



ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA
SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

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

THE MISSION AND MINISTRY FAIR - Join us in the Parish Hall following both services today to be a part of our Mission and Ministry Fair. You will learn the many different ways you can become more engaged with our parish life.

FEAST OF ST. MATTHEW - There will be Holy Eucharist on September 21st at 9:00AM in celebration of St. Matthew, the Apostle and Evangelist.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

- **Godly Play** for children ages 3 to 10 gathers at 9:00AM in the St. Luke Room.
- **Rector's Forum - Lost Books of the Lectionary** - Beginning today at 9:00AM, Fr. Andrew is offering a series entitled, 'Lost Books of the Lectionary' in the Rector's Forum. While the scripture passages appointed for Sunday worship cover much of the Bible over the course of three years, there are entire books omitted from our rhythm of reading. Join us as we look more closely at each of these books and how they continue to inform and inspire our faith journey. All are welcome!
- **Confirmation/Reception Classes** – Meet for the next several Sundays at 1:00 PM in the Barrett Room.
- **Selected Readings from *New Seeds of Contemplation***: Fr. Sam is leading a book study for the next three Mondays at 3:45PM in the Barrett Room and via Zoom. **Registration is only by email to Fr. Sam at sam@stmaryofthehills.org and to receive reading assignments and Zoom links.**

VESTRY MEETING – The Vestry meets on Tuesday, September 19th, at 5:45PM. These meetings are open to parishioners so you are welcome to attend.

DIAPER DRIVE FOR THE WATAUGA COUNTY CHILDREN'S COUNCIL - The Outreach Committee is sponsoring a diaper drive for the Watauga County Children's Council. Please support the drive by bringing diapers to the foyer.

PARISH WORKDAY - The weather is getting cooler, the days are getting shorter. Do you know what that means? PARISH WORKDAY is back! It is a time for fellowship, a sense of accomplishment, and a chance to make the church look better. This year we have 4 projects: One in the basement, one is the Bell Tower, one in the Close, and one in the Mary Garden. We need 25-30 people plus clippers, trimmers, wheelbarrows, shop vacs, and an eagerness to get things done. Come out and join us from 9:00AM until 12:00PM on September 30th. The rain date will be November 18th. Hope to see you there.

ROOTED IN ABUNDANCE - We have everything we need. Are we doing everything we can to live in reciprocity, within an understanding that we are mutually responsible for one another...Stewardship is asking the question, "What do we need to grow to continue to be in good and right relationship, in recognition of our kinship with all that is, in which we all thrive?" -The Reverend Rachel Tabor-Hamilton

UPCOMING IN OUR PARISH LIFE

- Sunday, September 24th – Stewardship Ingathering Sunday
- Sunday, October 1st - Bishop McLoughlin's Visitation at both services
- Sunday, October 1st - Blessing of the Animals at 2:00PM
- Tuesday, October 3rd - Episcopal Church Women (ECW) will gather at 5:30PM. A social time and dinner will follow.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God.

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:

9/17 Randy Ouzts and Scott Adams

9/18 Mike and Laura Page

9/19 Pete and Sally Page

9/20 Page Parsons

9/21 Carmen and Patty Patella

9/22 Nick and Sara Placentra

9/23 Shawn and Gigi Poole

In our Diocesan cycle of prayer: Church of the Messiah, Murphy

For our nation and those in positions of public trust: Joseph, our President, Roy, our Governor, all those who hold elected office.

For those affected by natural disaster, most especially the people of Maui, and all those impacted by tornadoes, earthquakes, fires, floods and heat.

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

For healing: Jo-Anne Findt, Sheila, Mike, Adam, Luella, Sue, Jane, Ron, DJ, Dale, Ashlyn, Susan B., Peggy, Jeanelle, Clare, Emma, Marty, Kerry, Todd, Chris, Mary, Vincent, Lois, Heidi, Mark, Jorgann, Ronnie, Michael Curry, Ana, Leandra, Nancy, Ann Greene, Greg, Bob Barham, Elizabeth, Kathy, Belinda, Andrew, Pamela, Amy, Logan, Jeff, Mary Jo, Maggie, Connor, Caroline

****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: Monnie Cadenhead, Helen Fabry, Kent, Earleen Mabry Mobley, Russell, Tom Roberts, Bonnie Piper, Nancy, Erlene, Cam, Mike, Clay

For those with other concerns: Blair, Kathy, George, Greg, Chris M.

For those travelling: Cathia

For safe pregnancy and delivery: Ashley Sawyer, Caroline, Barbre Hoar, Molly, Caitlyn, Lauren, Paige

For those celebrating a birthday this week:

9/21 Darren Van Dyke, Molly

9/22 Betty Green

9/23 Barbre McGill Hoar

For those celebrating an anniversary this week:

9/18 Alex and Bre Lawler