



ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA JAN. 19, 2025 SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

WELCOME TO ST. MARY OF THE HILLS

Connection Card in the pew rack so that we might connect with you further. More information about our parish is available online at www.stmaryofthehills.org. Members of our Vestry (elected lay leadership) are identified by name tags with yellow lanyards. Seek them out for details about our congregation's life and ministry.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED MONDAY – The Church office is closed tomorrow, Monday, Jan. 20, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day and will reopen at 9 am on Tuesday, Jan. 21.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION –

- **Children:** Our elementary-age children will gather upstairs in the St. Luke Room at 9 am today to learn about the first of many miraculous acts performed by Jesus: turning water into wine.
- **Children & Worship:** This offering runs through the first portion of the 10:10 am service. The children should begin church as usual with their families. They will leave together during the Gloria and rejoin their families in the Nave before the passing of the Peace.
- **Rector's Forum:** Join us at 9 am in the Barrett Room for a conversation about the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Jan. 18-25.

EUCCHARISTIC VISITOR TRAINING TODAY – Anyone interested in serving as Eucharistic Visitors, taking the sacrament to those homebound, are invited to an information session today at 11:30AM in the Barrett Room.

MEN'S BREAKFAST THURSDAY – Men's Breakfast meets on Jan. 23 after a two-month hiatus. We'll start with Eucharist at 7:30 am followed by breakfast and fellowship. We'll likely touch on plans for our annual Shrove Tuesday gathering Don't forget to RSVP to bill@stmaryofthehills.org or in Realm under "Events".

WELCOME & HOSPITALITY –

- **Coffee Minute Hosts:** This is our primary point of contact each Sunday following the 10:10 am Eucharist and it's a great time of fellowship. Volunteers are needed to host each week. Partner with a friend to host and help cultivate a space of hospitality and welcome. Contact Director of Hospitality & Facilities Bill Devereux at bill@stmaryofthehills.org to learn more.
- **Welcoming the Stranger:** The Vestry is creating a name tag initiative for the parish to help us welcome visitors and guests, as well as get to know one another better. This simple act of hospitality can make a difference as we know from Matthew 25:35: "... I was a stranger and you welcomed me ...". This initiative will start soon. You can pick up a name tag when you arrive, fill it out and return it before leaving. There will be designated locations for name tag pickup and drop-off. Contact Sue Sweeting for more details at 828.406.9376 or sweetingsue75@yahoo.com.
- **Altar Flower Offerings:** – If you are looking for a meaningful way to honor someone or to remember someone who has died, please consider making a gift to the flower guild for altar flowers for a particular Sunday. Your offering will be noted in the weekly announcement sheet.

SUPPORT PECM – On Jan. 28. we'll be serving a meal to the students who attend the Presbyterian Episcopal Campus Ministry at 3rd Place, Boone. We need two very large lasagnas, (Stouffers party size is fine) large salads with dressing, drinks, two or three loaves of Italian or French bread, and dessert. There are approximately 38 kids. Please drop off food at church by 4:30 pm on Jan. 28. For details and to volunteer, contact Sue Wilders Suejackpaintfly@aol.com or 561.371.5989.

VESTRY MEETS TUESDAY – St. Mary of the Hills Vestry meets Tuesday, Jan. 21, at 5:45 pm. Meetings are open to the Parish.

PARISH PRAYER LIST

For the Church: Sean, our Presiding Bishop; José our Bishop; Andrew, Sam and Gary, our clergy; for our Vestry and staff; for all the people of this parish

In our Parish Prayer Cycle, we remember this week:

01/19: Mike & Lucy Austell

01/20: John & Ann Bagg

01/21: George & Bobby Ball

01/22: David & Barbara Ballesty

01/23: A.J. & Jane Barghothi

01/24: Bob & Charlene Barham

01/25: Tom & Tina Barrett

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Paul's, Edneyville; St. Paul's, Morganton; St. Paul's, Wilkesboro

For our nation and those in positions of public trust: Joseph, our President; Donald our President-Elect; Josh, our Governor; all those who hold elected office

For all who suffer from war throughout the world and especially for the people of Ukraine and Russia, the Korean peninsula, Yemen, Ethiopia, the Sudan, Israel and Palestine

For all affected by natural disaster, especially those impacted by Hurricanes Helene and Milton, and those impacted by fires throughout California

For healing: Dale, Bill & Jorgann Rogers, Jeff Hedden, Christine, John, Ann Greene, Bob Barham, Clare, Bill Tessien, Emily R., Suzie W., Lynn Turnbow, Joe Dyer, Joe Doswell, Mark Tribby, Billy Tribby, Gary L., Belinda Scanlon, Jennifer, Helen Wells, Darren Van Dyke, Harry Steele, Carol Gray, Lora, Chris M., Mary M., Andrew C., Ben C., Vinny, Lucy, Bill Courtney, Zoe, Gae Best, Elizabeth S.

****Please note that the names on this list will remain for four weeks, unless the office is notified that the person(s) needs to remain on the list for a longer period of time.****

For those who have died: Guy Snow, Bernie Earp, Tom Clemens, David C.

For those with other concerns: Pat, Marcy, Cindy, Luca, Clemens Family, Betty Joan, Donna, Susan

For those traveling: Hudson, Darlene

For those on pilgrimage: Valerie & Peter Purcell

For safe pregnancy and delivery: Caitlyn, Emma Unkovic, Chelsea

For those celebrating a birthday:

01/19: Amanda White

01/21: Bob Barbour

01/22: Mike Coston

01/23: John Grasinger, Bill Rogers

01/24: Margaret Joffrion, Garland Myers, Dallas Swoveland

For those celebrating an anniversary: Larry Turnbow & Marjory Holder