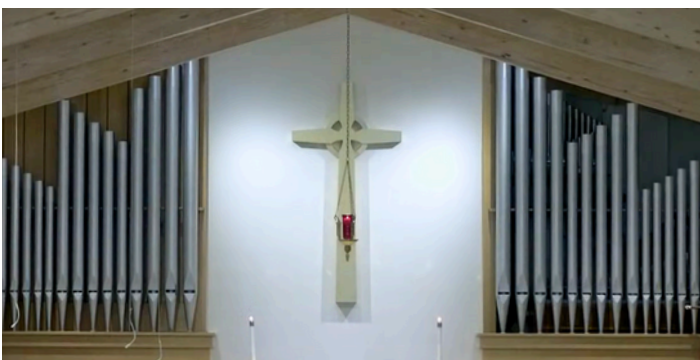
O.K., all you Baby Boomers, what did you learn from the countless times you played the wildly popular game, *Trivial Pursuit*®, and how did you apply that learning thereafter? The 1979 brainchild of Canadians Chris Haney and Scott Abbott, the game was pitched to adults as an exercise in general knowledge of life and living. As the game's name suggests, that knowledge was thrown at the players (from two to twenty-four) in no systematic fashion. Later versions included a "family edition" and later still a "Harry Potter edition," a goldmine of trivia if there ever was one! Great fun, certainly, while it lasts, but back to the original question: What did you learn from the game and how have you since applied that learning? Applying trivia meaningfully is tricky.

The way Lutheran Confirmation developed over the centuries sadly began to resemble an exercise in churchly trivia, if one is to believe the many on-line bloggers and the parishioners' reminiscences to which pastors and others paying attention can attest. Luther himself was highly suspicious of its vaulted place and expressed his thoughts in no uncertain terms in the 1520 *Babylonian Captivity of the Church*. Those joining in the many on-line conversations about church and note that back in the "good-ol-days"

confirmation was a fairly rigid 2 to 3 years of learning facts and figures ending in a public final exam by Herr Pastor in front of the congregation. Grilled about the names, proper spellings, and the ordering of the books of the Bible, memorization of specific texts and liturgical portions of the Lutheran liturgy, and particularly Luther's *Small Catechism* of 1529, Confirmation was a tour-de-force of crammed facts and figures spewed forth at that service. Older parishes continue to display pictures of confirmation classes of usually younger teens along with their pastors. Dressed in graduation gowns, they were handed certificates after they endured and survived the ordeal. Once again, the original question needs to be asked: What did you learn during confirmation and how have you since applied that learning?

Although Luther didn't have all the theological cards in his hand, his suspicions were correct. Confirmation was not and still isn't the great accomplishment of intensive study to be celebrated far more elaborately than Holy Baptism. Not too long ago, baptisms were often done on a weekday or a Sunday afternoon so as not to disturb the usual liturgy. The fact of the matter is that Holy Baptism is the bedrock of all else the Church does. [Memorize that last sentence!] It is the source and ever-living font of life. Confirmation originally was simply the last portion of the baptismal rite.

Happily, holy Church officially reconsidered Confirmation's role in the life of faith in 1970 after spending years in intensive study of the Biblical documents and post-testamental developments in the church.



Once it was understood that Baptism IS the lynchpin, then a reordering of confirmation made great sense. It is not a graduation exercise, but rather a mustering of the maturing individual's capacity to reflect on and apply the articles of faith nurtured over whatever time it takes, and then finding ways to articulate, share, and give thanks publicly for the great gifts bestowed in Holy Baptism. Confirmation happens when it needs to happen – it's not the same as the inevitable assembly line ordering of primary and secondary education. This means, brothers and sisters, that latter day confirmands don't look at all like a group of young teens, often gawky, awkward, and not yet sure of their capacity to speak of their faith. Rather, Confirmation comes with maturity, and it may even be repeated when persons undergo major transformations and upheavals in their lives, like a return to the Church after years of wandering, or venturing out from the parental nest and college to establish themselves in the world on their own.

