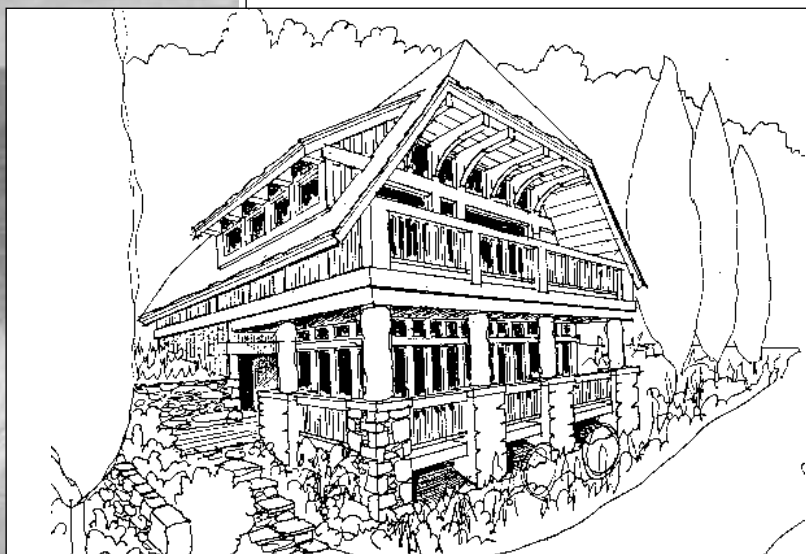




Good News

VALLE CRUCIS CONFERENCE CENTER • SUMMER 2002

DEEPLY ROOTED ON SACRED GROUND



The Bishop Robert H. Johnson Hall

Change:
to cause
to become
different;
alter; convert;
vary.

Change happens and has happened through the years in this special valley. When Bishop Levi Silliman Ives first rode his horse into this valley in 1842, he changed as well as the people living here. When he named this place Valle Crucis, he forever changed it. When Bishop Ives decided to build a cabin as his residence, he changed the place. When Bishop Ives built a school and established a monastery here at Valle Crucis, the lives of the men and boys who attended the school and joined the monastery were changed. When Bishop Ives hired a humble man, from Eastern North Carolina to be the farm manager, the life of this man, William West Skiles, changed as he became the first person to take monastic vows in the Anglican Church since the Reformation. Brother Skiles changed the lives of countless people in these mountains through his ministry of service and love. When Bishop Ives resigned his Episcopacy in the Diocese of North Carolina and sailed to Rome to convert to Roman Catholicism, one door closed but a new door of change opened. Bishop Cheshire came to Valle Crucis in 1896 to rejuvenate what Bishop Ives had started and talked Squire Taylor into giving

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

the church three acres of land where Bishop Cheshire built the Mission House (still used for groups today), Holy Cross Church (which moved to its new church building in 1924) and a classroom building (today used as meeting space and known as Crab Orchard Hall). When Bishop Horner and his sister Mary started their ministry to educate the children of the mountains and began the building program which saw The Annex and The Inn built here at Valle Crucis, things changed. Bishop Horner contacted and received funds from the Women's Auxiliary in New York City and Mrs. Auchmuty of New York to construct buildings and to educate and change the lives of generations that followed. When Bishop Horner began to buy back the original land (sold by Bishop Ives) and start a farm, build a hydroelectric dam (that generated power for the people of the valley), build the Apple Barn, the Bunk House, the Farm House, a tea room, chicken houses, a sawmill, the wagon and cheese factories, lives of the people in this valley changed with the new resources for employment and Christian education. When the school changed to an all-girls school, a new era began as the Center became a place of both education and recreation. Valley residents enjoyed square dances on Friday nights and plays performed by the girls (sometimes joined by local boys for the male roles). Again things changed when the girls' school closed in 1942 and the buildings were used as a site for a Rural Ministry School; a seasonal Inn for lodging; and finally; a year-round Diocesan Conference Center facility under the current leadership of our Bishop Robert H. Johnson. I share this long litany of historical changes, because we are about to undertake a new and exciting building program in 2002.

Director's Report continued on p.9

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

—Winston Churchill

"Where there is love there are always great miracles."

—Willa Cather

"Thanks again for a great experience."

—Ron Moss
Wesley-Luther
Campus Ministry

"The important things in life are seldom center stage."

