

Welcome to Mt. Hebron

To see what is happening at Mt. Hebron UMC, check out our website at www.mthebrnumc.com.

Acolyte Training – Today at 4:30 PM in the Sanctuary for anyone (8 years old and up).

Worship Committee Meeting – Monday, January 12 at 1:30 PM in the conference room.

A new Bible Study with Pastor Ann will start on January 14, 2026, from 6:15 PM - 7:15 PM. The study is based on the book *Transforming Evangelism: The Wesleyan Way of Sharing Faith*. Sign-up sheets for the book order are in the Gathering Areas.

2026 Confirmation - Calling all 7th, 8th,+ graders! Confirmation is an important step in a young person's faith formation – a season of learning, questioning, and growing as they prepare to make their own profession of faith and claim the vows of baptism for themselves. If you have questions or want your youth to participate in 2026 Confirmation, please email Pastor Ann at akovan@mthebrnumc.com. Informational meeting is today at 4:30 PM in the upstairs youth room.

Midweek Boost – Wednesday, January 14 at 5:30 PM in the FLC. Spaghetti, salad and garlic bread. Cost is \$5 per person. Children activities start at 6 PM. Bible study from 6:15 to 7:15 PM.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study – Starts Wednesday, January 14 at 9:30 AM in the Cornerstone Room. *What Happens When Women Say Yes to God* by Lysa TerKeurst led by Susan Cline. Books are \$8. Please contact Susan to order (803-917-2014). Sign up in the Gathering Area.

Adult Fellowship Trip – A trip to tour the Governor’s Mansion is planned for Thursday, January 22. Plan to be at the church at 9:00. We will go to lunch after the tour. Signup sheets are on the table in the Gathering Area. We may have to carpool for some.

225 Commemorative T-shirts & 4th Sunday Celebrations – We’ll be celebrating different areas of the church during Sunday worship services starting on the 4th Sunday in January when we celebrate Sunday School. T-shirts are \$20 and can be ordered online or purchased from the church office. You are asked to wear them on the 4th Sunday of each month.

Altar Flower Calendar – The 2026 altar flower calendar has been posted. Please sign up on the day you would like to put flowers in the church and leave a phone number. Any questions, please contact Betty Wise (803-360-0784).

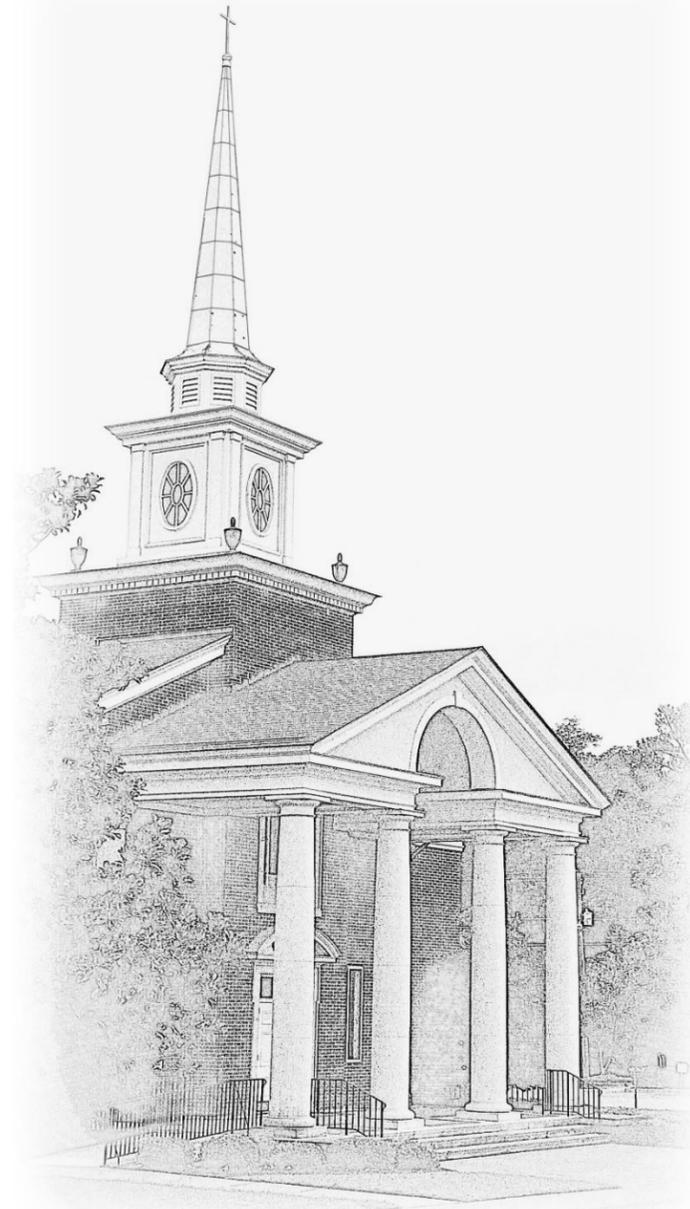
Please join us in welcoming Tomi Rikkinen, our new Financial Secretary, to Mt. Hebron. We are grateful for Tomi’s willingness to share his gifts in this important ministry, and we look forward to his service as he helps steward the financial life of our church. Welcome, Tomi! Cal Atwood will be helping Tomi transition into the position.

