



Good News

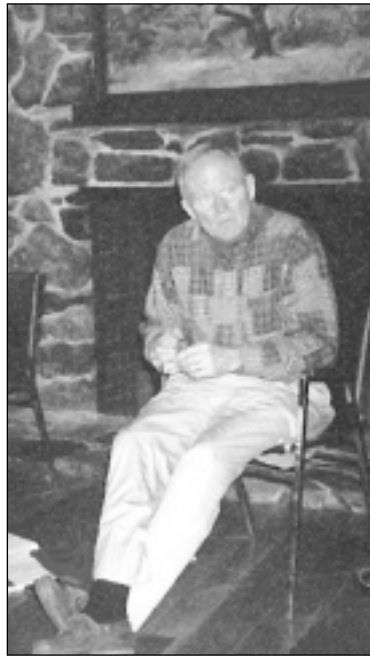
VALLE CRUCIS CONFERENCE CENTER • SPRING 2002

DEEPLY ROOTED ON SACRED GROUND

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The purpose of the United Religions Initiative is to promote enduring, daily interfaith cooperation, to end religiously motivated violence and to create cultures of peace, justice and healing for the Earth and all living beings.

-United Religions Initiative Charter



Rt. Rev. William Swing

In January I had the pleasure of listening to The Rt. Rev. William Swing, the Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of California, at the annual meeting of the Episcopal Camps and Conference Centers Association. While his talks were far reaching, much of his conversation centered on the United Religions Initiative and what this movement means to camps and conference centers around the world. Our world is continually fractured by the lack of understanding and respect for those of other faith traditions.

One way we as an Episcopal conference center can serve and glorify God is through our open approach to hospitality to all people, all of God's beloved children. We are in an excellent position to set the example for others to follow. We can set that example by respecting the sacred wisdom of each religion, spiritual expression and indigenous

tradition. We must live the Gospel by remembering that we are all brothers and sisters on this fragile island planet we call home.

Here at the Valle Crucis Conference Center we will continue our ministry of hospitality, to be a place of reflection and renewal that welcomes persons of all faiths. God loves all the children – and we are all God's children – of the world. As our own Bishop Johnson likes to say, "GOD IS GOOD. ALL THE TIME!"

—Tom Eshelman,
Executive Director



EYC Spring Conference participants hear from a Zen Buddhist monk on the theme of "One God".

THANK EACH & EVERYONE OF YOU

Our Special Thanks

to these individuals & organizations for their generosity in giving to the Center in recent months.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Anonymous
Chip Wilson
Sunrise United Methodist Women's Group
Mr. and Mrs. I. Harding Hughes, Jr.
Claire Coriell
Julia and Robert Keely
Mary Jeffcoat and Billy DuBose
Bob and Geraldene Ward
Tom and Claire McDonough
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Wright and Dagmar Sherrard
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Cecil and Julie Gurganus
Jeanne Finan and Tom Eshelman
Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Godwin
Julie C. Clarkson
Ralph Tilden
Louise Hatch
Alice and Gordon Mietz

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In memory of Mrs. Emily Prentiss Toll Hopkins
by Suzanne and Jack Peltason
In memory of Ian Hartman
by Tom Eshelman and Jeanne Finan
In memory of Wally Thurston
by Tom Eshelman and Jeanne Finan
In memory of Mary Herman Burkett
by Roberta Burkett Farthing
In memory of Nancy and Elbert Townsend
by W. Jeannette Townsend
In memory of Bill and Mary Burnham
by Bill and Marilyn Welch
In memory of Jim Hatch
by Sally Hatch and Gary Swartz
In memory of Mrs. Emily Toll Hopkins
by Charles and Jane Toll
In memory of The Rev. W. C. Leach
by Ann and Malcolm Glovier
In memory of Mariana Blair
by Sandy and Dorcas Jones
In memory of Ernest Townsend
by Lucy S. Townsend
In memory of Father Hanner
by Faye and John Cooper

HONORARIUM GIFTS

In honor of:
Mr. and Mrs. H.H. Herr, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hartman
Mr. J. B. Eshelman
Mark, Hunter and Dorsey Elliott
Anne and Kate Thurston
Roberta Kelly
by Tom Eshelman and Jeanne Finan
In honor of Billy DuBose and Mary Jeffcoat
by Alice Haynes
by William and Ella DuBose
In honor of Tom Eshelman and Jeanne Finan
by Lee Cagle
by Ann and Mason Hawkins
In honor of Fred Scuitti
by Gena and Bill Rankin
In honor of:
Gayle and Peg Averyt
W. P. Dubose, Jr.
Dot Poston
by Billy DuBose and Mary Jeffcoat

