



GOOD NEWS

A Publication of the Valle Crucis Conference Center

March 2016

Board of Directors

Sam Tallman
President

The Rev. Dorrie Pratt
Vice President

Jim Banks
Treasurer

Walter Browning
Secretary

The Rev. Augusta Anderson
Amy Cole
Sandy Jones
Karen Kassinger
The Rev. Beth Lilly
Keith Martin
Jim Sturdivant
The Rev. Karla Woggon

Ex-Officio

The Rt. Rev. G. Porter Taylor
*Bishop, Episcopal
Diocese of Western NC*

Margaret L. Love
*Executive Director
Valle Crucis
Conference Center*

Rev. R. Allan McCaslin
*Rector
Holy Cross
Episcopal Church*

Contact Information

Valle Crucis
Conference Center
P.O. Box 654
Valle Crucis, NC 28961
828.963.4453
www.vconferences.org

Margaret L. Love
Executive Director
director@vconferences.org

Wendell J. Seaver
Business Manager
business@vconferences.org

*Deeply Rooted on
Sacred Ground*

**Good News
1 Quarter 2016**

Birth and Rebirth

By the time you read this, God willing, there will be a new addition to Valle Crucis. Baby Boy Love is due on March 4. He will join his sister Ada and a menagerie of dogs, cats, and fish to round out the Valle Crucis Conference Center family. Of course, everyone is excited about the impending arrival. Not only is a new baby a joy (even to the exhausted parents), his arrival will also signal the coming spring. And, like many of you, we are ready for snow and wintry weather to be gone!

With the new baby and new season come opportunities for learning and growth through our excellent 2016 slate of programs. Check out the Valle Crucis web site at www.vconferences.org to register for the **Lenten Labyrinth Walk** on **Friday, March 18**, led by Rebecca Husband-Maynard. Rebecca is ordained in the Baptist Fellowship tradition and is the founder of Stacking Stones Ministries.

We will also host a wonderful session entitled **Awaken Your Sacred Gifts** with speaker Brian Jaudon on **Friday, April 8**. Brian has over 17 years of experience as a developmental facilitator, leadership coach, and speaker, and is also the founder of GiftStream, a non-profit organization helping individuals develop their innate abilities.

Mark your calendars for a yoga workshop led by Chad Hallyburton May 20-22, and on the long Memorial Day weekend, renowned author Katerina Whitley will lead a workshop for women writers. Check our web site, or find us on Facebook at thevallecrucisconferencecenter/ for more details.

Learning, fellowship, and delicious meals at the Historic Mission School await you this spring. Join your Valle Crucis family on new adventures. You might even get to cuddle a baby while you're here!



St. Francis in the snow, January 2016

In This Issue

- Birth & Rebirth
- VCCC 2016 Programs
- General Program Information and Registration Form
- Thank you!
- Welcome to New Board Members



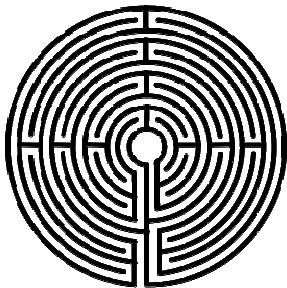
2016 VCCC PROGRAMS

COME SPEND SOME TIME ON SACRED GROUND

Lenten Labyrinth Walk

Friday, March 18 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Rebecca Husband-Maynard
\$40 includes lunch
Location: *The Apple Barn and Outdoor Labyrinth*



You are invited on a modern-day pilgrimage. What is the labyrinth and how can it help us in our spiritual journey? Explore our outdoor labyrinth and learn how this ancient tool can transform your Lenten experience. In case of inclement weather, we will

use the Apple Barn and the large Chartres-model labyrinth there.

Facilitator Rebecca Husband-Maynard received her Master of Divinity from Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary. She is a *Veriditas* Certified Labyrinth Facilitator and received a Certificate in Spiritual Formation through Columbia Theological Seminary. Her husband, Mark, and she reside in Elkin, NC.

