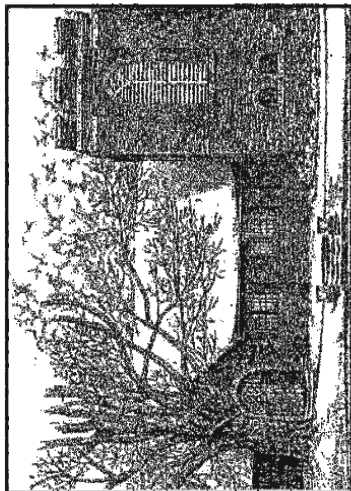


SEPTEMBER 2009

NewsLetter

SAINT MARY OF THE HILLS • BLOWING ROCK • NORTH CAROLINA



Dear Friends,

I write this between the Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Feast of the Coronation of Mary Queen of Heaven. Did you know there are at least three places in our Church where Mary's queenship is celebrated? Having grown up with some pretty deep protestant roots I inherited an unease with talk about Mary as anything other than the mother of Jesus. Jesus will always be the heart of the spiritual life for me. But I have noticed a softening of my prayerful imagination in regard to Mary.

In her timeless reply to the Annunciation of the Savior Mary says, "Here I am, the servant of the Lord. Let it be with me according to your word." (Luke 1.38) Then she shouts the joyous and revolutionary words of the Magnificat, "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord... He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty." (Luke 1.46, 53) Then the old priest Simeon prophesies to the young mother, "A sword will pierce your own soul too." (Luke 2.35) We see her with Jesus and sometimes in confrontation with him throughout his ministry. We see her at the foot of the cross. We see her with the post-Easter community. Mary seems to embody much of what it means to be a follower of Jesus and a real human being. The words I associate with Mary are, surrendered, radical, resigned, determined, joyous.

I have not often asked for Mary's prayer, which is a perfectly legitimate thing for an Episcopalian to do. She is, in a way, the spiritual mother of us all. If you can't ask for your mother's prayers whose prayers can you ask for? But this morning I was especially concerned about someone I love. I went to our "Mary Shrine" up on the chancel step. I knelt before the icon of the Blessed Virgin. And I asked Mary to help my loved one. It felt perfect. I believed she heard me by God's grace. I believed she would help my loved one.

I found this prayer to "Mary Crowned With Stars" on the internet. I don't know who wrote it. It is a reference to the mysterious figure John speaks of in the Revelation, "A great portent appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars." (Revelation 12.1)

O Mary, crowned with stars,
who hast the moon as thy footstool
and who sittest enthroned above all the choirs of angels,
incline thine eyes toward this vale of tears,
and hear the voice of one
who puts all his hope and trust in thee.

I am not trying to convince you to pray to Mary, as I said, I rarely do. Jesus always belongs at the center as far as I'm concerned. But I do love our tradition and Mary has been so important in the art, architecture, imagination, and prayer of many christian people through the centuries. There may be places and circumstances she is particularly good at connecting us to the mystery of God. And if that's the result I imagine the Lord does not mind if we talk to his mother.

In any case. . . pray for us, Mary, mother of God.

Peace,
Rick

FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

The choir is evolving. Once upon a time, seven people meant full attendance; we presently have something in the neighborhood of 22 regularly-attending singers, with an additional handful who often (but not often enough) float in and sing. While it's a sad thing not to see certain faces on an every-week basis, it's good to know that choir members have a way of never really disappearing. We look forward to seeing Anna Eschbach, Harrison Bumgardner, and Sam Tallman as often as they can return, just as we presently welcome the sight of Amanda Silverman, Perry and Jan Mixer, and a host of occasional others.

The upside of loss is that its ensuing vacuum tends to attract all sorts of wild, woolly, and wonderful new voices. The choir welcomes two new choral scholars, tenor Johnny Harmon and soprano Caryn Crozier. We also welcome Greg Rhoades, tenor, and Lynn Searfoss, *Zwischenfach* (meaning that Lynn will leap from soprano to alto if we need her to) to our fold. Please take the opportunity to meet and thank all these new singers at coffee minute some Sunday.

