



# ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA OCTOBER 20, 2024

## 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](http://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

**CHRISTIAN FORMATION** – Join us at 9 am on the second floor Sunday for Rector's Forum and Godly Play.

- Father Andrew will be leading us in conversation in the Barrett Room on The Epistle to the Hebrews. This New Testament Letter, less frequently read and even less frequently explored in depth, forms and informs much of the early Church's understanding of who Jesus is and what the Church is called to be. Over the next several weeks in the Rector's Forum, we will take a closer look at this formative letter and how it informs our lives as disciples today.
- Across the hall in the St. Luke room, our elementary-aged children will be learning about the Exodus story and the unconditional love of God, even in the face of uncertainty.

**ST. JAMES OF JERUSALEM FEAST DAY** – Join us at noon on Wednesday, Oct. 23, as we celebrate the Feast of St. James with Holy Eucharist.

**FRIENDS OF MUSIC CONCERT SERIES CONTINUES SUNDAY** – Dr. Bair Shagdaron will play Bach, Liszt, and Chopin in a free concert at St. Mary of the Hills this Sunday, Oct. 20, at 3 pm. Shagdaron was born in Moscow, and began studying music at the age of 4. He has doctoral degrees in piano performance and composition from the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory and has performed throughout the United States, Russia, Europe and Asia. After coming to the US nearly 30 years ago, he taught in Kansas, and in 2000 joined the faculty at Appalachian State where he is professor of piano.

**COFFEE MINUTE VOLUNTEERS** – This is our primary point of contact each Sunday following the 10:10 am Eucharist and it's a great time of fellowship. 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](mailto:bill@stmaryofthehills.org) to learn more.

**CHILI COOKOFF** – The annual St Mary of the Hills fall Chili Cookoff Challenge returns next Sunday, Oct. 27, with Chefs from across the globe competing for the coveted Chili Champion Apron currently in the possession of Jim West, who came all the way from across the street to wrestle the apron from our previous champ Duncan McGill. Join us at 5 pm for this event hosted by Men's Breakfast. Proceeds from the cook off will be awarded to the agency of the winner's choice.

**OCTOBER VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS** – The Vestry met on Oct. 15 for their regular monthly meeting. Below are some highlights of other actions taken this month.

- A lengthy conversation about the emotional life cycle of a disaster, using resources from Episcopal Relief and Development, making space for folks to share their experience of these weeks following the hurricane and future hopes.
- Heard updates related to Annual Giving and the Audit of 2023 Financials.
- Approved allocations from the Outreach Committee responding to Hurricane Helene. Knowing that the response to this disaster is only beginning and will be long, the Outreach Committee recommended, and the Vestry approved, allocations of \$3000 to Episcopal Relief and Development and \$2000 to Wine to Water for recovery efforts in WNC.

The Vestry at St. Mary of the Hills meets on the third Tuesday of each month, beginning at 5:45PM in the Parish Hall. Anyone from the parish is welcome to attend.

# PARISH PRAYER LIST

**For the Church:** Michael our Presiding Bishop; Sean, our Presiding Bishop-elect; 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:**

10/20: Jane Milner

10/21: Mitch Mitchell & Leslie Billingsley

10/22: Paulette Mitchell

10/23: Perry & Jan Mixer

10/24: Chip Monroe, Emma Kate, Lee and Arden

10/25: Pat & Marty Moore

10/26: Richard & Mary Lou Moore

**In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:** St. Luke's, Asheville; St. Luke's, Boone; St. Luke's, Lincolnton

**For our nation and those in positions of public trust:** Joseph, our President; Roy, our Governor; all those who hold elected office; and for those offering themselves for election this year

**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

**For healing:** Dale, Bill & Jorgann Rogers, Jeff Hedden, Christine, John, Ann Greene, Bob Barham, Clare, Bill Tessien, Emily R., Jane, Stan B., Pat B., Donna, Sallie, David Tribby, Tom Dixon, Scotty Turner, Gary, Lynn T., Tyler D., Kristin, Tina, Charlie, Torrence Harmon, Chris. M., Jane Meyers

*\*\*\*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 thanksgiving:** First responders and volunteers

**For those traveling this week:** Thacker Family, Galke Family, Jim C., Dick & Louann Kitchell

**For those who have died:** Adam Hill, Linda, Katy, Linda, all victims of Hurricanes Helene and Milton, Dave Kline, Brittany, Robert Collier, Betty, Yvette

**For those with other concerns:** The Hall Family; Elizabeth; those who are suffering from Hurricanes Helene and Milton; Zoey; Chris & Angela; Rabbi Alt & Elizabeth

**For safe pregnancy and delivery:** Caitlyn, Mary Ella, Sarah, Bre Lawler, Emma Unkovic, Elizabeth, Chelsea

**For those celebrating a birthday:**

10/21: Peter Purcell

10/24: Mary Lois Shelton Bolka

**For those celebrating an anniversary:**

10/23: Sam & Rhonda Ann McDonald