



ST. MARY OF THE HILLS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

BLOWING ROCK, NORTH CAROLINA

AUGUST 31, 2025

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. 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

Labor Day - Office Closed – The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, September 1, in observance of the Labor Day holiday, and will re-open on Tuesday, September 2nd, at 9:00AM.

Last Call for School Supplies – Once again, you filled the Foyer with backpacks full of school supplies for our friends at Blowing Rock School. School supplies will be delivered to the school this week to replenish their supplies at the start of the new school year.

Celebrating our Ushers – Calling all current and future church ushers! A Celebration of Ushers takes place today, Sunday, August 31st following the 10:10 Eucharist. If greeting and hospitality are your superpower- please consider joining us for a light lunch and brief presentation.

A Weekend with Westminster Abbey – Canon Theologian of Westminster Abbey, the Rev. Canon Dr. James Hawkey, and Mr. Martin Castledine, Dean's Verger at Westminster Abbey, will be joining us for worship and special programming next week, September 6-8.

- The Ministry of a Verger with Mr. Martin Castledine - Saturday, September 6, 10:00AM, Parish Hall
- The Anglican Communion: What is it and Why it Matters - Sunday, September 7, 9:00AM, Parish Hall
- The Rev'd Canon Dr. Hawkey to preach -Sunday, September 7, 10:10AM, Church
- An Evening With Westminster Abbey Monday, September 8, 6:00PM, Blowing Rock Conference Center

At the Blowing Rock Conference Center on Monday evening September 8 at 6:00PM our distinguished guests will share about their unique experiences as clergy and staff in a royal peculiar and in one of the world's most highly recognized houses of Christian worship. In conjunction with the Abbey's Press Office, our speakers have prepared a special multimedia presentation to share. Royal watchers, history buffs, and fans of architecture won't want to miss this unique opportunity to learn more about Westminster Abbey.

Christian Formation – Regular Sunday morning Christian Formation offerings return next Sunday, September 7th. Join the Rev'd Canon Dr. James Hawkey, Canon Theologian at Westminster Abbey for a conversation about the Worldwide Anglican Communion in the Parish Hall at 9:00AM. Upstairs, in the newly redesigned St. John Room, a new study for youth in grades 5-12 begins.

Coffee Minute Hosts – Coffee Minute is a primary point of contact for many, each Sunday following the 10:10 Eucharist and it's a great time of fellowship and connection. Partner with a friend to host and help cultivate a space of hospitality and welcome for all. A sign-up sheet is posted in the Parish Hall. Contact Director of Hospitality & Facilities Bill Devereux at bill@stmaryofthehills.org with any questions or to learn more.

Worship During the Week – Morning Prayer is offered each weekday morning at 8:30AM; this service lasts 15-20 minutes and includes readings from scripture and prayers. Holy Eucharist is also offered each Wednesday at 12:00PM.

PARISH PRAYER LIST

For the Church: Sean 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:

8/31 Jon & Bryan Commander
9/1 Dayne and Lindsey Cook, Mack
9/2 Chris Cooley & Brendan Housler
9/3 Jim & Sue Corcoran
9/4 Mike Coston
9/5 Lynn Coulthard
9/6 Bill & Owene Courtney

For our nation and those in positions of public trust: Donald, our President, Josh, our Governor, all those who hold elected office

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 Gaza.

For all affected by natural disaster throughout the world.

For healing: Luba; Mike & Sarah; Dale; Bill & Jorgann Rogers; Jeff Hedden; Christine; Ann Greene; Bob Barham; Clare; Kaye; Kay McCloskey; Evie; Susan; Lynn Turnbow; Leigh; Pat B.; Myra; Susie Brown Wright; Darlene; Lucy; Chris M.; Mary M.; Renada; Will; Sandi; Renee; Wanda; Margaret; Van; Carolyn; Betty; Nioucha; Larry; Garris Haynes; John V.; Barbara; Krystal H., Robert, Jan, Kerry, Todd

****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: Polly, Al, James, Tim, Archie, Belinda

For those with other concerns: Richard, Liv; David & Aarti; Josh; Corinne; Raquel, Savannah and Delilah; Lamar

For those traveling this week: Helene, The Hayes Family, William Sudderth

For safe pregnancy and delivery: Caitlyn, Katherine, Kelley, Anna, Hanna, Lauren, Jennifer, Corinne, Amy, Dani

For those celebrating a birthday:

8/31 Robert Wright
9/1 Lee Rocamora; Josh Van Dyke; Hayden Van Dyke
9/2 Diana Doswell
9/3 Oliver Sudderth
9/4 Tina Barrett
9/5 Toby Cone

For those celebrating an anniversary:

9/2 Doug & Mary Galke; Pete & Sally Page
9/6 Paul & Loy McGill