Awaken Your Sacred Gifts

Friday, April 8 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Brian Jaudon
\$40 includes lunch

Location: *1st Floor of Johnson Hall*

Discover and develop your gifts, or natural abilities. Learn the Five Stages of Gift Development, practice guided meditation and journaling, and deepen your relationship to your gifts. The workshop includes a Gift Constellation, blending the work of Bert Hellinger (*Constellations*), Richard Schwartz (*Internal Family System*), and the facilitator's own framework of the five gift development stages.

Brian Jaudon is a leadership coach and consultant based in Greenville, SC, and founder of GiftStream, an organization dedicated to the development of gifts of individuals, teams and

communities. He is writing a book on the gifts we each have to give, why we withhold them, and how our lives can be transformed when we offer our gifts more fully and intentionally. Brian served as Associate Director for Program Development and Marketing as well as Interim Director of VCCC from 1993-97.

Yoga as Sanctuary: Building a Personal Practice in an Impersonal World

Friday – Sunday, May 20 - 22

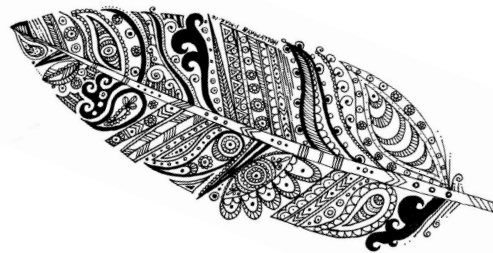
Chad Hallyburton

\$192 Full Program

\$119 Commuter Rate (includes all meals)

An individual yoga practice can be a Sanctuary in a hectic world, a time to reconnect with our emotional and spiritual cores. To "claim sanctuary" is not to withdraw from the world, but is rather to rest and re-charge with intention so as to better engage fully in life.

Chad Hallyburton turned to yoga as a means of physical healing but soon embraced the practice as a spiritual journey and reconnection to our core foundation. Teaching in gyms, schools, and churches, Chad adapts the tools of yoga to the individual needs of students, whether they seek physical or emotional health or tools for a deeper spiritual practice. He is also a student of "Jnana Yoga," the yoga of study and knowledge, incorporating themes from the Christian Gospels as well as works from other spiritual disciplines.



Program registration form can be found at www.vconferences.org and on page 7. You may also register for any of our programs by calling the office at (828) 963-4453.



2016 VCCC PROGRAMS

COME SPEND SOME TIME ON SACRED GROUND

Women Writers Workshops:

Workshop I

Thursday – Sunday, May 26 – 29

(Memorial Day Weekend)

Katerina Whitley

Workshop II

Thursday – Sunday, Sept. 1 – 4

(Labor Day Weekend)

\$308 Full Program (per Weekend)

\$191 Commuter Rate (includes all meals)

Some people dream and talk of writing while others just do it. Writing is lonely and not easy, but it is the most satisfying expression of our thoughts and feelings. We find that it's much easier to write in the company of like-minded people and with the guidance of a professional who loves to encourage others in the craft of writing. Join this group of women writers to capture memories, define thoughts, express emotions, bring order out of chaos. New writers are most welcome.

A native of Thessaloniki, Greece, Katerina Whitley has worked as a church journalist on the diocesan and national levels, taught at universities, and is the author of six books.

You are welcome to attend one or both workshops. Full Program rate covers all lodging, meals, and program costs. Commuter rate includes meals and program costs. Deepen and hone your craft, get to know some wonderful women, and enjoy the beauty and tranquility of Valle Crucis for a long weekend. What could be better?

Storytelling as Evangelism

Friday – Saturday, August 19 – 20

Rt. Rev. G. Porter Taylor

\$180 Full Program

\$87 Commuter Rate (includes all meals)

\$40 One-Day Rate (includes lunch on Saturday)

Human beings make meaning through stories. As John Shea writes, "We turn our pain into narrative so we can bear it; we turn our ecstasy into narrative so we can prolong it. We tell our stories to live." **Jesus answers questions with stories because narrative or metaphor is the only way to articulate our deepest truths.**

This workshop will explore how telling our personal story is a primary method of evangelism. We do not sell programs or a spiritual experience. We tell the ongoing story of redemption and invite others to connect their story to it.