SEPTIC/SEWER REPLACEMENT FUND

All Saints Episcopal Church
Greensboro NC
Judith W. Teele
Brian Cole and Susan Weatherford
Nina- Jo Moore
In thanks for our blessings
Sandy and Dorcas Jones
Andy and Thea White

Billy DuBose and Mary Jeffcoat
Ralph Tilden

LANDSCAPING FUND

In memory of Janice Crumpler
by Diana Mast White

ROCKING CHAIR FUND

In memory of Janice Crumpler
by Diana Mast White

APPLE BARN RESTORATION FUND

In memory of Thelma Mast
by Diana Mast White
Billy DuBose and Mary Jeffcoat
The Boone Country Dancers
Ralph Tilden

CROSSES FOR GUEST ROOMS

Polly and Liberty Laubinger
Diana Mast White
Al Traver

OTHER GIFTS

Furniture, lamps and art work
by Chip Wilson
Book for library by Brian Cole
Book for library by Ralph Tilden
Sleeper sofa, vanity and sink
by Anne and Mack Green
Photographs of early Valle Crucis from the
North Carolina Collection, UNC Library
at Chapel Hill
by Jeff Carroll
Quilted wall hangings
by Danby Ludgate
Silk flower arrangement
by Susan Musilli
Church History paper on Br. William West Skiles
by the Rev. Tim McRee
Photographs for our archives
by Anna Mae Cook Reid
Photographs, articles and other
memorabilia of Margaret Kniple
by June Norris
Rosary with cross from Argentina
by Diana Mast White

*"We make a living
by what we get, but we
make a life of what
we give."*

—Winston Churchill

MAILING LIST

As many of you noticed with our last newsletter, we experienced a major computer virus in late 2001 which scrambled many of the names and address in our mailing list of over 5,000 names. If you have received a newsletter which is addressed to the wrong person at your address, please take the time to call or e-mail with the correct listing. Again, we apologize for this error.

LONG RANGE PLAN

In January our Board of Directors traveled to Kanuga Conference Center to present our long range plan to the Bishop and the Executive Council of our Diocese. This report was the culmination of an intensive year long process under the leadership of consultant Don Weyl. Our study found the number one priority for future growth of the Conference Center is the need to build a new meeting space that will better serve the varied needs of our many guests. In addition we recommend moving the maintenance shop to a new building on the lower property and an energy efficient retrofit including the addition of bathrooms to the Farm House. These projects will be funded with the money we received from the sale of In-the-Oaks Conference Center. In addition the Board is requesting the placing of conservation easements on the property in order to protect and preserve this place for our future generations.

*"Invent a fourth or fifth meal.
Our group had a fabulous time"*

—Matt Greathouse, St. James the Less, Madison, TN

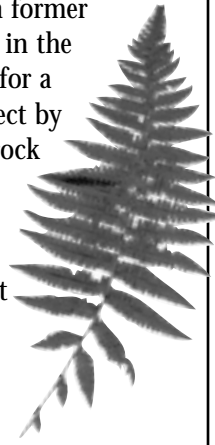
BITS & PIECES



The Valle Crucis Conference Center Board Of Directors

BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

In August 2001 as part of our long range plan we hired Appalachian Ecological Consultants to conduct a Biological Assessment of the Conference Center property. What they found was a rich bio-diversity of terrain, wildlife species and observed plant species. They found areas of "Old Growth Forest" a former wetland (which we are in the process of monitoring for a future restoration project by NCSU), wet and dry rock out-croppings, acidic coves, and others. The report lists over 240 plant species and about 100 wildlife species, including 3 rare plant and 3 rare animal species. A copy of this report can be seen in the office.



ASU

The Conference Center will be entering into an agreement with the Sustainable Development Department of ASU to use a portion of the property for their students to use for field site projects. They will grow a variety of herbs, berries and vegetables under different conditions in both the bottom land as well as mountain fields. As this program develops other disciplines in this department will be doing various experiments in sustainable living on Conference Center property. We look forward to a long relationship with the University and no, we will not be painting the barns Black and Gold!

