



ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA
JANUARY 7, 2024

WELCOME TO ST. MARY OF THE HILLS!

We are so glad that you are here. If you are a guest among us, we invite you to complete a 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 information about our congregation's life and ministry.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTIAN FORMATION TODAY

- **Godly Play** for children ages 3 to 10 occurs at 9:00AM in the St. Luke Room on Sunday mornings. This week, Amanda White is telling the Epiphany story with the assistance of Sally Page.
- **Rector's Forum** – The Epiphany: Depictions in Scripture, Song, and Iconography – Following the twelve days of Christmas, the Church celebrates the Epiphany on January 6. In the Rector's Forum, we'll take a closer look at the accounts from scripture alongside familiar and new hymnody as well as iconography and artistic depictions. Join us at 9:00AM in the Barrett Room. All are welcome!

COFFEE MINUTE – Join us in the Foyer (following the 8:00AM service) or in the Parish Hall (following the 10:10AM service) for coffee, refreshments and time for conversation. Hosts are still needed for the 10:10AM service Coffee Minute. A sign-up sheet is available in the Parish Hall.

“FROM DESPAIR TO HOPE: HOW DO CHRISTIANS TALK ABOUT GUN VIOLENCE?” – Please join St. Mary's and Rumble Memorial Presbyterian for a continued two-week discussion on gun violence. The dates are: Tuesdays at 10:00AM on January 9th and 16th. To register, please email shankins@rumplechurch.org or formation@stmaryofthehills.org.

SAVE THE DATE –

- January 18 – The Confession of St. Peter the Apostle – Holy Eucharist at 12:00PM
- January 25 – The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle – Holy Eucharist at 7:30AM (Men's Breakfast follows!)
- February 2 – The Presentation of Jesus at the Temple (Candlemas) – Holy Eucharist at 9:00AM

ROOTED IN ABUNDANCE – ANNUAL GIVING 2024 – Have you submitted your pledge card for 2024? Currently we have received 115 pledges for \$485,414. We want to hear from you! Every commitment of wealth, works, and wisdom is essential to our common life of mission and ministry.

PARISH PRAYER LIST

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

In our Parish Prayer Cycle, we remember this week:

01/07 G. Loy and Melissa Ehlers
01/08 Nick and Linda Elksnin
01/09 Doug and Terri Fabel
01/10 Frank and Meg Fary
01/11 Robert Felix and Jennifer Nelson, Robert Henry
01/12 Bob Finney and Bonnie Holder
01/13 Buddy Fore

In our Diocesan cycle of prayer: Church of the Epiphany, Newton

For our nation and those in positions of public trust: Joseph, our President, Roy, 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 healing: Jeff Hedden, Jorgann, Sally, Janice, Jordan M., Gary, Gary Bolka, Su, Cullie, Julia, Dale, Mary M., Jeannie H., Martina, Haydee Majica de Santiago, John, Mary Jane, Catherine, Pat, M.J., Jamie, Christine, Kay McCloskey, Jo-Anne Findt, Sheila, Mike, Adam, Luella, Clare, Michael Curry, Ann Greene, Greg, Bob Barham, Peggy, Mark, Larry

****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: Jim, Alon Shamriz, Tom D., Tom W., Kathy, Susan

For those with other concerns: Blair, Earl, Martina, Conner, George

For safe pregnancy and delivery: Megan Redford, Crawford, Selby, Hanna, Caitlyn, Emily

For those celebrating a birthday this week:

01/08 Jim Snow
01/10 Jim Brooks, Joe Dyer, Chris Metzger
01/13 Betty Howe, Robert "Beau" Wilson

For those celebrating an anniversary this week:

01/07 Richard and Betty Howe