Evensong will be sung on the fourth Sunday of September at 5.00 PM. And, looking ahead, please put Monday, November 2, the Feast of All Souls, on your calendars. The mass setting for this major liturgy (to be celebrated at 6.00 PM) will be the beautiful *Requiem* of Gabriel Fauré, accompanied by strings, harp, and organ. Amanda Silverman and James Rollins will sing the soprano and baritone solos, respectively.

As always, anyone wishing to make a donation to the music program of time, talent, money, or good will is encouraged to speak with the director of music, or with a choir member.

Keep singing,
Jim

FROM OUR YOUTH DIRECTOR

The summer is winding down, school is starting again, and we are looking forward to a busy fall! The youth activities are being planned, chaperones are being corralled, schedules are being sent, and Alice and I are so excited about what's in store for us...and there is a LOT in store the next few months!

The EYC meetings are (almost) weekly this fall, unless there is another activity planned for that day, like the Virginia Creeper Trail Bike Trip or a service project. Wee-YC is meeting at least twice a month after school on Thursdays. There are two lock-ins, for both the Jr. and Sr. High age groups, this year. And we are planning several really fun activities for our 3rd-5th grade youth. There are also some activities for the whole family, like the Creeper Trail and pumpkin carving/decorating, so mark your calendars for these fun events now!

I want to take a moment to thank all the parents who took time out of their busy schedules to join Alice and me for the 2nd Annual Parent Dinner. We got some GREAT

feedback, and felt like support of our work was really growing. We so appreciate your time, your interest, and your energy.

Yours, with blessings,
Katy

FROM OUR DEACON

A Watered Garden

“If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.
The Lord will guide you continually,
and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong;
and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters never fail.”

(Isaiah 58: 9-11)

The prophet Isaiah may have been speaking to the ancient Israelites over 2000 years ago, but he could just as well have been speaking to our churches today. He is saying what it takes to make a people fruitful. He doesn't use terms such as “inreach” and “outreach,” but if those concepts had been around at that time, he might have.

The “yoke” he says we need to remove from among us, the “pointing of the finger” and the “speaking of evil”—these all refer to ways in which people in any kind of group can harm one another. Oppressing each other, accusing each other, talking negatively about each other—these must all be replaced by kindness and love and support in order for a people to prosper, Isaiah says. Helping each other and being supportive of one another is inreach.

But that's not enough. We also have to help people OUTSIDE of our group. The “hungry” and the “afflicted” of society are usually people we don't really know, given that our churches are usually made up of people a lot like ourselves. Throughout scriptures we find words that tell us we are to take care of everyone in need—widows, orphans, prisoners, homeless, the hungry, and the list could go on and on. Helping people outside of our own church walls is outreach.

We are all called on, by virtue of our baptismal vows, to minister to all people in need. It's that simple. Our light can rise in the darkness and the Lord will guide us continually only when we, individually and corporately, are people who serve others.

A watered garden—what a lovely image! That's why this piece of scripture from Isaiah is my favorite in conveying what it means to serve God well in this world. It's about balance: serving those you know and serving those you do not know. Please play your part in helping St. Mary's be that watered garden. Help St. Mary's be that spring of water, whose waters never fail.

Deacon Melissa

AROUND THE PARISH

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS (July 21, 2009)

(Note: These appear after the minutes are approved. Complete minutes are posted in the Parish Hall.)

Treasurer's Report: Available cash is \$83,628. May income up \$5,000 over budget. Expenditures down \$5,000. Pledges of \$203,724 have been collected. Available cash includes \$33,000 of Tour of Homes money. Actual available cash is \$50,000.

Fr. Rick's Report: Diana White will be filling Susan Fraser's term on the vestry. The property owned by the church on Quail Hollow has property on either side of it for sale. The vestry decided not to put the property up for sale at this time. (Submitted by Pam Ayoub, Clerk)

SUNDAY SERVICES

Morning Prayer	7:20 AM
Holy Eucharist	8:00 AM
Adult and Children Sunday School:	9:00 AM
Holy Eucharist	10:10 AM
1st Sunday - Unction (anointing with oil for healing) follows both services.	
Evening Prayer	5:00 PM

MID-WEEK SERVICES

Monday-Thursday	Morning Prayer	8:30 AM
Monday- Wednesday	Evening Prayer	5:00 PM
Thursday	Evening Prayer	4:45 PM
Wednesday	Holy Eucharist and Unction	12:00 PM