New E-mail Address

In March we changed our e-mail address. The new address will be vccc@vol.com. Our website address remains the same at www.highsouth.com/vallecrucis.

Our Heritage



by Ralph Tilden

***“I sing a
song of the
Saints of God,
patient and
brave and
true...”***



VERSE 1 (FATHER LEACH):

One of the joys of writing these articles is the live response of readers who have roots at the “Mission School” and/or Holy Cross Church and are kind enough to get in touch and share their good memories. One such person is a childhood friend from the thirties and forties, Mary Hazel Farthing Mast, who remembered Father Leach warmly because he taught “H” Mast (who later became her husband of many years) and her how to dance, instruction they might not receive at the Methodist Church!

Another is Ann Leach Glovier, niece of Father Leach and wife of Malcolm Glovier, son of Mont and “Tiny” Glovier. Ann and Malcolm’s wedding was the purpose of the trip to Washington described by Reba Chapman in the previous issue. Ann first knew Valle Crucis in the summer of 1942 when she came to visit her “Uncle Bur”, her father’s brother, who had just become the Vicar of Holy Cross. This was his first cure after his ordination to the priesthood in 1941. He had prepared for a missionary ministry in the Philippines, but with war breaking out in the Pacific, he and his wife, Ruthie, decided that “missionary work” in the Southern Appalachians was the next best thing!

Having fallen in love with the mountains, Ann’s family moved from New Jersey to Banner Elk, where her father, Jim Leach, worked as an electrical engineer at Lees-McRae College. As a young adolescent, Ann was very proud to be a part of Uncle Bur’s ministry, often accompanying him on trips to seven nearby missions or churches. She was devoted to her uncle and felt privileged to be family, but she had to remember to call him “Father Leach” in public. She recalls the spirited fun the enthusiastic youth group had while marching from a recreational event to a church service, singing lustily, “Ninety-nine bottles of beer on the wall”, but, on entering the church, immediately assuming an attitude of reverence, which Uncle Bur thought was very important to instill in his young charges.

Ann was kind enough to fill me in on some information about Father Leach, from the time of his departure from Valle Crucis in 1950 till his death in 1982 (not in the 1960’s as we previously reported). He spent over eighteen years as Vicar of St. Luke’s, Barrow Street, one of the chapels under the umbrella of Trinity Church, Wall Street, in New York City. After that ministry he served as rector of the Church of the Nativity, The Bronx. Under retirement he and his wife, Ruthie, were in the process of moving to Brooklyn, when he asked a friend to help him transport a large, cherished chandelier. The friend suffered a seizure while driving and wrecked the vehicle. Father Leach was taken to St. Luke’s Hospital in Manhattan, near the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. Although initially diagnosed only with a broken ankle, he suffered an embolism and died in the hallway of the hospital where he was born sixty-five years earlier! His memory is still revered in Valle Crucis.

VERSE 2 (BROTHER SKILES):

Often in life the most significant breakthroughs seem to happen quite by chance. In early December I was “chewing the fat” with one of my favorite people, Jack Wiseman of Three

Oaks Nursery, while he was planting some Norway spruces in our meadow. In the course of what had been a routine conversation, he said, “Ralph, we’ve just finished writing a short history of the Three Oaks property. You might like a copy because you have an interest in the history of the mountain area”. After encouraging him to tell me more, he said, “Well, the house we use for our headquarters was built in 1890 by Major George Watkins, but before that there was a large mansion on the property, the residence of a Colonel Palmer...” I let out a shriek heard from Sugar to Beech – “Colonel Palmer?!?!?” Jack stopped digging, sat down and quietly said, “Yes”. After regaining my composure, I explained that I had done some research on our patron saint of Valle Crucis, Brother Skiles, but had never been able to find out the location of Colonel Palmer’s home, where Skiles died in 1862. Jack then told me about a book by Shepherd Dugger, The Balsam Groves of the Grandfather Mountain, in which he states that this elegant home was burned to the ground by the Union Army toward the end of the Civil War.