—Mr. Rogers

THANK YOU

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

CONTRIBUTIONS

Larry and Rae Phillips
Francis and Sibyl Pressly
Tom Eshelman and Jeanne Finan
Regina and Ted Epple
Patrick and Kelly Craft
The Rev. Randy Ferebee
The Rev. Bancroft and Eleanor Smith
Anne and Arthur Korff
Grace Episcopal Women from
Grace Church Morganton
Calvary Fletcher Church
by the Rev. Victor Mansfield
Michael & Lenora James
Gregory Wood & Barbara Toland-Wood
John W. Goodrich
Nina-Jo Moore
Fay and Brenda Binning
Diana Mast White
Jane Smith
Ernest and Margaret Caudill
Vera and Eugene Hammer
Bob & Melani Country
Rick & Lyn Herrick
The Episcopal Churchwomen of
Western North Carolina
Maria R. Lichtmann & Robert J. Schneider
Dagmar & Wright Sherrard
David and Dorothy Smith
Gary Hipp
Bob Norris

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In memory of George White
by Marie and Albert Calloway
In memory of Edward Frontis Tester
by Bonnie A. Tester
In memory of her husband Dr. Bernard S. Linn
by Linda A. Loy
In memory of Jim Hatch
by Mr. & Mrs. Charles F. Steineger, Jr.
In memory of Jerry Edwin Yates
by David & Roberta Yates
In memory of Dot Rash Dilley
by Beverly & Tim McRee
In memory of Mrs. Emily Toll Hopkins
by Suzanne & Jack Peltason

HONORARIUM GIFTS

In honor of Tom Eshelman & Jeanne Finan;
Doug & Carolyn Bailey
by C. Lee Cagle
In honor of her son Matthew
by Robyn Redinger

In honor of Bill & Becky McNair
by Virginia S. Huggins
In honor of the Rev. Carl Cunningham
by Linda A. Loy
In honor of Tom Eshelman & Jeanne Finan
by Lisa & John Leach
In honor of the goodness of Faye Cooper
by Dennis & Margaret Lehmann
In honor of Alex Reznikoff by Robyn Redinger
In honor of their wedding and life together,
Don Weyl & Katria Peterson
by Billy DuBose & Mary Jeffcoat

SEPTIC/SEWER REPLACEMENT FUND

Ernest & Margaret Caudill
Honey in the Heart Drum Company
Mike Conway
Beth Morgan

APPLE BARN RESTORATION FUND

In memory of Karen DeLisle
by Diana M. White

BISHOP ROBERT H. JOHNSON HALL BUILDING FUND

John Youel
Kay Irwin
Rogers Branson
Dr. White McK Wallenborn

LANDSCAPING FUND

Jeanne Finan and Tom Eshelman

ROCKING CHAIR FUND

In memory of Debbie Mountford LaPut
by the Abbeville Grenadier Pipe Band
For my son, Thomas Joseph Johnson,
who sacrificed his life for a friend
by his mother Martha B. O'Brien

LABYRINTH CONTRIBUTIONS

5 - Anonymous
In thanksgiving for the labyrinth at St. James,
Hendersonville during Holy Week
by Elizabeth S. Black

OTHER GIFTS

Books for library
by Gloria Hinson
Spinnet Piano
by Jean Hayes
Bench for outdoor labyrinth
by Jaan Ferree
Bench for pond
by Tom Eshelman
Flowers and plants for Valle Crucis Signs
by Tom Eshelman & Jeanne Finan
Service projects on the Center grounds
by Davidson College students
Papers and photographs for archives
by Mary Baird Ledford

Two of the needs which our Board identified from our recently completed year long strategic planing study were the need for new meeting spaces and the need for a new maintenance building.

We need additional meeting space to adequately serve the needs of our already existing groups, as well as those groups who haven't been able to experience our hospitality because we lack the size or number of meeting rooms. Constructing a new maintenance building will allow us to move the present facility out of the basement of the Annex to its own separate site behind the Mission House. In addition, we are getting very close to finalizing, with the State, our plans for the new septic/sewer system that has been on the drawing board for the past four years.

We have hired a contractor, Mike Galleher, Inc., and the architects Bob Mann and Grace Strange of the firm, ATTIC Design, who have designed a magnificent building to be named The Bishop Robert H. Johnson Hall. This building will have two stories with two meeting spaces on the top floor and one large meeting space on the ground floor. Each floor will have restrooms, hospitality areas and storage rooms, and, of course, each floor will have wonderful porches with rocking chairs. In addition, there will be outdoor areas designed for groups who wish to have their breakout meetings outside. This new space will be located on the hill behind the dining hall which will offer wonderful views of our sacred valley and access to existing parking areas. The building will be completely accessible to all our guests and we plan to break ground this summer and be ready for occupancy in the late spring of 2003.

