# The HeartBeat of Mountainside

*A weekly newsletter for Mountainside Church members*

Mountainside Church A METHODIST CONGREGATION

**November 18, 2026**


## Welcome!


**Senior Pastor:**
Rev. Doug Walker
*mountainsiderev@gmail.com*

**Administrative Assistant:**
Stacy Halligan
*mountainsidechurch@gmail.com*

**Financial Secretary:**
Kelly Breedlove
*mountainsidefinance@gmail.com*

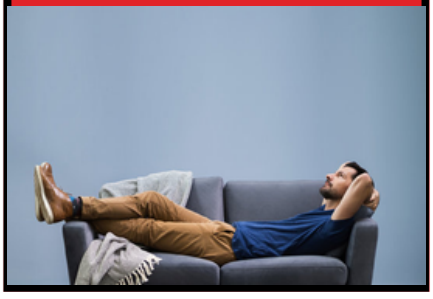
**Praise Team Leader:**
Luci Fortune
*mountainsidepraise@gmail.com*

**Mountainside Church**
301ElcanoD rive
HSV, AR 71909
(501) 922-2626
Hours: Mon-Tue, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Wed-Thur, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
**mountainsidechurch.com**


## This Sunday at Mountainside

"Comfortable?"

Hebrews 11: 32-38



## "Bed of Roses"

You're probably wondering which way I'm going to go with this article by saying life is a bed of roses or life isn't a bed of roses. Well, read on and we'll find out.

Roses are one of the most beautiful flowers in the florist shop. Looking at a single rose discloses just how intricate they are. There is circular row after row of petals around the center of the rose which forms a beautiful and complex geometric shape and pattern. If you pull one petal off of a rose, it does not take away from its beauty. In other words, the whole of the rose is not destroyed.

If there is a rose arrangement in a room, you know it as soon as you walk in. The fragrance of a rose is unmatched. I remember on my wife's last day of teaching, having done so for 42 years, she walked into her classroom to find a massive display of roses – one for each year she taught. The arrangement was huge and the sweet aroma of the three-and-a-half dozen flowers carried from her classroom into the hall and beyond.

You can say many things with roses that you cannot with any other flower. Red roses symbolize love. Yellow roses convey friendship. White roses symbolize purity. My daughters have received both yellow and white roses from their ol' dad on their birthdays, and I know it made them smile.

When a person receives roses from an admirer or friend from the florist, there is something not included in the delivery: thorns. A florist will meticulously clip off the thorns so as not to prick the person form whom they are meant. Imagine the surgery a florist must go through to accomplish this, and no doubt they encounter the sting of a few thorns during the process. It is a necessary evil to create the beauty of the rose without all the heartache of the thorn.

Our Christian walk is the same in a great many ways. We can have days when the beauty of walking in the Spirit is the most beautiful moments we can imagine. Then there are other times when just being a Christian can cause the thorns from others to prick or stab at your heart. Imagine trying to get to a flower in the heart of a rose bush. The thorns on the branches of the bush are even more treacherous than those on the stem of the flower, and navigating the passage to the interior flower isn't easy.

Jesus said following Him wouldn't be a bed of rose petals either (well, not in so many words). His words as recorded in the 15th chapter of John say, "If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first. If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world."

Our citizenship does not lie in this world. We are aliens walking in a foreign land. As such, we are different. Expect to be "pricked" by the thorns of this world, but remember the eternal sweet aroma that awaits each whom God calls His own!




**“HANGING OF THE GREENS”**

We Will be decorating the church for Christmas on Sunday, December 6th after service. All help is greatly needed and appreciated!




**Mountainside’s WINTER FEST Arts & Crafts Fair Bake Sale:**
**DECEMBER 5, 2026**

ATTENTION ALL BAKERS: Please bake pies, cakes, cookies, muffins, cinnamon rolls, breads, cupcakes, breads or anything else that is your specialty! Bring in your items on Friday morning, DECEMBER 4th BETWEEN 9:00-12:00. We will package everything. We also need workers: SIGN UP SHEETS ARE BEHIND THE FIREPLACE




**Mah Jong on November 23 and Hand, Knee & Foot on November 24 are cancelled due to the Holiday. They will resume the next week. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!**




## Your Hospitality Team for November 22

Thank you JD & LouAnn Walker, Dorothy Bodine, Donna Mahle for serving this Sunday!
And speaking of serving, we’re looking for big smiles and warm hearts to join the Hospitality Team. Members serve about once every 4- 5 weeks. Duties include greeting members and guests, getting guests nametags, handing out bulletins, putting out coffee and snacks, putting out attendance books and more. As Pastor Doug says, “Our greeters make the first impression on our members and guests as they enter Mountainside to worship and fellowship with us.” Email Donna Mahle at donnamahle@att.net or call her at 512-304-0992 for more information or to join.