I was excited about this discovery and immediately left Jack to plant seventeen more spruces while I phoned Father John Zellner and Tom Eshelman to inform them of my “revelation”. They shared my enthusiasm and suggested that I arrange with Jack for the three of us to pay him a visit and tour his property on US 221, south of Crossnore, NC. A date was set as near December 8 (Skiles’ death date and the day of his observance in the liturgical calendar) as we could arrange. Our pilgrimage was every bit as exciting and fun as those of the Canterbury Pilgrims in medieval times, though not “bawdy or ribald”! The three of us traveled in Tom’s red truck (all of us are large men so we fit quite snugly in the cab). Jack was as gracious as the Archbishop of Canterbury! Among other areas he showed us a large level meadow near a bend in the Linville River which fit Dugger’s description precisely. Father John and I accepted on faith that this indeed was the setting for the house where our beloved Brother Skiles had died 139 years earlier. Tom and our host were agnostic and not convinced that this was the spot because Jack said that, after decades of mowing the meadow, no relics of a house had ever been found. John and I didn’t let their doubts dampen our elation one bit – we had made a religious pilgrimage to find our Saint’s place of death, and we had found it! The four of us celebrated with a “Mountain Gourmet” dinner at the Tartan Restaurant, and the three of us returned to Longview for an afternoon of libations, bonding and increased spirituality!!

In his books, Balsam Groves and War Trails, Shepherd Monroe Dugger describes his life in these mountains in a most eloquent and poetic style. His biography by Leslie Banner Cottingham and Carol Lowe Timblin names him the “Bard of Otteray” —the melodious name the Cherokees gave the mountains of North Carolina. He was born in

1854 in eastern Tennessee, but the family moved to Banner Elk two years later. He excelled in writing the tales told to him by the local people as well as the events he witnessed himself. His life overlapped Brother Skiles’ life only by eight years, but he mentions him 26 times in Balsam Groves—*always* in a complimentary way.

I find it significant that someone in a different village and a different church (Presbyterian) knew Skiles to be a kindly, caring and reverent minister from Valle Crucis Abbey. (After the dissolution of the monastic community, the school and mission were still referred to as the “Abbey”.) My research to this point had dealt with documents by Episcopalians about Episcopalians; it is reassuring to learn that our saint was known and respected throughout the region, even through more objective eyes.

It is worth the price of the book to read Dugger’s florid description of perhaps the most exciting wedding that ever took place anywhere—the ceremony on a ledge of rock overlooking Linville Falls uniting Charlie Clippersteel and Lydia Meaks. Brother Skiles officiated from the Episcopal Prayer Book in a loud voice so as to be heard over the roar of the falls. He never lost his reverence and dignity when his recalcitrant student from the Abbey, Leathershine, strongly objected to the continuation of the vows, and then, while attempting to escape the vengeance of the men in the wedding party, fell thirty feet into the deep pool at the bottom of the falls! To find out the outcome, you can purchase this marvelous book at Village Dry Goods in Banner Elk—as far from DRY as one can get!

I hope that these genuine tributes to Brother Skiles’ character, when added to what we already know about our beloved brother in Christ, will serve to increase our gratitude for his life and ministry and to deepen our faith in the Almighty, who sent this selfless servant to dwell among us.

EDITORS NOTE:

According to John Wall’s A New Dictionary for Episcopalians, churches of the Anglican communion recognize saints mentioned in the Bible in their liturgical calendars. In addition, each member church can choose to add to that list other medieval and more recent figures. Brother William West Skiles has been added to the liturgical calendar for the church of the Holy Cross and for the Diocese of Western North Carolina. As Wall states, “Saints in the Episcopal Church are honored as members of the cloud of witnesses to the faith with which God has surrounded us and as examples of Christian living.”



PROGRAMS 2002 MAY THROUGH OCTOBER

VALLE CRUCIS CONFERENCE CENTER
AT THE HISTORIC MISSION SCHOOL

*Join us for one or more of these programs
being offered here at the Center.
You can come away for a day of quiet or
a longer workshop.*

HONEY IN THE HEART DRUM BUILDING WORKSHOP

May 10-12, 2002
Instructor: Tom Harris

Drumming is an ancient and powerful practice which all cultures have used through the ages to create community, celebrate personal and community milestones, facilitate healing and guide spiritual growth.

This is our fourth year for this popular program. You will have the joy of creating your own West African-style drum. *This course is designed for people with little or no prior experience in woodworking.* All materials and tools are provided and workshop participants will select from beautiful cherry, black walnut or heart pine for their drum. Tom Harris will also instruct the workshop group in basic drumming as you enjoy performing some traditional West African music.