SPECIAL SERVICES

Confirmation by Bishop Gary Gloster - Sunday, September 13, at 10:10 AM

Evensong, Sunday, September 27, at 5:00 PM

MEETINGS, EVENTS AND STUDIES

Annual Meeting, Sunday, August 30, at 9:00 AM

Ongoing Study on Faith - Led by Bishop Gary Gloster, each Sunday at 9:00 AM (except August 30)

EYC - Sundays, August 30, September 13, 20 and 27, at 11:30 AM

Executive Committee - Wednesday, September 9, at 3:45 PM

Wee-YC - Thursday, September 10, from 3:30 - 5:00 PM

Sunday School Begins - Sunday, September 13

Vestry - Tuesday, September 15, at 5:30 PM

Wee-YC - Thursday, September 24, at Boone Bowling

Junior High Lock-In - Friday, September 25

Acolyte Festival - Saturday, September 26

TEMPORARY OFFICE MANAGER

It may be a month or more before we get definitive information on Beth's situation. In the meantime, the vestry has approved the hiring of Greta Wilson as our Temporary Office Manager.

Thanks to all the volunteers who have stepped in so ably to assist us during these last weeks.

NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS

Please note that our new general e-mail address is office@stmaryofthehills.org.

PARISH PEOPLE

WELCOME, ALICE!

Adjusting to a new community and feeling a part of that community isn't easy. But Alice Roess has done it with a flourish. Not only did she consent to have her house on the 2009 Tour of Homes, she was also co-chair of flowers for the Tour! This summer she has worked with the Annual Blowing Rock Hospital Charity Fundraiser and was involved in the Blowing Rock Community Foundation Service Day Annual Fundraiser. She has also volunteered to work on the committee for the 86th Annual Blowing Rock Charity Horse Show (She is an avid equestrian herself.). And if that isn't enough, she will also spend time on the ASU Board of Trustees to which she has recently been elected.

You may have guessed that Alice is no stranger to Blowing Rock. She and her late husband, the Honorable Martin John Roess, of the Florida Circuit Court, spent many a summer and fall in Blowing Rock and made many friends. Alice says, "I have recently changed my resident status and have become a permanent resident of the State of North Carolina. I guess once I got the mountains in my blood, my heart forever after has belonged to Blowing Rock."

St. Mary's was a natural for her when she moved from St. Petersburg, Florida, where she was born and raised. She was an active member of St. Peter's Episcopal Cathedral, where she worked on the flower guild and sang in the St. Cecilia's Choir.

This very busy lady has amazing plans for the future. It is her intention to pursue an MBA in Chinese International Business, and then go on to get her doctorate in the same area. She hopes to do both at ASU. Wow!

Alice--even though you love to sing hymns at the Methodist Church in the summer--we are so happy to have you with us at St. Mary's for most of the year!

GODSPEED, SAM!

Sam Tallman has recently left for the General Theological Seminary in New York City, where he will study for three years.

He promises to be here each summer...and on breaks. We'll hold you to that, Sam!

Meanwhile, you will be in our thoughts and prayers.

THANKS, MARGE!



Marge Barrett is a super salesperson! This summer she has sold over twenty cookbooks and is working on ten more!

She goes back to Fayetteville in early December, and we will miss her.

Anyone else out there who can sell those books?



THE MINISTERIES

The Youth

Episcopal Youth Community-EYC

EYC will begin meeting *weekly* for the 2009-2010 school year. We will meet (almost) every Sunday after church at 11:30 AM for approximately an hour to an hour and a half, depending on the activity planned for that day. Start marking your calendars now! You are ALWAYS welcome to BRING A FRIEND! The scheduled EYC meeting dates are as follows: Aug 30, Sep 13, 20, 27, Oct 11, 25, Nov 1, 15, 22, Dec 6, 20.

Youth Sponsored Coffee Minutes

This year the EYC groups will each sponsor a coffee minute. The *Senior High* age group has agreed to sponsor the September 13 coffee minute, and each member needs to notify Katy and Alice ahead of time if they plan to attend, and what they will bring. We will meet at church when the 10:10 service begins and set-up during church, and have a mini-EYC meeting during that time as well. The Junior High age group will be responsible for the December 13 coffee minute.

