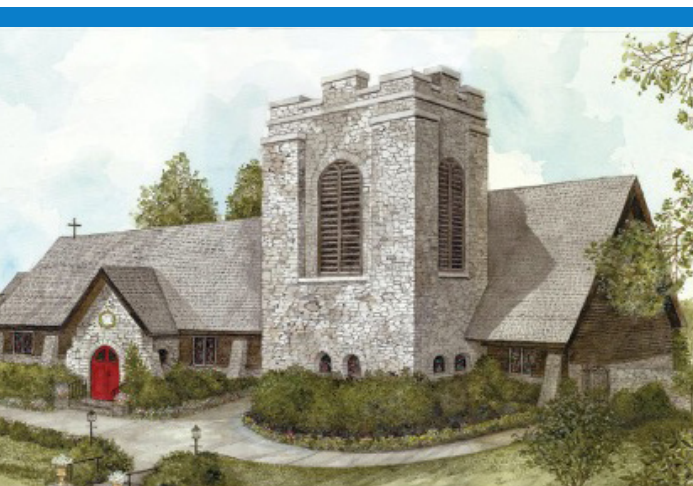


Where Grace Resides

On the corner of Chestnut and Main in Blowing Rock, grace resides. St. Mary of the Hills has been a bottomless well of grace in the lives of those who have found sanctuary within her rock walls. She has sustained her faithful community, and the greater community, in times of joy and times of grief, in times of celebration and times of sadness, in times of plenty and times of want, in times of faith and in times of doubt. As we begin our second century, we feel called to find a path to ensure that the love of Christ... that sustaining grace... will continue to shine at St. Mary of the Hills into our third century and beyond. And so Sustaining Grace Planned Giving was created.



Sustaining Grace

St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church

John 1:16

For from His fullness
we have all received,
grace upon grace.

We will be happy to assist you and your professional advisors as you explore planned giving options and can provide sample language for the area you wish to support. This confidential service is without obligation. If you intend to include St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church in your legacy planning or have already done so, please let the rector or church administrator know so that we may acknowledge your generosity and include you in the Sustaining Grace Circle.

This information is not intended to be tax or legal advice and should not be relied on as such. Please consult with your legal and tax counsel regarding implications of a specific charitable gift.



St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church
140 Chestnut Drive, Post Office Box 14
Blowing Rock, North Carolina 28605-0014
828-295-7323



Sustaining Grace

Planned Giving at
St. Mary of the Hills

Early in the Gospel of Luke, an angel visits the Blessed Virgin Mary to announce the divine call for her to be the God-bearer, the mother of our Lord. Many translations of the sacred text render the angel's words of power in this way: "Hail, full of grace...". Divine grace birthed the love of God in this world.

For more than a century, the people of St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church have claimed the grace-filled Blessed Virgin as our patron. Her example of faithfulness and devotion continues to guide and inspire our mission and ministry as followers of the risen Christ. Sustaining Grace is about living into our vocation to proclaim the good news of God's love, made known in Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Sustaining Grace Circle recognizes and honors those who choose to make a current or legacy gift to St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church. Sustaining Grace gifts of cash, securities, real estate or tangible personal property are invested in funds that are intended to exist in perpetuity. Annually, these funds will distribute 3% to 6% of the moving average of the funds accumulated to St. Mary's general operating accounts to be used as described in each fund's documents. For example, distributions from the St. Mary of the Hills Charitable Fund will be distributed to charitable organizations as recommended and approved by the Charitable Gifts Committee and the Vestry of St. Mary's.

Making a Sustaining Grace Gift to St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church

Sustaining Grace gifts to St. Mary's may be designated to one or a combination of three separate endowment funds. A description of each fund is presented later in this brochure.

- The St. Mary of the Hills Mission and Ministry Fund
- The St. Mary of the Hills Charitable Outreach Fund
- The Peggy Carlson/Clara Neese Smith Fund
- R. Dean Hamric and Burton N. Mulford Music Ministry Fund

Or one may wish to establish a new fund to support a specific ministry. Please contact the rector or church administrator to learn more about this opportunity.

Bequest

The easiest way to make a lasting difference is to remember St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church in your will. If you have an existing will, we encourage you to work with your lawyer to prepare a simple, inexpensive codicil. You may bequeath a specific amount or percentage of your estate. The bequest can specify a gift of cash, securities, real estate, or tangible personal property.

FOR EXAMPLE:

I give (specific dollar amount or asset) or (X percent) or (the remainder of my residual estate) to St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church (EIN 56-1393866) to be added to the St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church Mission and Ministry Fund

Retirement Plan Assets

Retirement plan assets are among the most tax burdened assets in an estate, making them an attractive option for planned giving. To make a planned gift from retirement assets, simply complete a new beneficiary designation form naming St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church as a percentage beneficiary. Be sure to let the church know which fund you designate to receive the proceeds of your gift.

Life Insurance Policies

You may use one or more whole life insurance policies to make a future gift to St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church. To make a planned gift, name St. Mary's as a percentage beneficiary of a new or existing policy, or simply transfer ownership. Using a life insurance policy to make a charitable gift can be as quick and easy as completing a new beneficiary designation form.

St. Mary of the Hills Endowment Funds

The St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church Mission and Ministry Fund

Annually, cash distributed from this fund is for the purpose of providing unrestricted financial support for St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church. The Vestry considers and approves each expenditure.

St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church Charitable Fund

Annually, cash distributed from this fund is designated to support charitable organizations. The church's Outreach Committee recommends, and the Vestry approves, gifts to charitable organizations to be used for charitable purposes.

Peggy Carlson/Clara Neese Smith Fund

Annually, cash distributed from this fund is designated to support charitable organizations that directly benefit children aged five and under residing in the High Country. The Outreach Committee recommends, and the Vestry approves, each financial gift.

R. Dean Hamric and Burton N. Mulford Music Ministry Fund

Annually, cash distributed from this fund is designated to support the music ministry and choir at St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church. The Vestry considers and approves each expenditure.