Bishop Taylor will give an overview of a theology of story as well as guidelines for how a story is most effectively told. Participants will have opportunities to tell a story from their own experience to one another, and will learn to value more deeply the story God is telling in their lives as well as to teach a skill of telling stories that matter. The day will contain poems and other stories as well as talks by Bishop Taylor.

For this two-day event, we are offering a special rate to overnight at Valle Crucis. Begin on Friday evening with dinner and a contemplative Compline service, and continue on Saturday. Lodging space will be limited and available only on a first-come, first-serve basis, and assumes double occupancy.

Bishop Taylor grew up in Asheville, N.C., and earned his B.A. degree in English from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, his M.A. in English from the University of South Carolina, and his Ph.D. degree in theology and literature from Emory University. He received his M.Div. from The School of Theology at Sewanee and served several churches in the Southeast before his call to the Holy and Sacred Order of Bishops. He is the author of *To Dream as God Dreams: Sermons of Hope, Conversion, and Community*, and *From Anger to Zion: An Alphabet of Faith*. Bishop Taylor is married to Jo Taylor, who is a research nurse.

Don't miss this opportunity to hear the Bishop in his last program in official capacity at the Valle Crucis Conference Center!





2016 VCCC PROGRAMS

COME SPEND SOME TIME ON SACRED GROUND

Art & Quiet Day

Friday, October 28 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

RaRa Schlitt

\$10 for lunch. Paintings will be available for purchase; 20% of sales benefit the Valle Crucis Conference Center

Location: 1st Floor of Johnson Hall

Art has long been a way to tap into the divine and unlock the secret depths of the heart. Though a painting stimulates the visual sense, there's something about a painting that somehow touches the more interior parts of us too. Join artist RaRa Schlitt in exploring the relationship between art, prayer, and contemplative worship.

RaRa Schlitt is a nationally renowned folk artist and children's book author and illustrator. Her art is represented in galleries in across the US and internationally.

RaRa is a physical therapist and volunteers part-time teaching and conducting art projects in her community. She resides in Maryville, Tennessee, with her husband, Tom, and her golden retriever, Rosie.

I Love to Tell the Story

Friday, October 28 - Sunday, October 30

The Rev. Pam Webb, Facilitator

Naomi Faw, Storyteller

Elizabeth Salter, Musician

\$210 Full Program

\$114 Commuter Rate

**Double occupancy or more will be considered standard; very few single rooms and no private bathrooms will be available*

The pages of Scripture are filled with sacred stories of people of faith. Led by the Reverend Pam Webb and facilitated by the storytelling of Naomi Faw and the music of Elizabeth Salter, join us as we rediscover, explore, and share the stories of our own faith and discuss how to encourage others to tell their stories.

The Reverend Pam Webb is an ordained Episcopal priest. She was previously Director of Christian Education at a parish in Birmingham, AL. She has also served as an Education for Ministry mentor; rector of two parishes; interim rector at five parishes, including St. Paul's Wilkesboro; Director of Alumni Affairs and Church Relations at Virginia Theological Seminary; and is an experienced retreat and workshop leader. Rev. Webb is retired and living in Williamsburg, VA with her husband, where she continues to serve the Church.

Published author and storyteller Naomi Faw has appeared at the Heart of North Carolina Storytelling Festival and the Valle Country Fair in Valle Crucis. She has recorded her stories for WVTF 89.1 FM in Roanoke, VA, and her writing has appeared in *The Upper Room*, the *North Carolina Disciple*, and *Reflections on the New River*. She and her family live in western North Carolina and are active members of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Wilkesboro, North Carolina.

Originally from Miami, Florida, musician Elizabeth Salter is a keyboard performance graduate student at Appalachian State University in Boone, NC. She has performed piano and harpsichord locally and regionally, and is a regular with the Western Piedmont Symphony.





