



## WELCOME REV. DR. ANN KOVAN

Rev. Dr. Ann deRosset (DARE-uh-zet) Kovan (CO-vaun) is an ordained Elder in the United Methodist Church serving in the South Carolina Conference. Ann's life is best characterized by courage and adventure, from technical climbing Half Dome in Yosemite National Park and scaling 14,500 ft. Mt. Whitney in California, to sailing from San Francisco to North Carolina on a 40-ft sailboat. Her biggest adventure and most courageous moment was answering God's call out of a successful career in advertising into pastoral ministry 14 years ago.

Ann's passion is giving others the courage to take up their cross daily and inspiring in them the adventure of following Christ. Seeing God's love dawning on the faces of new believers and being an instrument of peace and justice across divides is her greatest joy. She loves loving people and connecting them to God and others in imaginative ways. Ann cherishes time with her husband, Andy, and their daughters, Gabrielle and Claire (who are both students at Clemson University) and enjoys reading, running, mountain biking, triathlon, and camping. She roots for the Tar Heels of her undergraduate alma mater, University of North Carolina, where she earned a degree in Journalism.

Ann received a Master of Divinity from Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky, and completed her Clinical Pastoral Education at Roper St. Francis Healthcare in Charleston, SC. She earned a Doctor of Ministry at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, SC. Dedicated to ongoing growth and lifelong learning, Ann continues to courageously go wherever and to whomever God sends her.

Welcome to Mt. Hebron United Methodist Church, Rev. Dr. Ann Kovan!



## Meet the Kovan Family

Greetings Friends in Christ! It is great to finally be with you! I've met so many wonderful and supportive people here, you've made it feel like home already. If you read my bio, you know I love adventure and tackling formidable goals. I've climbed one of the highest mountains in the U. S.

and as difficult as that was, I know that the challenges we face as a church are mountains brought low by the power of God. I welcome the path we face and look with brightness towards the way that God is equipping and calling us. God's word assures us that at any time, a church already has everything it needs to fulfill its current purpose. Each of you are essential parts of this Body of Christ, for which God has a plan for right-now mission and ministry. Let's let the church be the Church under Christ by the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

I can't wait for you to get to know my family! We are very close and spend a lot of time together. Andy is the chef of the family and loves to feed us delectable meals. He is also our yard wizard and can fix just about anything around the house. Working in advertising and marketing for nearly 30 years, Andy manages those things and more while VP of Communications and Digital Marketing for Capital Vacations in Myrtle Beach. I also enjoy working in the yard, reading, running, mountain biking, and triathlon. Gabby is on course to graduate from Clemson in December with a degree in Biology and plans to attend medical school. Claire will be a junior at Clemson in pre-law studies and is aiming for law school. Many people think our girls look alike, so the best way to tell them apart is Claire has really curly hair. We love to travel and camp as a family.

I look forward to getting to know you and your families, your interests, your gifts and graces, your hopes and your dreams! God has a plan for Mt. Hebron United Methodist Church, and it is being enacted right now. Let's keep up with God!





### Memory Café

In early 2025, Mt. Hebron UMC hosted a retired minister who spoke about memory loss and the challenges faced by caregivers. Our own Larry Hays announced the church's intention to establish a quarterly Memory Café. This is a friendly social gathering for people experiencing memory or thinking changes and for those who care for them. A café provides a space to enjoy fun activities, connect with others who understand your situation, and try new things.

An eleven-member committee was formed and those volunteers set June 1st as the date for the first café. At this June 1st café, Larry Hays gave a devotional and shared his vision for the Memory Café. Paul Harmon led the group in singing several songs. Mary Brunson provided beautiful flower arrangements and Georgia Heise prepared delicious chicken salad sandwiches and cupcakes for everyone to enjoy.



### Wrapped in Prayer

If you knit, crochet, quilt or sew (or would like to learn), please join the "Wrapped in Prayer" ministry! We create prayer shawls, prayer quilts, and miniature prayer shawls called "Prayer Pockets." All ages are welcome! Currently, we are all gals but we've heard of a few guys in our congregation that were taught by their grandmas to knit and crochet. We hope you will join us too! We meet each Tuesday morning and the second Saturday of each month from 9:30—11:30 AM in Room 401.

If you are unable to attend in person but would like to be a part of "Wrapped in Prayer" by creating prayer shawls and quilts at home, that would be wonderful! We have several members that create only from home and they are a vital part of this ministry.

Our prayer is that every person wrapped in a prayer shawl or quilt or holding a prayer pocket will be comforted by God's healing presence and be reminded of His love and grace and how much He cares for them.

Three ways all of Mt. Hebron can be involved:

\*Notify the church office or any member of "Wrapped in Prayer" when you know of someone going through a difficult situation and feel they would be blessed by receiving prayer shawl or quilt.

\*Pray for those that will be receiving the prayer shawls and quilts that are placed on the altar each month.

\*Keep an extra prayer pocket on hand to give to someone that needs to know or be reminded of how much God loves them. Baskets of prayer pockets are always in the narthex of the sanctuary and in the Family Life Center.



### UPDATE CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

In an effort to update Mt. Hebron's membership records, a letter dated June 6, 2025, was mailed to the address on file for Professing members. A form was included to submit current contact information, including email addresses and phone numbers. If you have not returned the form, please do so (even if you think we have accurate information) and mail or drop it off at the church office Monday—Thursday, 10:00 AM—4:00 PM. You may also email it to Judy Riser at [membership@mthebronumc.com](mailto:membership@mthebronumc.com).