Junior High Lock-In

The first lock-in of the school year has been scheduled for *Friday, September 25*. We will be joining the Junior High youth from Faith Bridge Methodist and Rumble Presbyterian. You may bring a friend, and the cost is \$10 per person. We will give you more details as we know them...but it is going to be FUN!

Wee-YC Schedule

Wee-YC, the youth group for pre-K to 2nd grade youth, will be meeting on Thursday afternoons this fall from 3:30 PM to approximately 5:00 PM. The dates and activities are listed below. If you have one child in this age group and another child who is in 3rd or 4th grade who would really like to attend with their sibling, you are more than welcome to bring them as well. The more, the merrier! September 10-St. Mary's, September 24-Boone Bowling Center, October 8-St Mary's, October 15-Blowing Rock Fire Department, November 5-Paint Your Wings in Boone, November 19-St Mary's, December 3-St Mary's to bake Christmas Cookies for Cops!

Youth Extra-Curricular Activities

If your child is participating on a sports team, plays an instrument in a band, is a member of the debate team, or participates in any other extra-curricular activity, please notify Katy and Alice at junebugnc@gmail.com so they can periodically attend your child's home games, or performances, or events, and show their support for your children! This is a very important part of being a community for your child, and we want very much to be as involved as possible, but **YOU HAVE TO LET US KNOW WHAT YOUR CHILD IS INVOLVED IN!**

ATTENTION NEW ST. MARY'S PARENTS!

If you are new to St. Mary's and have not been receiving postcards and flyers in the mail from the Youth Direc-

tor, or have not been receiving e-mails regarding youth events, please e-mail Katy Abrams at junebugnc@gmail.com with your contact information, and the full name/school year/birthdate of your child(ren). We don't want you or your child(ren) to miss out!

Episcopal Church Women

ECW will meet on Tuesday, September 1, for a salad and dessert dinner with a full report on the Tour of Homes. Gathering will be at 6:00 PM, dinner will be at 6:30 PM.

Please put Sunday, September 13 on your calendar. Bishop Gary Gloster will confirm new members of St. Mary's, and ECW will coordinate the coffee minute.

We will celebrate our annual Fall Gathering on Tuesday, October 6, at 6:00 PM with a catered dinner and program by Bishop Gloster. Watch for a sign-up sheet in the acolyte room. All women of St. Mary's are welcome.

Stewardship

Steppingstones

What a blessing Sunday afternoon was for all who gathered for "MaryFest." We experienced the most beautiful and transporting Evensong, sung by our wonderful choir under the direction of Jim Bumgardner. If that wasn't enough, we then gathered for refreshments in the Close before sitting down for an evening of food, fun, music (again by our choir), and a delightful program conceived by Orian Carter about ministry at St. Mary of the Hills. This clever little "ditty," was written and directed by our oh-so talented Bill Devereux and played by a most "jovial crew," Michelle Capen, Marla MacKenzie, JoAnn Hallmark, Susie Greene, Amanda White, Dale Shelton, Meg Fary, Orian Carter and Judy Domer. **We also want to give a special thank you to Joan and Bernie Keele, and Cindy and Cobb Milner for their donations of food for the dinner.**

Our focus for the evening was to demonstrate how a faith-based community approaches stewardship--from the opposite direction of fund-raising. Put another way, we were gathered to celebrate what we have already been given, an opportunity to live out our faith in service and ministry. We were saying "yes" that with God's help, we are about "taking care" with our relationship to others, and "taking care" with our relationship to God. Stewardship, the sharing of our time, talent and treasure is not gauged by how much is given to the church, but rather how much we give to help restore people to unity with God, to each other in Christ, and to the furtherance of God's kingdom here on earth.

In a few weeks you will receive our stewardship mailing, and you will have an opportunity to make your financial intentions known for 2010. This will represent a proportion of your treasure that will support vital and important ministry here at St. Mary of the Hills. Please, once again consider taking a forward step!

In the meantime, on Sunday night at our MaryFest, it was a good and joyful thing to sing, to play, to laugh, and to celebrate our life together in this holy place.

Kay McCloskey, for the Stewardship Committee

Missions

The Hostel

Dear Friends,

You may remember the story about the eviction notice given to the little slum just down the road from the diocesan compound, but in case you don't, let me refresh your memory.

