



ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA
DECEMBER 4, 2022

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

MORE THAN ENOUGH - Have you made your pledge for 2023? As of this week, we've received 94 pledges totaling \$378,559. Join in making a commitment to our common life and mission in the year ahead today – pledge cards are available in the pew racks and online www.stmaryofthehills.org.

SUPPORT OUR LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITIES –

- **2022 HONOR CARD** – Support the Hospitality House where 100% of the contributions support housing, hunger relief and homeless prevention in seven Northwest NC counties by buying a \$5 Honor Card to send to friends and family for this Christmas season. Honor Cards are available in the foyer or you may order them online at: <https://hosphouse.org/honorc card>.
- **Gloves for Hospitality House** – We are collecting waterproof gloves (60 pairs for men, 60 pairs for women) to share with our friends at Hospitality House to fulfill their Christmas wish list. Please bring the items to the church; a basket labeled “Hospitality House Gloves” is in the Foyer to receive these items. Contact Amanda White at 336-509-8095 or amanda.white0119@yahoo.com with any questions.
- **Christmas Angels** – Michelle Curry thanks each of you who contributed to the 6 angels on the Angel Tree for Whitnel Elementary in Lenoir. All the children have been taken care of and will have a wonderful Christmas thanks to you!
- **Heifer International** - You can still support Heifer International on Sundays at Coffee Minute. The credit card machine will be set up in the Parish Hall. Thank you.

SUNDAY MORNING CHRISTIAN FORMATION OFFERINGS

- **Rector's Forum** – During the season of Advent, the Rector's Forum will be grounded in reflections from the monks of the Society of Saint John the Evangelist. We gather at 9:00AM in the Barrett Room.
- **Godly Play** - This morning in the St. Luke Room, Godly Play will be offered for our children of all ages.

ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS – A festival of Advent Lessons and Carols will be offered this afternoon at 2:00PM. Join us on a journey into the season through scripture and song. The service, led by our choir, weaves familiar passages of scripture with carols of anticipation and expectation.

ADVENT BOOK STUDY AND CONVERSATION CIRCLE – On Thursdays in Advent, (December 1 - December 22), from 12:00PM-1:00PM either online or in person, we will discuss the powerful book, Names for the Messiah, from noted Old Testament scholar Walter Brueggemann. Books will be available in the church office or online. It is not too late to join!

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN CHRISTMAS BASH! – All women are invited on Tuesday, December 13th at 5:30PM, to the ECW annual Cookie Exchange and Pot Luck dinner. Bring a dish to share, your favorite cookie recipe and an inexpensive Christmas ornament for Dirty Santa! RSVP Sue Wilders 561-371-5989. See you there!!

MORNING PRAYER – Join us for Morning Prayer offered Monday-Friday at 8:30AM. in the Church.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS/ GREENERY AND MUSIC – If you wish to honor or remember a loved one this Christmas, please consider donating to the flower guild for Christmas greenery and flowers or to the Music Fund for the choir. There will be a list of those who give and in whose memory/honor the gift is made in the Christmas bulletins. All gifts are welcomed; a suggested donation is \$50. There are forms in the pew racks and on a table in the Foyer. The deadline is December 19th.

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:

12/04 Dale Sandusky and Michael DeCorte
12/05 Ryan and Wivianny DeHaas
12/06 Paul and Jackie Delmonico
12/07 Bill and Donna Devereux
12/08 Kay Donahue
12/09 Michael and Susan Donahue
12/10 Joe and Diana Doswell

In our Diocesan cycle of prayer: St. Andrew's, Bessemer City; St. Andrew's, Canton

For our nation and those in positions of public trust: Joseph, our President, Roy, our Governor, all those who hold elected office, especially remembering those newly elected and all those who offered themselves for election to public office.

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

For all medical personnel and all ministering to the needs of those affected by COVID-19.

For healing: Jill, Gloster, Lillian White, Danny Whittington, Evonne Folk, Barry Horton, Watson family, Joey Eller, Ed, Meredith, Louann Kitchell, Elizabeth Miller Lovejoy, Cat Carter, Joe Dyer, Jennifer, Lauren, Meredith, Bonnie, Kathy D., Elizabeth Young, Bruce B., Jane F., Chris, Mary M., Keith, Elizabeth Y., Kathy, Donna, Sandie Holder, Bill, Nancy

****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 with other concerns: George D.

For those traveling this week: Luba

For those who have died: The Rev. Robert J. McCloskey, Jr., Bill, Jane, Derusha

For safe pregnancy and delivery for: Darrow, Rebecca Purcell, Caitlyn, Jenna, Charlene G.

For those celebrating birthdays this week:

12/05 Marty Moore
12/06 Patty Patella, Barbara Yale-Read, Bill Tessien, Sue Wilders
12/07 Sam Milner
12/08 Dick Kitchell
12/09 Andrew Capen, Rachel Blackburn