2016 VCCC PROGRAMS

COME SPEND SOME TIME ON SACRED GROUND

Come Thou Long Expected: A Short Advent Retreat

Friday, December 9, 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Katerina Whitley

\$40 includes lunch

Location: 1st Floor of Johnson Hall

What comes to your mind when you think of Advent? Can you stop worrying about decorating and gift buying to concentrate on the Coming of the Christ Child? Every year, people of faith long for something different, spiritual and holy, to prepare them fully for a Christmas to remember.

Katerina Whitley will focus and refine this longing. The world waited for this “central event in the history of creation,” as C.S. Lewis called it. We will examine this waiting through writings, poetry, the prophets, the Birth Narratives, and our own hopes and desires for peace and joy.

Katerina is well-known in the Diocese of Western NC and beyond. She is the author of several books, including two about Advent, and a writer of Advent Chancel dramas and plays.



Advanced Centering Prayer Retreat: Deepening the Silence

Sunday – Sunday, Nov. 27 – Dec. 4

Becky Hannah, Joan Ricci Thome, & the Rev.

Bob Cook

\$533 Full Program

This retreat is for those who would like a more prolonged experience of centering prayer and who are interested in entering into the more profound levels of spiritual practice in an atmosphere of silence, solitude, and community.

Centering prayer is a silent form of prayer that directs a person's attention toward God, with ancient roots in the mystical and monastic tradition. The retreat will help participants develop and sustain a regular centering prayer practice. In addition to several centering prayer periods offered daily, you will also have opportunities for contemplative worship, individual meetings with retreat leaders, walks and hiking, labyrinth walks, and time for solitude and reflection.

Retreat leaders are Becky Hannah, co-coordinator of Contemplative Outreach of Western NC, and Joan Ricci Thome, presenter of contemplative prayer retreats at the Oratory and St. Francis Springs Prayer Center in Stoneville, NC. The Rev. Robert Cook, Vicar of Christ Church, Walnut Grove, NC is spiritual director for the week. Joan and Becky have both been trained to facilitate centering prayer by Contemplative Outreach, the organization founded by Father Thomas Keating as a spiritual network committed to living the contemplative dimension of the gospel in everyday life.

Due to the length of this retreat, each participant should have an established practice of centering prayer for at least a year. **This retreat is limited to the first 20 registrants. Participants must stay on campus and plan to attend the entire retreat.**

General Program Information

- We believe it is in the small group environment that learning and spirituality flourish. Because class sizes are limited, they fill up quickly. **Early registration is encouraged!**
- Prices for multi-day programs include room, board, tuition, and materials. With the exception of the Centering Prayer Retreat, double occupancy is assumed. If you have a medical reason to request a single room, we will do our best to accommodate you; due to the limited number of single rooms, we cannot guarantee until check-in when final availability of single rooms can be determined.
- **We are a pet and smoke-free facility.** Smoking is permitted in designated outside areas only. You may be subject to a \$100 fine if found smoking inside our historic buildings.
- **Deposits are non-refundable.** We appreciate that unforeseen circumstances may arise that prevent your attendance; in that case, we will consider your deposit a tax-deductible donation to our ongoing ministry.
- We serve hearty, nutritious, delicious meals. Our kitchen will do their utmost to meet dietary requirements. If you have diet requests, please let us know at least 14 days in advance so that we can prepare accordingly. If you have questions regarding our food service, our food service manager James Andra would be happy to assist. You can reach him directly at (828) 963-5968 or at dining@vconferences.org.
- Unless otherwise noted, multi-day conferences begin with registration and check-in at 4:00 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. Conferences close after the Noon lunch on closing day. To assist our housekeeping staff, we request that you complete your check-out prior to lunch on closing day.
- One-day conferences typically start at 10:00 a.m. and end by 3:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Lunch is served at Noon.
- Registration for programs can be found on our web site, www.vconferences.org, or included with this brochure. Please feel free to make photocopies of this brochure and any related materials to pass along.
- Registration confirmations are sent by email, approximately 1 week before each event.
- We are located 9 miles outside of Boone, NC (2 hours from Asheville, Winston-Salem, and Charlotte). GPS address is 146 Skiles Way, Banner Elk, NC 28604. If you would like assistance in booking ground travel from regional airports, please call the office at (828) 963-4453.