It was just before Easter of '08 when the government marked all the houses in this basti with red Xs designating them for destruction. We had no idea when this would happen. Thanks to a lot of distractions, the government hasn't moved in yet, which has given us more time to look for land on which to resettle this village.

The bishop was in the States at the time, and when he returned to Durgapur and was told about the crisis, his first concern was for the children of that village and what would happen to them. About 25 of those children attend The Child Study and Development Centre. It was then that the idea for a hostel was born.

Being a man of action, Bishop Dutta shared this news with Bishop Taylor who then requested that the plate offerings from the Easter Sunday collections be designated for the hostel project. A good friend of The Diocese of Durgapur and a member of The Diocese of WNC approached her family and asked if they would match up to \$10,000 of the collected amount. They agreed to do this. Through your generosity, the needed amount was collected and work on the hostel began before I left Durgapur last August.

When I returned to Durgapur in January, the hostel had been completed along with very nice missionary quarters. That's pretty amazing.

When the delegations from WNC were here in January, the hostel was officially dedicated and blessed with the Rev. Brian Cole officiating at this little service. Soon after, the children moved in. I don't know if you can fully appreciate or understand the significance of this thing you have done, but let me tell you, you have made a huge difference in the lives of 20 kids.

Many of these children slept on the ground in their one room mud huts. They had no electricity or a private place to use the bathroom. They were lucky to get one meal a day, some had no reliable adult to care for them, and playing hooky from school was the norm.

In the hostel, they have their own bed, a real one with a mattress and a pillow, a sheet and a blanket, and a mosquito net. They have full bathroom facilities which they found fascinating, so much so that we regularly ran out of water. They get three solid meals a day.



They spend a lot of time studying and getting help with their lessons. They have games to play and books to read. They have access to a DVD player and on the weekend we watch a couple of movies. They also get to play with real toys, balls, jump ropes, a tricycle, and some other things. Because they are here all the time, I can work with them on the computers on a more regular basis.

These kids are thriving. They look healthy, and they are full of confidence. Their English is improving as well. I wish I could say the same about my Bengali.

So, thank you for making this dream a reality.

The next step is to find sponsors for these children as well as the other children who are being served by The Women's Fellowship *After School Projects*. We are hoping to add more fruit to the daily nutritional snack that the children are getting, and keeping the children in school is requiring more support from the Women's Fellowship. We also want to be able to provide more medical help for these children as well as for their families.

Sponsorships are just \$250 per child per year. Try raising one of our children on that amount. As a sponsor, you will be in contact with your child. You will receive a picture and a biographical sketch of the child. The child will also write to you. These are precious children, full of energy and full of hope.

If you would like to sponsor a child please make your check payable to: Durgapur Diocesan Foreign Contribution Fund. Mail to: Diocese of Durgapur

St. Michael's Church Compound
Aldrin Path, Bidhan Nagar
Durgapur 713212
West Bengal, India

Your gift of a sponsorship will go a long way to help us improve the quality of life of these children.

Blessings,
Lynn

Environmental Concerns

Bread of Life V

What's a CAFO??

The 1800 calorie adult daily measures energy required, largely from carbohydrates. We also require water, fats, proteins, vitamins, minerals, and dietary fiber. To get these in proper proportions, we need largely grains, fruits, and vegetables, with much smaller proportions of fats and animal proteins. Most vegetarians actually eat fish, eggs, and/or cheese; vegans must work hard to find health-giving alternatives.

The average American diet is heavy on fats and animal proteins, not healthy for us or the planet. Recent U.S. per capita meat consumption is 285 pounds/year¹ (counting babies to ancients) times 307.1 million Americans on August 8, 2009² and equals over 87.5 billion pounds per year for the U.S.

Where does it come from? Largely from Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) here and south of us. Bad news. The EPA defines large CAFOS as containing over 700 mature dairy cows (see accompanying

USDA photo),
 1,000 beef cattle,
 2,500 swine, each
 55 pounds or
 more,
 10,000 swine, each
 less than 55
 pounds,
 55,000 turkeys
 30,000 laying hens
 or broilers (if the AFO uses a liquid manure handling system...otherwise
 82,000 layers or 125,000 broilers),
 Etc. for sheep, ducks, horses...