There are three naming opportunities for the meeting spaces for large gifts, but we certainly welcome all gifts made by our many friends in this Diocese and nationwide to help us furnish this new space with all the needed items. As always all gifts are tax deductible (to the extent of the law). Please indicate on your check how you would like us to designate your gift.

The Board of Directors trusts that our guests will enjoy using this new space and that all of you will help us in celebrating this brand new CHANGE at the Valle Crucis Conference Center. **Thanks be to God!**

BITS & PIECES

Our biological assessment is now available on our web site. This is a very large document so our webmaster says please be patience when downloading. This remarkable document lists all of the plant and animal species found on the Conference Center property and makes fascinating reading.

The **Sustainable Agriculture** Department of Appalachian State University under the leadership and guidance of Cristoff den Biggelaar, PhD has come to the Valle Crucis Conference Center. They are using a seven acre plot of our hayfield off Dutch Creek Road by the Red Barn to grow a variety of vegetables, herbs and other plants and to conduct experiments in sustainable living. One of the fortunate by-products of this relationship with ASU is that our kitchen is a recipient of the excess vegetables grown by the students. At this time we have been having some wonderful varieties of lettuce to serve to our hungry guests. Thanks ASU!

We have an **unusual opening** for the Inn on the weekend of **September 20-22, 2002**. If you would like to book this time for your group please call ASAP. It is also not too early to start booking a winter meeting or ski group.

Blue Ridge Learning Centers has upgraded our ropes course and has exciting plans to add additional new elements in the coming year. In June they built a 36 foot tall climbing wall and added a new dynamically belayed element called Boson's Loops (which is an element where a participant traverses by stepping into loops and swings from one loop to another). Call them at 828-265-0602 about these and other exciting programs they now offer through their Mountain Quest Programs. They can create a program designed to fit the

needs of your group which can include the ropes course, team building exercises, inter-disciplinary courses designed for the NC School System, caving, night walks, rafting and more.

In May a group of Davidson College Students were on a leadership retreat here and, while doing a service project in our hayfield, came across an **injured Peregrine**



Leslie Hayhurst with Peregrine Falcon.

Falcon that had been shot in the shoulder. Leslie Hayhurst from Genesis Animal Sanctuary, Inc on Beech Mountain came down right away and retrieved the bird from the field. The falcon's shattered bone has healed and Leslie reports that the falcon had an excellent release on July 8th.



Jennifer, Esh, and Temple

Our kitchen manager "Esh" Donaldson moved to Asheville early this summer to start her own landscaping business. We miss her, but wish her well in her new endeavor. **Temple Throneburg**, who has been our assistant kitchen manager for the past year, is our new kitchen manager, ably assisted by **Jennifer Greene**. We are blessed to have a wonderful and dedicated staff in our kitchen who work long hours to provide great food for all our groups throughout the year.

Our Heritage

We recently received a number of letters and other Girls School memorabilia from Mary Baird Ledford whose mother attended school at Valle Crucis. Mary's mother thanked God every day for rescuing her from a bad home situation and placing her in the loving care of Bishop Horner and his sister Mary. The way of life that she learned here was passed on to each of her twelve children. This month's Heritage column is a letter written to the Woman's Auxiliary of St. Phillip's Church in Durham, NC by Miss Isabelle Graves, headmistress of the school, in May 1931.

My Dear Friends:

As I wrote your secretary in reply to your request for a letter about my work, I appreciate your remembering me as one of the missionaries from our Diocese of North Carolina. I am glad to write, but it is rather difficult because Valle Crucis is so well known.

To those of you who know all about the work, listening to this letter will be an exercise of patience, which I hope will provide a spiritual benefit.

The Rector of the school is the Rev. Leicester F. Kent, who is well known to the Women's Auxiliary, having been a missionary in Alaska for several years, succeeding the Rev. Frederick Drane as Archdeacon of the Yukon.

Valle Crucis School is a boarding school for girls and a day school for boys and girls. The high school is accredited by the State Department of Education. We have added this year a course in Stenography and Typewriting. If we had money enough we would introduce other vocational courses, because we think the usefulness of the school would thereby be greatly increased.

The school buildings are picturesquely located on the side of Valle Mountain. At the entrance to the school stands the beautiful Holy Cross Church built of stone quarried from the school land a little farther up the mountain. The church was built under the leadership of that tireless worker, the Rev. James Preston Burke, who was for five years the beloved Rector of the School and the Mission. The church was designed by Harold Macklin, Architect of Winston-Salem, N.C. Most of the work was done by local men.