Johnson Hall First Floor -
a beautiful space to learn, worship, and grow.

Valle Crucis Conference Center 2016 Programs Registration Form

PO Box 654, Valle Crucis, NC 28691 (828) 963-4453
www.vcconferences.org

Please complete entire form and mail with your deposit check to the address above. Registration form can also be found online.
Checks can be made payable to VCCC.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Primary Phone: () _____ Cell Home

Email: _____

Confirmations are made by email. Please include an email address when possible.

Non-refundable deposits are required for multi-day workshops, with remainder of balance due on arrival.

March 18	Lenten Labyrinth Walk	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40
April 8	Awaken Your Sacred Gifts	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40
May 20 - 22	Yoga as Sanctuary	<input type="checkbox"/> \$192 Full Program <input type="checkbox"/> \$119 Commuter <i>\$90 deposit</i>
May 26 - 29	Women Writers Workshop I	<input type="checkbox"/> \$308 Full Program <input type="checkbox"/> \$191 Commuter <i>\$90 deposit</i>
August 19 - 20	Story Telling as Evangelism	<input type="checkbox"/> \$180 Full Program* <input type="checkbox"/> \$87 Commuter <input type="checkbox"/> \$40 One-Day Rate <i>\$90 deposit with full program registration</i>
September 1 - 4	Women Writers Workshop II	<input type="checkbox"/> \$308 Full Program <input type="checkbox"/> \$191 Commuter <i>\$90 deposit</i>
October 28	Art & Quiet Day	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10 Lunch
October 28-30	I Love to Tell the Story	<input type="checkbox"/> \$210 Full Program <input type="checkbox"/> \$119 Commuter
Nov. 27 - Dec. 4	Advanced Centering Prayer	<input type="checkbox"/> \$533 Full Program <i>\$100 deposit</i>
December 9	Short Advent Retreat	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40

Total: _____

If attending a multi-day workshop:

I would like to room with: _____

*I am requesting a single room, with knowledge that a single may not be available. *Singles are not available for Bishop Taylor's program.*

Diet requests, allergies, or other needs: _____

Thank You to Our 2015 Donors

Mary W. Armstrong*
Jim Banks*
Maryel Battin
Scott Benner
Rev. Susan K. Bock
Thomas K. Boyle
Robert H. Brigham
Stephen C. Brody
Cynthia W. Brown
Walter G Browning*
Polly & Bob Capps
Mary E. Cerrato
Amy W. Cole*
Lisa Cooper
Robert T. Copenhaver
Shirley J. Cullop
Jeffrey P Douglass
Robert W. Emmaus
Judi Gaitens
Cecil & Julie Gurganus
Gary O. Hipp
Edward C. Horner
Cecil C. Hudson, MD
Barbara Hurlbrink
Kay and Gordon Irwin
Robert H. Johnson
Margo Johnston
Sandy* & Dorcas Jones
Karen B. Kassinger*
Fay H. King
Anne Korff
Beverly & Dane Laughlin
Rev. Elizabeth C. Lilly*
Dr. G. Rick Lobs, III
Fred A. Martin
Dick and Bobbie McGraw
Susan B Morgan
Rev. Dorothy Pratt*
Francis & Sibyl Pressley
Jerry & Kathleen L. Price
William & Kathryn Pritchard
Revs. Robert & Patricia Reuss
Elizabeth Rucker
Dan & Carolyn Shepherd
Sarah Maxfield Smither
Sue Spirit
Emmie Stuart
Toby Summerour
Rev. Sam Tallman*
Rob Tawse
Rt. Rev. Porter Taylor
Moirra Turner, Jink & Diddle Fiddle School
David & Judy Wall
Thomas M. White
Diana Mast White*
Betsy Willis
Dr. John K. Youel, Jr.
Holy Cross Episcopal Church
All Souls Cathedral

