

The Messenger



MARCH-APRIL 2026

Our church calendar is dominated by the 40-day penitential season of Lent, which began on February 18, and the joyous Easter season beginning after Easter Sunday on April 5.



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Mount Horeb Preschool

Celebrating 50+ Years of Faith, Family, and Early Learning

**Preschool Registration is now open for
Church Members and Currently Registered
Students.**

Class space is limited, so be sure and
return your Enrollment Form along with the
registration fee so we may hold your child’s
spot in our exciting program.

Enrollment forms can be picked up through
the Preschool or church office. Please call
the Preschool at **(803) 345-6441** if you need
further information.

NEW! For Children — On Palm Sunday, March 29

We are calling this “Witness Sunday” and extending a special invitation to our Preschool children, parents, grandparents and teachers. The children will be part of Waving the Palms processional and then a Children’s Moment with Pastor Ron.

Children ages 3 through 5th grade are then invited to follow Billy Morgan to the fellowship hall to participate in a 20-minute Children’s Church during the sermon.

Children will:

- **Hear the Palm Sunday story**
- **Create a hands-on project**
- **Prepare for Holy Week**

Then they will return to the sanctuary in time to bring offerings in baskets up to the altar, then go sit with parents for communion and the remainder of the service.

This is also the perfect Sunday for you to bring a friend with you to church, perhaps a former member, or one who has not attended services in a long time, or a “lost sheep” who has strayed from the faith, or someone who is in search of a church home.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

An **Easter Egg Hunt for All Children** in the Community will be held on Saturday, April 4, at 10 a.m.

The deadline for **Easter Lily Orders** is March 15. Cost is \$12 each. Order forms will be in bulletin and available at Welcome Desk.

Brandon Miller a member of the Witness Team has agreed to serve as the coordinator for the Chapin Labor Day float committee.

Spring SONshine Bags

SONshine Bags will be in the Narthex March 1-22. They are a way to spread sunshine and “Son”shine to our members who are unable to attend services. Fill them with snacks, puzzles, notepads, pens, pencils, or any other item that may bring a smile to our fellow members!

Bags should be picked up after service on March 22 and delivered no later than Easter! The Social Ministry Team thanks you for your assistance with this ministry!



Easter Sunday April 5, 2026

He is Risen! Alleluia!

Join us on Sunday, April 5, as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. Our day begins with a Sunrise Service at 7 a.m. at the Mt. Horeb Cemetery entrance (with an egg hunt just for adults on the way back to the church), followed by breakfast at 8:30 a.m. and the Flowering of the Cross at 9:30 a.m. Our second Easter service will begin at 10 a.m.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Preschool Art Show, Book Fair & Spaghetti Dinner

Wednesday, April 23 | Evening

Our Preschool children have been busy creating beautiful works of art, and we invite you to celebrate their creativity at our Preschool Art Show and Scholastic Book Fair on April 23rd!

The children will showcase their artwork in a joyful Art Show, and we'll host a Scholastic Book Fair where you can purchase books for your children or grandchildren — all while supporting our Preschool ministry.

Stay for Spaghetti Dinner – Our church will host dinner that evening, with proceeds going directly to support the Preschool.

This is more than just an event — it's a chance to surround young families with encouragement and show them they are a valued part of our Mt. Horeb community. Mark your calendar and plan to join us. We can't wait to see you there!

Leisure Timers

This is a seniors' ministry, focused on social connection, spiritual growth and community engagement. We connect through regular meetings, lunches, day trips and other activities.

At 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 3, come and join us for stories featuring Bart and Alice Teal's travels exploring religious sites that are unique and interesting in Israel, Turkey, Italy, Greece, Japan and Russia.



On Saturday, March 14, join us for a trip to Anderson, SC, to see a production of the Anderson Senior Follies in the Rainey Fine Arts Center on Kingsley Road. Show time is 11 a.m. The Follies will be celebrating their 37th season with "The Last Resort". "When a well-meaning child places aging parents in a Retirement Community, the couple soon discover that "The Last Resort" lives up to its name – and then some. Far from a quiet retirement, this colorful community is bursting with quirky characters, daily hijinks, and a never-ending stream of gossip."