The two school buildings, Auchmuty Hall and Auxiliary Hall, are heated by steam and by hot air, and lighted by electricity and both have running water, hot and cold. Nearly all around the school are apple trees, and they are beautiful to behold in May when covered with pink-and-white blossoms and again in the fall when laden with the red ripe apples, and they usually furnish plenty of apples for our table all winter. Indeed, we are having our own apples to cook now.

This is a home school and we do our own housework under the direction of the matron. Our girls keep the bedrooms and halls clean and in order, and each girl does her own laundry. Women from the neighborhood wash and iron the teachers' clothes and wash the linen, and some of the girls in turn mangle (* Editors Note: How many of our readers can remember what a mangle is? It is a specialized piece of machinery used to press sheets. We still have the mangle in the basement of the Inn although we no longer use it) and iron the sheets and pillow-cases and table linen. Under the direction of the housekeeper and dietitian the girls cook the meals, set the tables, wash the dishes, and keep the dining room and kitchen in order. The work schedule changes every three weeks.

The rising bell rings a six o'clock every day and Sunday too. We used to get up at six-thirty on Sunday, but our Rector has our Church service at nine o'clock so that he can go to a mission at Todd in Ashe County for the service at eleven.

At ten o'clock on Sunday we have our Church school for Holy Cross Mission. I have been a substitute teacher in Sunday School for the past two years and now I have the Bible Class regularly for awhile. Among those present Sunday was one of our dear faithful Churchwomen, her husband, and two of her three grown sons.

I play the organ for the service in the church and for the daily services in the Prayer Room, and I have choir practice



A day outing in 1932. Lizzy Baird, Maude Hollar, Elsie Wilson, Sadie Robertson, Helen Fields, Miss Smith Lillian Hollars, Lillie Glenn, The Rev. Mr. Kent

for an hour Friday afternoons; the girls in the elementary school are in one section and the high school girls in another.

Sunday afternoon some of the teachers take the girls for a walk. There are three groups.

Miss Bouldin and Miss Smith go to our Mission Sunday School at St. Anthony's Chapel up on Dutch Creek. This was my Sunday afternoon work for seven years, but I gave it up the year we were without a Rector for several months, because my duties were necessarily increased. I used to go in our old buggy drawn by our old horse Ilderim, and I could tell of some interesting experiences, but I shall refrain. Your own Eleanor Simpson was one of our faithful helpers at St. Anthony's. She used to walk with our girl helper and Miss Ricaud rode in the buggy with me that year.

Sunday evenings we have a Song Service for the school in the living hall and I play the hymns.

We do not have school on Monday. Then the girls do their washing and some "special cleaning". The teachers relax or work as they please.

Some of the teachers attend the Woman's Auxiliary every other Monday afternoon. We have a good Auxiliary and the attendance has been specially good this year. Miss Ricaud, our president, is a splendid worker. After Miss Horner died I was president for a number of years, but we have succeeded in getting "rotation in office", which is better for the Auxiliary. The School used to take care of the church the entire year, but for several years now the women of the Auxiliary have taken that responsibility in the vacation, and this increases their interest.

During the school year the Altar Guild Training Class cares for the church, the Altar, the Altar linen and the vestments. We meet every other Wednesday afternoon and appoint the committees to serve two weeks and have some religious instruction or helpful reading. The teachers and the girls who have been confirmed are the members. The teachers serve with the girls on the committees, but do not attend the meetings. The girls launder the linens and the vestments under the supervision of the matron. Being director of the Altar Guild Training Class is one of the privileges I inherited from Miss Horner.

Let me pause here to say that I am glad I had the privilege of working almost a school year with Miss Horner. I came to the Valle Crucis School at the beginning of school October 1st, 1921, and Miss Horner entered into rest April, 1922.

All the girls in the school are members of the Junior Auxiliary, which also meets on alternate Wednesday afternoons. When Miss Bouldin and I were Co-principals she had charge of the Junior Auxiliary and I had the Altar Guild work. She directed the work until she left to study at St. Faith's in New York. Miss Bouldin returned to the school last year and we are glad to have such a fine leader as Director of the Junior Auxiliary.

Our academic school work begins at 8:30 with a devotional service and we stop at 12:15 for dinner. At 1:30 we return to the class rooms and stay until 3 o'clock. In the afternoon the girls have an hour for supervised games and exercises in the open air and they have "free" time after that until supper, except cooks, who go to the kitchen in time to get supper, and the waitresses, who go to the dining room at 5:45 to set the tables. After supper

the girls have a social hour in which they dance or listen to the radio or read. Then we have prayers and all the girls except the little ones go to study hall, over which the teachers preside in turn.