Tom Harris has worked in the field of experiential education and adventure therapy for over twenty years. He has been building drums and teaching West African drumming to youth and adults for the past six years and has built over 500 drums during this time. This year you will have the choice of building an Ashiko, a Sangban, a Dun Dun or a Djembe.

- Cost: Ashiko \$300; Sangban \$375; Dun Dun or Djembe \$400 (includes all materials to build your drum, 2 nights lodging, and all meals)
- **The drum you make is yours to take home with you.**
- Limited commuter space available: call for prices
- Class size limited to 12 people
- Except for the Djembe whose shell is imported from the Ivory Coast please indicate choice of wood on the registration form.
- Deposit of \$100 is required for this class



PROGRAM DAY WITH OUR LABYRINTHS

Monday, May 20, 2002 / 10am - 3pm
Facilitator: Tom Eshelman

Spend a day walking our three labyrinths (two outdoor and one indoor) and learning more about this fascinating tool for meditation and prayer.

- Cost: \$35 (includes lunch)

REFLECTION DAYS

May 28-30, 2002
Facilitator: Judith Teele

Living creatively and intentionally teaches us to listen, to pay close attention and allows us to find our way intuitively into that center place of flow where life's essence resides. Join us for a few days designed just for seeking that creative core. This will be a time for grounding and reflection in a place where we can be enveloped in stillness. Days to either begin a work or continue a work in solitude. We'll discuss inspiration and creativity using small groups and journaling. We will use the "Chartres" eleven-circuit canvas Labyrinth located on the conference center grounds to find that place where the spiritual and creative are inextricably linked.

Judith Teele, MA, is founder of Southlands Institute, which offers workshops and retreats that encourage individuals in their search for renewed vision, clarity and creativity. She has spent her career working with non-profit organizations that foster leadership, compassion and the development of unrecognized potential.

- Cost: \$275.00 (includes 2 nights lodging, tuition and meals)
- Please register with Southlands Institute, 213 Riverside Drive, Morganton NC 28655 828-433-6818 or Southlandsinstit@aol.com

WEEKEND WORKSHOP

RUTH AND NAOMI: OUR JOURNEY AS WOMEN OF GOD

June 28-30, 2002

Facilitator: Jeanne Finan

Rabbi Lawrence Kushner calls the book of Ruth "one of the gems of the Hebrew Bible." This program weekend will deepen your understanding of the biblical story of Ruth, an often overlooked and undervalued part of scripture. What does it mean to be a woman of God? How does this affect our relationships with other women and with the world? How does hope emerge from tragedy and loss? This study and meditation time moves beyond stereotypes and offers an opportunity to explore together how God calls us into spiritual wholeness. Open to all, this program would be especially meaningful for an adult daughter and her mother/mother-in-law or for friends of different ages/generations to share together.

Jeanne Finan, a rising senior at Virginia Theological Seminary, is an experienced and dynamic retreat leader. Class size is limited, so early registration is encouraged.

- Cost \$170 (includes 2 nights lodging, all meals and workshop materials)
- Limited commuter space available at \$130

STUDIO WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP WITH NOYES CAPEHART LONERGAN

Sold Out

PROGRAM DAYS DEVELOPING YOUR OWN BURNOUT PREVENTION PLAN BY EXPLORING THREE FACETS OF ALIVENESS

Monday, August 12, 2002 / 10am - 3pm

Experiencing Gratitude or Don't Fight the Mountain

A basic law of the universe is that any action has an equal reaction. It is vital to become clear about how we receive and then proceed in our life circumstances, before we proceed.

Monday, September 16, 2002 / 10am - 3 pm

Becoming Compassion or Who Do I Love?

We encase ourselves and every part of our lives within a box of negative judgement. Let's examine how that effects even our DNA.

Monday, October 14, 2002 / 10am - 3pm

Accepting Three Universal Fears as Friends and Teachers.

It may be a surprise to find what they are and how they run our lives.

Facilitator: Virginia MacLeod

While these Program Days are presented on three separate days, each day will have a separate focus and will

stand alone. Handouts from each day will be available to all who attend each session. Each day will include time segments for the practice of mindfulness of the body, mind, and spirit. You are urged to arrive early or stay late to include a time of meditative walking on one of our three labyrinths. Virginia is a psychotherapist, a workshop leader, and teacher, who seeks to apply timeless truths to struggles in our lives. She has a deepened commitment to serving healers and leaders and helping them create self-styled paths of renewal.