Get ready for laughs, surprises, and a heartwarming reminder that growing older doesn't mean slowing down.

International World Water Day Observance

Sunday, March 22

Mt. Horeb will take part in the ELCAs annual observance of International World Water Day to raise awareness of the global water crisis, to promote access to safe, clean water, and

to advocate for sustainable management. Donations for this cause will be much appreciated. Today approximately 2.2 billion people lack access to safe water.

Mt. Horeb has a long history of supporting Clean and Safe Drinking Water. In 2012 a Safe Water System was dedicated in a small village in the SW Diocese of Tanzania and the system was dedicated "In Honor of Mt Horeb Lutheran Church". Bill Dukes and Pastor Ralph Hill were on the Tanzania Mission Trip and were present for the dedication.

In 2013, the SC Synod and Water Missions International formed a partnership to construct Safe Water Systems.

Three Safe Water Systems were completed and dedicated in 2014. These systems provide safe drinking water to more than 3,000 people in the villages of Mlwonde (Dedicated to honor the SC Synod Youth), Nogoje (Dedicated to honor the SC LMM) and Ikungula (Dedicated to honor William E. Dukes and Mt Horeb Lutheran Church)

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This photo was taken on the 2014 mission dedicating the first Safe Water System in a village in Southwest Tanzania. The SC ELCA synod is a Companion synod with the SW Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania.. Bishop Herman Yoos and Pastor Hill were in attendance along with Bishop Job Mybilo the Bishop of the SW Diocese ELCAT when the system was dedicated in Honor of William Dukes and the congregation of Mt Horeb who were so generous in providing funds for this project. The Mt Horeb congregation raised more than \$50,000 to support this project.



This Shepherd House was also dedicated in 2014 as a "Gift from Mt Horeb Lutheran Church." Again, Mt Horeb members contributed to provide this gift to an elderly grandmother who was raising her two grandchildren because the children's parents had died from a disease.

A very touching moment...



Lutheran Men in Mission

Focusing on Faith, Fellowship and Service

The Lutheran Men in Mission meet at 6:30 PM the second Monday of each month. All men and women are invited.

On Monday, March 9, Pastor John Stoudemayer will present our program.

On Monday, April 23, the program will be presented by Lexington County Sheriff Jay Koon. In his public speaking engagements Sheriff Koon emphasizes proactive community

engagement, restoring trust and integrity, and utilizing modern Technology for officer efficiency and crime prevention.

In 2023, Sheriff Koon was named Sheriff of the Year by the South Carolina Sheriffs' Association.



COMING EVENT IN MAY



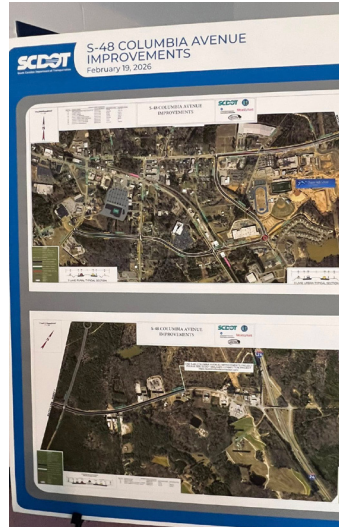
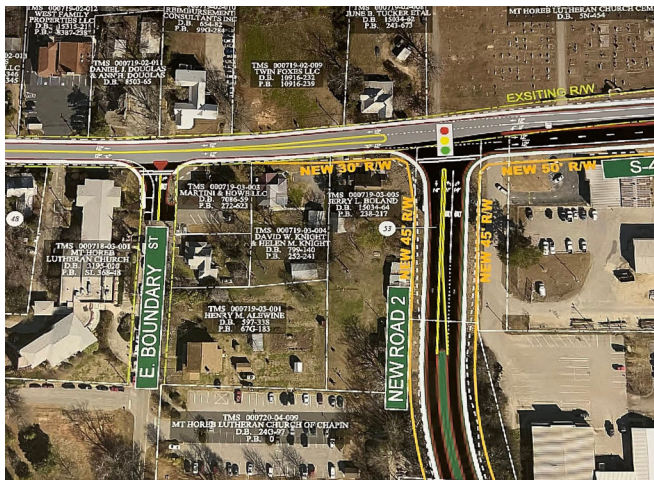
Mt. Horeb Lutheran Men will host Roy Frick, Assistant Director of School District 5's Center for Advanced Technical Studies, as their guest speaker on Monday, May 11, 2026. All are invited to attend.