In addition to inhumanely packed, often excrement-rich conditions, CAFOs generate³:

- An estimated 500 million tons of excrement per year
- Large quantities of hydrogen sulfide, ammonia, and other toxics
- Huge quantities of manure stored as liquid in lagoons (see accompanying EPA photo) that contaminate ground-water
- Manure spills, including in North Carolina, where one released 25 million gallons from a hog CAFO
- 35,000 miles of contaminated rivers
- Pfiesteria outbreaks nourished by hog lagoon waste, especially in estuaries of North Carolina, killing millions of fish, closing hundreds of thousands of acres of shellfish beds, and causing lesions and sickness in people
- Breeding grounds for new diseases, including the current H1N1 swine flu, partly because the confined animals tend toward sickness and require about 25 million pounds of antibiotics per year



The list is longer, but space is short.

We require animal proteins, but as a small proportion of meals. We and the earth's living systems will do better consuming less meat, if possible free range/organic.

¹FAO-UN

²US Census Bureau

³misc sources, including EPA

From Ken McKinney

Outreach

Second Harvest

During the month of July, volunteers from St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church have delivered **3,665** pounds of salvage food from the Blowing Rock Food Lion and **80** pounds of salvage food from Woodlands Barbeque to Hospitality House in Boone.

Rotarians Against Hunger

Do you remember as a child making mud pies? Can you imagine actually eating those mud pies? They do in Haiti. Vendors mix a few drops of vegetable oil with dirt and water to create "cookies" that are sold to hungry people to eat so that their stomachs are filled and they do not feel the hunger pangs as much even though there is no nutritional value to these "cookies."

The Rotary International District 7670 of western North Carolina has set a goal to package and ship to Haiti one million meals. These meals consist of soy, dehydrated vegetables, vitamins, and rice. One package serves six people for one meal each. The Rotary Clubs of the High Country have set a goal of packaging 100,000 meals at the cost in materials of \$25,000. The packaging event will take place sometime in March of next year, and we will be getting volunteers from the civic and community clubs, the schools, Appalachian State University, and local churches. However, we need to raise the money to purchase the materials first.

Therefore, we will be asking the churches, clubs, schools, and other civic organizations for contributions. If you are interested in supporting this effort, please send your check made out to "Blowing Rock Rotary Foundation" and in the purpose line enter "Rotarians against Hunger". Mail the check to The Rotary Club of Blowing Rock, PO Box 1300, Blowing Rock, NC 28605.

Thank you for your support for this worthy cause!!

From Bill Parker, (828)295-0753

BEYOND THE PARISH

THE GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We are proud that Cobb Milner attended the 2009 Convention for our diocese. This was not Cobb's first General Convention. He was a lay deputy in 2000 in Denver, again in 2003 in Minneapolis/St. Paul, and in 2006 in Columbus. He has shared the following remarks:

Every diocese has four clergy deputies and four lay deputies, with one alternate for each. By definition, deputies vote the way they feel; they do not represent any outside group. Thus, the name "deputy," not "delegate."

Bonnie Anderson, D.D. (President, The House of Deputies) has told us that the first General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America began on September 27, 1785, at Christ Church, Philadelphia, and was composed of one House (Continued on Page 7)



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Jim Ayoub
- 3 Bob McCants
- 4 Tina Barrett
Barbara Parker
- 5 Toby Cone
Jesse MacKenzie
- 6 Bill Jonas
Ralph Jonas
William Parker
- 7 Elizabeth Ayoub
- 8 Jeff Norris
- 9 Sue McLean
Alexandria Proctor
- 10 Mac Enterline
Mark Klein
Jack Proctor
Ian Turnbow
- 12 Meredith Carter
- 13 Morgan Horner
Candy Winebarger
Diana White
- 14 Rebekah Ann McDonald
- 15 Catherine Carter
- 16 Michael Bradshaw
- 19 Autumn Stokes
- 20 Lowell Caldwell
Jaquelyn Bartlett
Rhyne Jones
Tom Rankin
- 21 Tatum Rees
Taja Setzer
- 22 Betty Green
Finley Heller
Audrey Stone
- 24 Betty Trumm
- 25 Malcolm MacDougall
Bob Miller
- 26 Pem Heath
- 27 Norman Hillis
Rucker Wilson
- 28 Kay Rankin
- 29 Jim Allen
Joseph Lemyre
- 30 Vickie Icenhour



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Doug and Mary Galke
Marla and John MacKenzie
Pete and Sally Page
- 7 Bob and Alva Browning
Mike and Laura Coston
Paul and Jane Karseras
- 25 Tom and Tina Barrett
- 29 Warren and Christina McDonald
Steve and Stuart Silver

BEYOND THE PARISH (CONT)

with 16 Presbyters and 26 laity from several states. That first General Convention approved six of the seven Articles of the Constitution that were proposed.

