



Mt. Ebal Memorial Association

May 1, 2022

Dear Mt. Ebal family,

Our annual homecoming will be held on June 5, 2022. The service will begin at 11:30 followed by our usual pot-luck lunch on the grounds.

This year we are honored to have the Reverend Dr. Thomas Griffis as our speaker. Thomas grew up in Denton and graduated from Denton High School in 1967. He is the son of Dr. John W. Griffis and Kathryn Sexton Griffis. He is the great-grandson of John.T. Sexton who, with Alfred Thompson, was contracted to build our beloved structure for \$40 in 1883.

Thomas' educational experiences include:

- psychology degree from UNC-Chapel Hill
- Candler School of Theology
- counseling and pastoral care degree from Wake Forest University
- Doctor of Ministry degree from Columbia Theological Seminary

Thomas served for 35 years as a United Methodist pastor with the Western North Carolina Conference. He is married to Susan Gadd Griffis and they have 2 daughters, Emma and Anna, and four grandchildren.

Active in the Hickory, NC, community, Thomas volunteers as a tutor, is a member of the Hickory Choral Society, a member of the Rotary Club of Hickory, and a member of the Family Selection Committee with the Catawba Valley Habitat for Humanity.

Thomas enjoys researching his genealogy and learned that his great-great-grandfather was a Methodist circuit rider in Upper Canada from 1821 until 1878. He says, "Given this and my Sexton ancestors who were founders and literally builders of Mt.Ebal, how could I be anything but a Methodist pastor?"

Thomas has lived many places since leaving Denton in 1971, but still considers Denton home.

Please join us on June 5 at 11:30 to hear the message from Rev. Griffis and enjoy fellowship with our Mt. Ebal family.

Most Sincerely,

Addie

Addie Sexton Futrell
Mt. Ebal Association president.