Mr. Frick brings a wealth of experience to his current position as he has held key roles in various educational institutions. He served as the CTE Director/Work-Based Coordinator at Batesburg-Leesville High School and later assumed the position of Assistant Principal of Batesburg-Leesville Middle School.

During his tenure at BLHS CTE, Mr. Frick spearheaded the highly successful "High Schools That Work" initiative, aimed at enhancing educational outcomes for students. Additionally, he introduced the prestigious BLHS CTE Business of the Year Award, which recognizes outstanding businesses that have made a significant impact on the school throughout the year.

Roads Forum Attracts Standing Room Crowd

At Mt. Horeb's public forum on Feb. 19, the fellowship hall was filled to capacity with interested citizens. SCDOT Project Manager Joey McIntyre gave a timeline for beginning construction on the \$90 million Columbia Avenue/Chapin Bypass Project. SCDOT expects to let bids in April, with work expected to begin in the June or July time frame.



McIntyre added that a contractor will provide a quick resurfacing on Columbia Avenue to provide a smooth riding surface while construction is underway. The project is expected to take three years for completion.

Speakers included State Senator Ronnie Cromer, County Council member Charli Wessinger, Mayor Bill Mitchell and Highway Commissioner Bill Dukes.

This is expected to be the first of a number of public forums at The Mount covering topics of community interest.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

MARCH & APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Mar 1 Bailey Gowans
Mar 2 Mary Nell Mets
Mar 3 Ken Heintz
Mar 3 Rachel Wessinger
Mar 4 Cathy Rodgers
Mar 5 Man Jia Yan
Mar 6 Abigail Bundrick
Mar 10 Cathryn Lindler
Mar 10 Lynette Shealy
Mar 10 Jennifer Smith
Mar 13 Pat Johnson
Mar 13 Tim Schmidt
Mar 14 Don Comalander
Mar 15 Helen Comalander
Mar 15 Skip Barrett
Mar 16 Glen Wessinger
Mar 17 Tom Griffin
Mar 17 Vie Wilmot
Mar 18 Evelyn Griggs
Mar 19 Joe Lassiter
Mar 20 Wanda Burleson
Mar 20 Furman Miller

Mar 21 Nancy Bollibon
Mar 22 Leland Teal
Mar 25 Kate Soderlund
Mar 25 Ashley Williams
Mar 26 Dottie Ellett
Mar 26 Elias Morgan
Mar 26 Walker Dukes
Mar 28 Huaqian Wang
Mar 29 Nancy Buntyn
Mar 29 Gerri Heintz
Apr 2 Deena Bishop
Apr 2 Shirley Fulmer
Apr 3 Tess Wessinger
Apr 7 Sheri Martin
Apr 12 Vicky Shealy
Apr 13 Susan Addy
Apr 18 Charlie Schmidt
Apr 21 Connie Griffin
Apr 26 Gary Feltman
Apr 26 Sheryl Trexler
Apr 29 Wayne Addy

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Apr 8 Joey & Deena Bishop – 30
Apr 8 Craig & Bonnie Lindler – 36
Apr 8 Leland & Carol Teal – 47
Apr 9 Rod & Rae Davis – 37
Apr 16 Bill & Joann Dukes – 46

Apr 19 Doug & Donna Fender – 43
Apr 21 Danny & Trina Free – 35
Apr 21 Louis Kolb & Evelyn Griggs – 7
Apr 23 Don & Sheri Martin – 20
Apr 26 Jonathan & Heather Adams – 11