Recent confirmands at Mount Horeb have not at all resembled the confirmands of the good-ol-days, with Brandon Miller pretty much breaking the mold as a twenty-something towering at about 6 foot four inches. (I did ask permission from him to mention him, if you're wondering.) He, Wes, and so many others are waiting because their minds and hearts are wondering how they will step up to the plate and be responsible, caring adults who are unmistakably Christ's disciples. Such folks are acutely aware of the moral and ethical witness that is theirs. Let us keep them in prayer and intentionally and repeatedly ask ourselves what we also need to learn, or relearn, and how we best articulate that as witnesses to the presence of God in our own lives. You are *never* too old to do so!

Prayerfully,
Dr. Bob Hawkins



A SPECIAL THANKS FROM GLENDA LINDLER

On behalf of Mt. Horeb's Golden Agers, I would like to thank the committee and volunteers who worked so diligently to honor us. The fellowship hall was so elegantly decorated and festive—the food was outstanding, and so was the fellowship.

Togetherness as a church family is so important.

– Glenda

PRESCHOOL CORNER

To My Church Family -

The Preschool and I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our wonderful church family for your generous donations of snacks, supplies, and classroom gifts at the start of the school year. Your kindness and support mean so much to our teachers and little learners - you help make our days brighter and our classrooms well-stocked with love!

If you would like to continue supporting this ministry, our Preschool Giving Tree is still available in the Narthex with opportunities to bless our classrooms in specific ways. As a non-profit ministry, the preschool also gratefully accepts monetary donations at any time to help us continue serving our children and families.

We are also hoping to have church volunteers who would like to pop into classrooms throughout the year to be mystery readers for our children.

I know how much the children benefit from the love and care we all pour into them - and I guarantee you will leave with a smile because they are good for our souls as well!

Please email me at preschool@mthoreb.net or call the preschool at 803-345-6441 and leave a message that you would like to come read to a class and we will get a schedule set up with you and our teachers.

Thank you again for helping our youngest friends learn and grow in faith, love, and joy!

With Thanks and Blessings,

Sherri Wessinger Derrick
Preschool Director
Mt. Horeb Lutheran Church



MILESTONES TO CELEBRATE

November Birthdays

1	Janelle Turner-Barrett	8	Kristi Soderlund	21	Billy Morgan
	Randy Addy	9	Jeffrey Griffin		Wanda Rister
2	Danny Marks		Hal Hutchens	22	Butch Russell
	Carolyn Miller	13	Jim Fiber	23	Wayne Hollis
	Hannah Waites		Karl Fulmer		Rachel Morgan Metts
3	Kathy Curry		Stephanie Stoudemayer	28	Will Morgan
	Harriet Hatchell	14	Susan Crabtree		Dean Smith
4	Faye Hawkins		Georgie Fulmer	29	Jerry Bundrick
	Robby Shealy		Phillip Griffin		Gayle Wicker
5	Sandra McKie	16	Sherri Derrick		Tony Bebber
6	Laurie Schmidt	17	Marion Frick		Sandra Ayoub
7	Peggy Miller			30	Pam Shear



Happy Birthday



Wedding Anniversaries

6	Brett & Kelly Gowans - 32
	Tony & Leigh Bebber - 43
11	Berley,III & Brittany Rister - 13
12	Wayne & Andrea Hollis - 54
	Bill & Linda Moser - 59
16	Tommy & JoAnne Hill - 23
20	James & Wanda Riste - 49
28	Skip & Janelle Barrett - 27
29	Billy & Connie Griffin - 50



HAPPY Anniversary

Congratulations On Your Confirmation!