At the end of this convention, Bonnie Anderson told us that we had approved (or not approved) more resolutions than any past triennial convention.

Cobb is especially appreciative of the history of the American Episcopal Church and the fact that it is a democratic institution in which the laity have practically as much power as the clergy...and also that the constitution of the Church follows in many particulars the Constitution of the United States.

Introduction to Centering Prayer Workshop

Contemplative Outreach is offering a contemporary presentation of the spiritual practice of Centering Prayer on Saturday, August 29, from 9:30 AM - 3:00 PM at St. Elizabeth Catholic Church.

Centering Prayer is an ancient way of knowing God through love in silence. Instruction in the tradition and method of Centering Prayer will be offered as well as experiences of Centering Prayer. It will serve as an introduction as well as a refresher course. The workshop is open to people of all faith traditions. Suggested donation is \$10. Lunch will be provided. To reserve a space call St. Elizabeth's church office at 264-8338, or for more information call Paul Supina (828)265-5335, psupina@gmail.com.

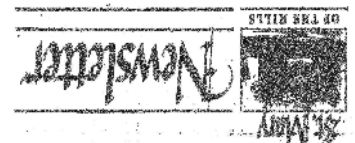
FROM THE EDITOR

I must plead guilty to not checking the Newsletter box (#15) in the church volunteer office. This has meant that some messages put in this box have not been included in past newsletters, and I sincerely regret these omissions.

Please know that your information is important to the newsletter, and we will be more diligent in checking the box in the future.

Address Correction Requested

Post Office Box 14
Blowing Rock, North Carolina 28605



The mission of the people of St. Mary of the Hills Episcopal Church is to grow Spiritually in Christ through Worship, Stewardship, Study, Service and Fellowship.

Staff

The Rev. Richard C. Lawler, Rector
Katy Abrams, Youth Director
Dr. James Bumgardner, Director of Music
Beth Postlethwait, Administrative Assistant.
Craig Church, Financial Secretary
Bill Stroh, Sexton
Nursery Attendants: Tanya Price, Kathy Holman, Natalie Bovino, Megan Lawler
The Rev. Richard DeMott, Adjunct Clergy

The Vestry

Marjory Holder, Senior Warden
Bob Miller, Junior Warden
Orian Carter, Treasurer
Pam Ayoub, Mary Ellen Raulerson, Clerks
Bill Bauknight, Judy Domer, Betty Green,
Alex Hallmark, Susan Fraser, Paul Karseras,
Frank Thomas, Derald West, Judith Williams

Department Chairs

Altar Guild - Luella Rundell
Stewardship Committee - Kay McCloskey
Flower Guild - Susan Fraser
Nursery Director - Donna Devereux
Environmental Concerns -
Personnel Committee -
ECW President - Susie Morgan
Prayer Chain - Olivia Knight
Landscape Committee - Meg Fary

Missions Committee -
Ushers - Leslie Barnes
Foyer Groups - Beth Lawler
Sunday School Director - Michelle Capen
Chalice Ministers - Beth Postlethwait
Lectors - Kathy Dacchille
Greeters - Sabine Miller
Friends of St. Mary - Olivia Knight
Newcomer Committee - Iris Caldwell
Acolytes - Catherine Carter
Publicity -
Daughters of the King - Betty Green
Parish Wellness Committee - Iris Caldwell
Outreach Committee - Judy Domer
ERD - Ginny Robards
Hospitality House - Susie Greene
Coffee Minute - ECW
Web Master - Perry Mixer:
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Newsletter-Deadline 20th of Month

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Church Office Hours

Sunday, 7:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Monday-Thursday
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

(Closed Fridays and Saturdays)