I teach two or three classes in high school, usually Latin, French, or Algebra. At present, I have two Latin classes; my Algebra class this year stopped at Christmas, having finished the "units" required.

I write most of the school letters, open the boxes we receive and list their contents and give out supplies for the sales room.

Of course, there are conferences with girls and teachers. As I have opportunity I visit our Church people and others in the neighborhood.

The Valle Crucis School has been fortunate in having through the years so many capable, earnest, consecrated workers. Another missionary from our Diocese of North Carolina has come to Valle Crucis, Miss Adelaide Smith, who was for several years in our missions in Alaska. She is a conscientious worker, deeply spiritual, and most helpful in the work.

We have many perplexing problems which arise from time to time, and some times we feel discouraged, but when we receive from our "old girls" letters like the following, we are cheered and feel that our labors are not in vain.

"I am realizing as never before how very much Valle Crucis has meant to me. I get ashamed of myself when I realize that I have never told you, in so many words how much I did appreciate the opportunities I had. And even thought at times I pretended to be indifferent to religion, I know that I have my teachers and Mr. Kent to thank for my present spiritual foundation. I think of Valle Crucis every day and wish that there were twelve grades instead of eleven, and then I could be back with you this year."

"Every time I start thinking of Valle Crucis I want to start walking until I get there."

"I'm sure you are very, very busy, but I do hope you will find time to write to me once in a while, for well, I'm sure your letters will help me a lot, just as your "little talks" used to."

"Attending church is not so easy for me as it was before Mr. and Mrs. Elms went to Saluda. I sometimes go to Hendersonville, but usually I go to Bat Cave, as it is only six or seven miles whereas it is ten miles to Hendersonville. And too, there are so few members at Bat Cave that every extra one makes a big difference. I attended the Three Hour service at St. James but went to Bat Cave for the Easter service."

"Miss Graves, I am very proud of the fact that I graduated from the Valle Crucis School. It will always be my ideal of an almost perfect boarding school. Some of the girls while there, may resent certain phases of the training they receive, but if they stay any length of time, they cannot help seeing the real value of it. Just the name of the Valle Crucis School is an inspiration to me and I believe it is to all those who have been there as long as I was, especially to the graduates".

I trust you are not sorry that your Secretary told me I might make my letter as long or short as I chose.

We shall be glad to have you visit us and see the work that is going on in the school and the Missions.



PROGRAMS 2002

AUGUST THRU DECEMBER

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.*

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

Facilitator: Virginia MacLeod

Monday, August 12, 2002 / 10am03pm

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 / 10am03pm

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 / 10am03pm

Accepting Three Universal Fears as Friends & Teachers

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

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: \$35 each day / includes lunch.

*"You always make our stay
a wonderful experience. Looking
forward to seeing you again
in 2003!"*

— Heidi Wicker
Friendship Community Church of God

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!

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: \$495 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

PROGRAM DAY BECOMING COMPASSION OR WHO DO I LOVE?

Monday, September 16, 2002 / 10am - 3pm
Facilitator - Virginia MacLeod

We encase ourselves and every part of our lives within a box of negative judgement. Let's examine how that affects even our DNA. Workshop 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: \$35, includes lunch.

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 the spiritual challenges of Sarah, Abraham and Hagar intersect with our own lives in the twenty-first century. Participants will be given the opportunity for both quiet reflection and group discussion and are asked to bring Bibles and journals.

Cost \$35 (includes lunch)

PROGRAM DAY ACCEPTING THREE UNIVERSAL FEARS AS FRIENDS AND TEACHERS

Monday, October 14, 2002 / 10am - 3pm
Facilitator: Virginia MacLeod

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

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. Workshop 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.

Cost: \$35, includes lunch.

THE 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 the growing pains of life and those that are linked to the search for life's meaning.

Cost: \$450.00 cost includes 3 days lodging and all tuition and meals

Please register with:

Southlands Institute,
213 Riverside Drive, Morganton NC 28655
828-433-6818
Southlandsinstit@aol.com



Practicing piping at this year's North American School of Bagpiping
...an annual month long event here at the Center

*"We had an excellent stay again!
Everyone was helpful and worked to make
our stay a good one. We are very pleased."*

—Woody Malot
Running Gap School

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.

“Wonderful setting, incredible cleanliness and I love all the porches and rockers.”

—Marion Place

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 non-refund-able 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 Program Day and will not need lodging

(if you wish to arrive the night before a Program 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.