- Cost for each day is \$35 (includes lunch)

A WEEKEND WITH THE GOSPEL OF MARK

August 16-18, 2002

Facilitator: The Rev. Brian Suntken, St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, Mooresville NC

Spend a weekend with Mark, exploring the history and theology of his Gospel. You will have ample time for reflection, meditation, journaling and questions. One evening will be spent around a bonfire looking at the stars and asking questions of ourselves and each other. Brian, as previous participants in his workshops have learned, is a gifted, engaging and humorous teacher who will share his love of the Bible with you.

- Cost: \$170 which includes 2 nights lodging, all meals and workshops
- Limited Commuter space available at \$130.
- Class size is limited so please register early!

VOICES FROM THE MOUNTAIN



August 19 - August 22, 2002

Facilitators: Maudy Benz and Judith Teele

What is it about a place that touches us so ... that is written deep within our bones? How does our inner terrain match that of our outer terrain and what does one have to do with the other? How does all of this affect our lives and our creative selves? How do we describe that special homeland that each of us harbors, a landscape that is ours alone?

We will be instructed by others who write to place: Maudy Benz, creative writing teacher at Duke will discuss how text and image can be focused on the power of place to great visual, emotional and intellectual effect. Representatives from area conservancies and from the Nature Conservancy of NC will speak to the description and communication of place. Crafts and foods of the area will be explored as important to the uniqueness of place.

Maudy Benz received her MFA from Bennington College. Her latest novel OH, JACKIE has received

numerous awards and was named a noteworthy paperback in 1999 by the New York Times Book Review. She teaches writing in the short courses program at Duke University.

- Cost: \$400.00 - includes 2 nights lodging - 3 day tuition and meals
- Please register with Southlands Institute, 213 Riverside Drive, Morganton NC 28655 828-433-6818 or Southlandsinstit@aol.com

DESIRING LIFE: THE PRACTICE OF WHOLENESS

September 8-13, 2002

Facilitator - The Rev. Elizabeth Canham, D..Min.,
The Rev. Douglass and Norvene Vest

In today's smorgasbord of spiritual paths, sometimes only passing attention is given to the deeply rooted practices which alone enable the experience of wholeness of life. This retreat will emphasize practical spiritual disciplines of wisdom, character, ethics and a guiding rule which undergirds Benedictine spirituality. We will explore specifics about how the Christian spiritual life is not an isolated fragment, separate from work-life and love-life, but rather a foundational core around which other life-embracing elements cohere. The week's experience will allow opportunities to test and practice insights in the context of silence, community, liturgy and nature. This program will start at 5 PM on Sunday and go through noon on Friday.

Douglas Vest is a priest in the Episcopal church and at present is writing and conducting pilgrimages and workshop/retreats. Norvene Vest is a spiritual director and author with a degree in Christian Formation. She has developed a ministry of consoling, group work, and writing, especially about the value of Benedictine spirituality outside the cloister. Both Doug and Norvene are oblates of St. Andrew's Abbey in Valyermo, California. Liz Canham is the Director of Stillpoint Ministries located in Black Mountain. She is an author and retreat leader.

- Cost: \$795 which includes 5 nights lodging, all meals, workshops and tuition
- All inquiries for this retreat should be directed to: Stillpoint Ministries, 1040 Lower Laurel Drive Arden NC, 828-687-7957, Stilpnt@aol.com

*"We do not see things
as they are: we see things
as we are."*

—Talmud

PROGRAM DAY JOURNEYING WITH SARAH, ABRAHAM AND HAGAR: THE BIBLE AS LIVING HISTORY

Monday October 7, 2002 / 10am - 3pm
Facilitator: The Rev. Susan Sherard

Our ancestors Sarah and Abraham and Hagar show us what it means to be called people, as they undertake a journey with no clear map of where they are headed and no assurance that they themselves will arrive at the promised place. This Program Day will include meditations on how their spiritual challenges intersect with our own lives in the twenty-first century. You will be given the opportunity for both quiet reflection and group discussion and are asked to bring Bibles and journals.