Wes Hill
Brandon Miller
Ava Williams



RITE OF CONFIRMATION OF
WES HILL, BRANDON MILLER AND AVA WILLIAMS

COUNCIL NOTES: HIGHLIGHTS FROM OCTOBER MEETING

Meeting Overview

- **2026 Ministry Spending Plan**
adopted for presentation to the congregation.
- **Nov 9** – Budget Forum during Sunday School (9:00 a.m.)
- **Nov 16** – Congregational Meeting to elect new Council Members and consider Cemetery Bylaw changes and the Ministry Spending Plan
- **Cemetery Forum** – Excellent turnout on Oct. 5; a Q&A summary will be provided before the congregational vote.

Ministry Team Highlights

Property Team

- New chancel doors installed and locking properly; painting estimate pending
- Cross Tower lighting installed week of Oct. 6
- Carillon system installation complete
- HVAC maintenance done (filters replaced; timer repaired)
- Preschool file cabinet assembled by Michael Greene & grandson Harrison
- New kitchen freezer donated and installed by Delbert & Lisa Wessinger
- Overhanging oak limb removed along the Chapin-side driveway

Upcoming Events

- **Oct 26:** Golden Age Sunday Lunch
- **Oct 26:** Reformation & Confirmation Sunday
 - Confirmands: Brandon Miller, Ava Williams, Wes Hill
- **November-December Activities:**
 - HUB Thanksgiving Gravy Drive
 - Angel Tree Gifts for Families in Need
 - Chapin Old Timey Christmas & Live Nativity – Dec 13
 - Wreaths Across America – Dec 13 (Fully Funded)
- **Pictorial Directory:** Planning is underway



Social Ministry

- **Visitation Team:** Improved tracking and accountability; members visiting on behalf of Pastor Ron
- **Bereavement Meals:** Team lists updating in November via Time & Talent forms
- **SONshine Bags:** Collection Nov 2–23; delivery by Dec 20
- **Card Ministry:** Thriving; Trina Free leading post-high school outreach
- **Directory Updates:** Deena Bishop & Trina Free assisting Jeannie with mid-October review
- **Community Outreach:** Lutheran Men hosting a mental health speaker this month

Stewardship

- Pastor Ron & Tom Griffin attended the Stewardship for All Seasons planning session via Zoom (Oct. 2)
- Team met Oct. 6 to develop mailings, temple talks, and financial goals for the 2026 campaign
- Kickoff: January 18, 2026
- Team: Pam Shear, Lisa Smith, Stan Shealy, Russ Burleson, Tom Griffin, and Pastor Ron

Cemetery Committee

- Wall cleaning completed in September
- Oct. 5 Forum held to review GIS mapping, bylaws, and funding
- Cemetery Fund operating at a deficit since 2023; current trend could deplete funds within 8–10 years
- **Bylaw Updates Under Review:**
 - Single-grave selection
 - Former/non-member burials
 - Marker and cremation standards
 - Grave opening process and fees
- **Expansion Discussion:**
Exploring adjacent Ellett Brothers property for possible acquisition
- **Future Planning:**
 - Partnering with funeral homes for consistent operations
 - Exploring columbarium installation
 - Enhancing landscaping and documentation procedures



STEWARDSHIP

Nearly 100 years ago Franklin D. Roosevelt said in his Inaugural address “The only thing we have to fear is fear itself!”

He encouraged our country to persevere as they recovered from difficult times.

Often when making a big purchase like buying a house or a car seems like a real leap of faith. Yet is that fear what keeps us from showing the full extent of our

gratitude to God for the intellect, skills and family that God has provided for us? As we prepare our homes for Thanksgiving and Christmas, let's prepare our hearts to show our sincere gratitude to God. There is nothing to fear, when you put God in control.

Abundant blessings,

Pastor Ron

LIFE AT THE MOUNT



MHLC
101 E. Boundary St.
Chapin, SC 29036

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CHAPIN SC
PERMIT NO. 9

HAPPENINGS AT THE MOUNT



THE NEWSLETTER OF MT. HOREB LUTHERAN CHURCH | CHAPIN, SOUTH CAROLINA

MOUNT HOREB LUTHERAN CHURCH	803-345-2000
www.mthorb.net	101 East Boundary Street Chapin, SC 29036