# 2026 Leadership Team

Pastor- Rev. Doug Walker
Chairperson- Bill Hoak
Lay Leader- Ted Schramm
Treasurer- Kevin Hoak
Deb Seibert
Bobby Mahle
Larry Brocaw
Ken Guzel
Bart Langford
Marilyn Sturges
Mike Clarno

You can also check out our Leadership Team on our website
https://www.mountainsidechurch.com/leadership

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# Winterfest
## Arts & Crafts Fair

**Saturday, Dec. 5 • 9A–2P**

**301 Elcano Dr., Hot Springs Village**

40 Vendors • Handcrafted Gifts
Bake Sale • Raffle

"Smokey Mountainside Brothers"
BBQ Pre-Smoked Meats for sale




Mountainside Christmas Dinner Our church Christmas dinner will be held at Diamante County Club on Thursday, December 10th beginning at 5:00PM. Beverage of choice will be at 5:00, credit cards only. Only cash you will need is if you want to leave a tip for the servers. Dinner will be served at 5:30 beginning with a Caesar Salad and bread followed by Spinach and cheese stuffed chicken, Baby carrots, and wild rice. For dessert a Snickerdoodle bread pudding with Bourbon caramel sauce with whipped cream. The menu price is $41.00 per person. If you are planning to attend, which we hope you are, make checks payable to Carol Schramm. The deadline for signing up is Thursday, December 3rd.

**The photo gallery is now active on the new website. It can be found under the Calendar heading. Several pictures from the recent fair set up and fair in process have been sprinkled in the gallery.**






# HOSPITALITY 2026 NOV-DEC

11/22 JD & LouAnn Walker, Dorothy Bodine, Donna Mahle

11/29 Bill & Jo Hoak, Peggy Dvorak, Kevin Hoak

12/06 Donna & Bobby Mahle, Marilyn Sturges, Arlene McAlister

12/13 Judy Sloan, Robin Williams, Jennifer Ellis, Linda Wagnon

12/20 Bill & Jo Hoak, Scott & Merry Voskuil

12/27 Marilyn Sturges, Kevin Hoak, Mike & Liz Clarno

If you cannot serve on a date, please find a substitute or contact Donna Mahle: 512-304-0992 – donnamahle@att.net



Community Thanksgiving Meal
Wednesday, Nov. 25th, pickup at 10 AM—noon
At Mountainside Church, 301 El Cano Dr.

Are you alone, nowhere to go, don't want to cook for one or two, shut- in because of health issues? Celebrate Thanksgiving with a take-out complimentary meal with turkey or roast pork loin, dressing and all the fix-in's from Mountainside Methodist Church. We will be taking orders for Thanksgiving meals for pick-up on Wednesday, November 25. Meals will be in styrofoam containers. Friends and neighbors are welcome to participate. Complete the order form and telephone, e-mail or drop off at the church. RSVP to Mountainside Church at email mountainsidechurch@gmail.com or tel: 501-922-2626 by Monday, November 23rd. Free will donations will be accepted and appreciated. (A Mountainside Methodist Men's function)

(Meals include mashed potatoes & gravy, candied sweet potato, cranberries, choice of meat and dressing. Check which type of meat and dressing you want).

Meat: Turkey: white _____ dark _____
Roast pork loin: _____
(with apple sauce)

Dressing: Cornbread____
Bread_____

Number of meals: _____

Name:_____
Address:_____
Tel:_____email:_____

# Prayers




## Prayers Needed

As a praying church, we value the importance of lifting those up who need a little help and grace. Please add these people to your prayers this week.

Mary Justina Ackley
Karis Alderson
Matthew Baker
Jeff Boor
Steve Crumpler
Joey Dean
Rickie Barnes

Don Heinz
Brian Karriger
Todd Lombardi
Brian Little
Renee McKinley
Mary Davis
Steven Thompson
Ray Jones
Kathy Jones

Jeff & Melissa Owen
Elain Pool
Mallory Seibert
Marcia Wanner
Chuck Anderson
Peggy Hadley
Leon Hadley
Jeff Ahlf
Ellen Olson

Carol Willson
Richard Wood
Wendy Lenox
Don Pappe
Bob Boocker
Theresa Young
Gary & Brenda Putnam

## Other Prayers

- The people of Ukraine
- The entire Middle East
- Our state & national leadership
- Mountainside Church & leadership
- Active Military and Family Members

If you would like to make additions/corrections/ deletions to the prayer list, please call the church office at **(501) 922- 2626** or email Stacy at **mountainsidechurch@gmail.com**.

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