- Cost: \$35 (Includes lunch)

*"Set us free
from our anxiety for
the future so that we may
take the risks of love
today."*

—Ted Loder

HEALING LANGUAGE OF THE SOUL

November 11- 14, 2002

Facilitators: Dr. Julie Lunsford and Judith Teele

This retreat speaks to the need for healing in all our lives- whether literal or figurative and the desire to create wholeness, for others and ourselves. Join Dr. Julie Lunsford, who has studied with Rachael Naomi Remen, the author of *Kitchen Table Wisdom* and Judith Teele as they explore the ways that our personal stories can heal. Befriending life often requires accepting and experiencing loss. Together we will study the dynamics of loss. We'll explore those elements of our own story where loss and relinquishment have resulted in strength and refuge.

Julie Lunsford is a psychiatrist with a private practice in Raleigh, NC. She is drawn to the deep spiritual questions that are often present in the midst of life's growing pains and those that are linked to the search for life's meaning.

- Cost: \$450.00 (includes 3 days lodging, all meals & tuition)
- Please register with Southlands Institute, 213 Riverside Drive, Morganton NC 28655 828-433-6818 or Southlandsinstit@aol.com

Scholarships

If you wish to apply for a limited number of scholarships which are offered for some of our programs please call for more information.

"We were so happy to be at the VCCC - thank you for the beautiful, sacred space."

– Gail Frye,
North Carolina
Arts Council

GENERAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

• **Class Size:** We are committed to keeping our class size small as we believe it is in the small group environment that learning and spirituality flourish. Because class sizes are kept small, classes fill quickly. Early registration is encouraged!

• **Price and Room Policies:** Listed prices for programs include room, board, tuition and materials. Most accommodations are double, triple or quadruple occupancy. If you prefer a single room, we will try to accommodate you though we cannot guarantee this until check-in when the final availability of single rooms can be determined. Please notify VCCC in advance if you have any medical needs such as diet or disability accommodations. We are unable to accommodate pets or provide childcare. Smoking is not permitted in any building.

• **Meals:** We serve home-cooked, nutritious meals. The fare is hearty. Our kitchen staff will try to accommodate any special dietary needs if they receive 14 days prior notice. If you have any dietary questions, please give us a call.

• **Timing:** Unless otherwise noted, conferences begin with registration and check in at 4:00 p.m. on opening day, followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m.

They close after the 12 noon lunch on the closing day. To assist our housekeeping staff, we request that you complete your check out prior to lunch closing day.

• **To Register:** A nonrefundable, nontransferable deposit of \$50 is required for each course **except for single day programs when a nonrefundable payment in full is required.** Please mail your check with the completed registration form.

• **Directions:** You will receive directions to the conference center with your registration confirmation. We are easy to find and are located just 9 miles outside of Boone, NC (2 hours from Winston Salem; 2-1/2 hours from Charlotte). The closest airports are Hickory, NC, and Johnson City (Tri-Cities), TN, both approximately 90 minutes from the Center.

• **Commuters:** A limited number of spaces are available in each program for commuters not requiring lodging. The fee does include three meals per day as mealtime is an important part of the program's fellowship. Those who choose to commute are encouraged to make a commitment to full participation in all meals and community activities.

REGISTRATION

(Feel free to copy this form but please use one form per person)

Event for which you are registering: _____

Starting Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Your Faith Tradition: _____

** I would like to room with _____

____ I will not be staying at the Conference Center but will commute

____ I am coming for a Quiet Day and will not need lodging
(if you wish to arrive the night before a Quiet Day, please call to check on room availability)

Enclosed: ____ Nonrefundable, nontransferable deposit of \$ _____

____ Full payment of \$ _____

Please return this complete form with your check (payable to "VCCC") to the address below. You will receive a registration confirmation with any further information necessary.

VCCC, PO Box 654, Valle Crucis, NC 28691

** When requesting a specific room mate(s), registration forms and deposits should be mailed together.



VALLE CRUCIS
CONFERENCE CENTER
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Good News



VALLE CRUCIS CONFERENCE CENTER

AT THE HISTORIC MISSION SCHOOL

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Web Page: www.highsouth.com/vallecrucis

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Valle Crucis Conference Center is to inspire, by loving example and service, those who break bread with us and share in the quest for spiritual renewal, Christian community and stewardship of this sacred place.

The Right Reverend Robert H. Johnson
Bishop of the Diocese of Western North Carolina

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