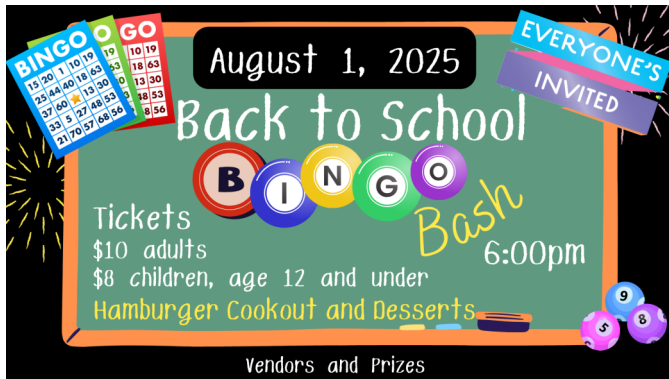
If you didn't receive the letter or have questions, please contact us. The mailing address that we have on file may be incorrect due to a family move, or you may have adult children who no longer live at home. Please help us serve you better and foster a strong, connected church family by ensuring that we have accurate information for your family members.



### Lexington County Sheriff's Department Training

On July 25 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, the Lexington County Sheriff's Department will be training on site at Mt. Hebron UMC. A large portion of the building will be blocked off during this time (sanctuary, fellowship hall, day school). There will be a large presence of law enforcement vehicles on site during this time. **IT IS ONLY A TRAINING SESSION SO NO NEED TO BE ALARMED!**





## Walk on the Water

The theme for this year's VBS, "Walk on the Water", provided the perfect backdrop for a week filled with fun, faith, and fellowship. Each day brought new adventures rooted in Bible stories, hands-on activities, high-energy worship, and moments of meaningful reflection.

Church and community children attended, ranging in age from preschool to middle school. Whether they were listening to Bible stories, making crafts, singing songs, or enjoying snacks and games, the children were immersed in an experience designed to help them grow spiritually while building lasting friendships.

Thank you to all who supported VBS with their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. **(Vacation Bible School Pictures Below!)**



**United Women in Faith Picnic—August 12**

**Baseball at Segra Park—August 16**

**Shrimp & Grits—August 22**

**Tom Brunson Celebration – August 24**

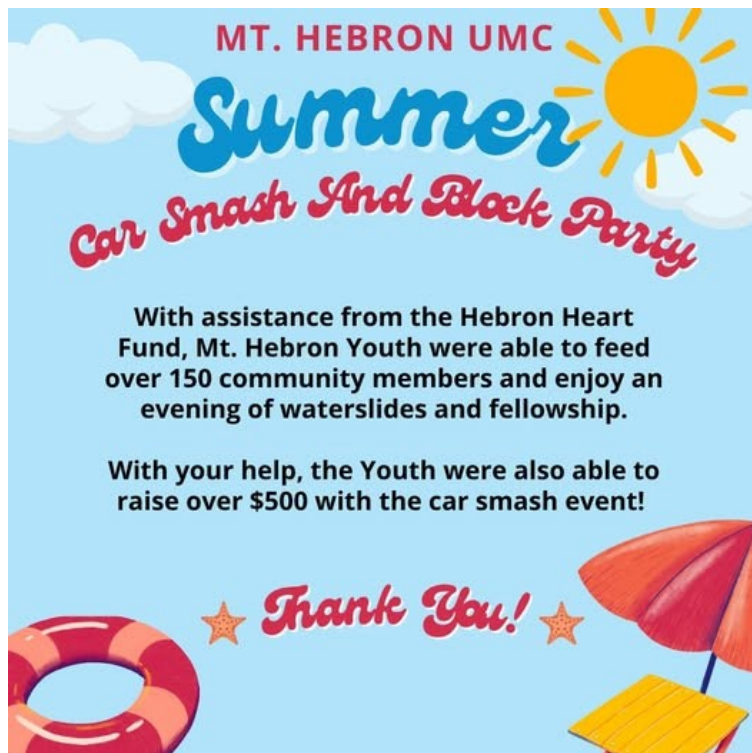
**(More Information Coming in August )**



## Salkehatchie

Thank you for your prayers, encouragement and financial support of the Union, Edisto Island and Santee Salkehatchie camps. Your support helped the 145 youth and adults who participated in

these camps repair the homes of over 14 families. More on these camps, the repairs made possible, and the lives touched coming in the August Herald!



***Get Plugged in at Mt. Hebron with these AMAZING Discipleship Opportunities!***

**Coffee Bar Host/Hostess** Have coffee station ready by the time listed. Greet & welcome everyone, invite people to participate in upcoming events, answer any questions as needed. Inventory coffee bar and clean up bar at the end of coffee service. Please call the church office to volunteer.

- ♦ New Life Service Coffee Bar 8:30am until first song begins
- ♦ FLC Welcome Center Coffee Bar 9:30am—11:00am
- ♦ Sunday School Gathering Area Coffee Bar 9:30 am—11:00 am

**Flower Ministry** Needing volunteers to help turn altar flowers into 8-10 individual bouquets every Sunday afternoon and delivering the flowers on Monday to members or their families who are ill, home-bound, or just need a reminder that they are thought of, prayed for, and loved. Contact Sue Herndon for more information at 803-767-6687.

**Altar Flower Ministry** Many dates still empty for the 2025 year for altar flowers. Please sign up on the calendar in the hallway behind the sanctuary for the Sunday you would like to put flowers in the church. Make sure to leave a phone number when you sign up. Any questions, please contact Betty Wise at 803-360-0784.

**Food for Funerals and/or Grieving Families provided by UWF** Volunteers are needed to assist with providing food for funerals and/or grieving families. You do not have to help every time, but please consider adding your name to the list of people that we can email or call for assistance during these difficult times. If you have questions, please contact Lisa Tjaarda @ 443-235-9971 or Cathy Neeley @ 803-760-2283.

Return Service Requested

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Pastoral After-Hours Number: 803-422-8136  
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