The flowers on the altar today are given to the glory of God and offered in loving memory of all widows and widowers, honoring their enduring faith and devotion to God. May their lives be a testament to the strength and comfort found in our Lord, and may we continue to support and uplift one another in times of grief and celebration by Georgia Heise.

To Give Online



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| <p>Sunday School Attendance 1/4/2026 Children & Youth – 20; Adult - 61 Worship Attendance: 1/4/2026- 284 New Life Service 8:45 AM – Online 20, In-Person 126 Traditional Service 11:15 AM – Online 20, In-Person 118</p> | |
| <p>Year-to-Date: 1/4/2026 Contributions: \$811,516.91 Expenses: \$875,212.79 Surplus/<Deficit>: <\$63,695.88></p> | <p>Heritage Building Fund: Building Fund Balance to Date: \$1,977,232.21 Current Loan Balance: \$1,663,298.30</p> |



Did you Know? A Sunday School was organized prior to 1850 with Rev. Conrad Senn as its first superintendent. Classes were held in the sanctuary of the one-room 1837 church with some meeting in the corners and and the rest in the middle. At one time during Mt. Hebron’s history when we were on a charge with 3 other churches, we had services only twice a month (the first Sunday morning and the third Sunday afternoon), but there was Sunday School every Sunday.

History. Hope. Hebron.

January 11, 2026 ~ 11:15 am

Mt. Hebron United Methodist Church
3050 Leaphart Road
West Columbia, SC 29169

Serving Christ for the Transformation of Lives

Baptism of the Lord Sunday/First Sunday after Epiphany

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *Lord Jesus, the Only Son of God* Bach

* Chimes

* Call to Worship

Leader: Let us ascribe to God glory and strength.

People: Let us worship the Lord in holy splendor.

Leader: The Lord sits enthroned for ever.

People: May the Lord bless us with peace!

* Hymn, UMH #608 *This Is the Spirit's Entry Now* AZMON

* Affirmation of Faith (Apostles' Creed) UMH #881

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic** church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

* Gloria Patri UMH #70

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was
in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

Anthem *Washed Anew* by Thomas Keesecker

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offertory *Christ Our Lord to Jordan Came* Zachow

* Doxology UMH #94

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Children's Moment: *Children are dismissed to Wee Worship*

* Scripture Reading Matthew 3:13-17 NRSV

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. 14John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?' 15But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented. 16And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. 17And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved,* with whom I am well pleased.'

Sermon

God's Promise of New Life

Rev. Dr. Ann Kovan

Remembrance of Baptism

Call to Confession

How often we forget or neglect our covenant and baptismal vows. Teach us to live like those who have accepted the obligation, the responsibilities of baptized believers.

Covenant God, you made us your people and gave your Son as a pledge of your love. It was by his blood that we were baptized into relationship with you. Yet, we make trivial both his blood and the water, which symbolizes our entry into the church. Forgive us our sins. Restore us to harmony with you, we pray.

Words of Assurance

Your justice never fails. Your mercy is everlasting.

Your healing river flows. Your Spirit blows where you will. We cannot stop you, God!

But sometimes we try. We try to block the flow, we redirect the winds of the Spirit, or we walk so far away from the life-giving Stream that we do not hear its sound, and we forget its power. We parch ourselves.

We are dry and thirsty, O God. Come, refresh us!

Come upon us, Holy Spirit!

Come upon us, Holy Spirit!

Come upon these waters.

Come upon these waters.

Let these waters be to us drops of your mercy.

Let these waters remind us of your righteousness and justice.

Let these waters renew in us the resurrection power of Jesus.

Let these waters make us long for your coming reign.

Most Holy God, Abba, Father!

Glory to you!

Jesus Christ, Savior, Lord!

Glory to you!

Spirit of fire, Spirit over the waters, Spirit of holiness!

Glory to you!

* Hymn, UMH #252 When Jesus Came to Jordan COMPLAINER

* Benediction

* Postlude *Christ Our Lord to Jordan Came* Pachelbel

* *Congregation is invited to stand if able.*

**universal

Minister: Reverend Dr. Ann Kovan; Director of Music: Dr. Becky Loar; Organist: Dr. Louis Playford; Ushers: Steven Burritt & Andy Beeson; Lay Reader: Paula McDonald; Altar Guild: Betty Wise & Joyce Wingate; Greeters: Doris Layton & Julie Dunn; Acolyte: Lili McBride