Episcopal Church Women of WNC
Grace Episcopal Church ECW
Mast General Store
Society of the Transfiguration
Women of St. Phillips Church

Honoraria

Andy & Laura Glendinning; Patrick French; Charlie & Paula Glendinning; and Jeanne Hardie

Sandy Jones *

The Right Rev. Porter Taylor

Chuck Forester

Deana & Terry Coleman

Diana Mast White*

Emily Hopkins and Laura Carkener

Suzanne Toll Peltason

Jeanne Hardie & Charlie & Paula Glendinning

Sandy Jones NAAPD *

Jim & Brenda Lowman

Brenda B. Binning

John Earl

Jane S. Earl

Matt Talbot Men's Group #140

John H Kirkman

Bill & Gena Rankin

Polly & Bob Capps

Staff of VCCC, led by Margaret Love

John E. Cooper, Jr.

Tom Eshelman

Mary B. Haywood

Verdery Kerr

Valle Crucis staff

Thomas W. Eshelman and the Very Rev.

Jeanne Finan

Wendell Seaver

Verdery Kerr

Wesley III, Kathy, and Andy Byerly

W.G. Byerly

Memorials

Adele Frances Chappell

Sandy & Dorcas Jones*

Alison (daughter of Linc & Joyce Neal)

Sandy & Dorcas Jones*

Barbara Jane Abernethy

Sandy & Dorcas Jones*

Beryl & Fred Scutti

Bill & Gena Rankin

Bonnie Hogg

Debra B. Estby

Dr. Kathryn Shelton Heath

Grey W Lineweaver

Melanie B. Mullens

Well-Spring Retirement Community

Carl Cunningham

Diana Mast White*

Debbie Rupard



Wendell J Seaver

Dale Townsend

Kathy Williams

Dot & Harding Hughes

Jean C. Hughes

Dr. Bernard S. Linn

Linda A. Loy

Ed Neigh

Thomas W. Eshelman and the Very Rev.

Jeanne Finan

Sandy & Dorcas Jones*

Dr. White M. "Ken" Wallenborn

North American Academy of Piping &

Drumming

Emily Toll Hopkins & Laura Toll

Carkener

Suzanne Toll Peltason

Gloria B. Hinson

Fred Hinson

James F. Baker

Dorcas Jones

John Cornelius, MAAAMR

John Charles Wofford

Lacy McCord Hayes

Robert C. Hayes

Laura B. Stone

C. Michael Newton-Ward

Lola Conway

Michael A. Conway

Nina Reid Miller Johnson (Valle Crucis

School 1934)

Gerald Grissom Miller

Elizabeth B. Hawkins

Rev. Richard Wainwright Barber

Rudy Whitley

Stuart & Edie Tugman

The Honorable Timothy I. Finan

Sandy & Dorcas Jones*

The Rev. Hon. Forest Webster Hall

Blaine Paxton Hall

* Board of Directors

Want to see your name here?

Generous donations such as yours help us continue our ministry of hospitality.

Donate securely on our web site at www.vcconferences.org or mail to

P.O. Box 654, Valle Crucis, NC 28691.

Welcome to New Board Members!



Rev. Augusta Anderson

Since 2007, the Rev. Augusta Anderson has co-facilitated the Diocese of Western North Carolina's Fresh Start program for clergy in transition. In the summer of 2013, she co-published *Lessons From The Red Thread*, a faith formation resource for families. Augusta is a member of the Diocese of Western North

Carolina's Standing Committee and serves as the Chair of the Board of Trustees for a regional state charter school.

Following ordination in 1999, Augusta moved to Asheville, NC, to serve as Canon at the Cathedral of All Souls. She has served at St. Thomas', Burnsville; St. James', Black Mountain; and the Church of the Transfiguration.

Augusta is a graduate of Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, NY, (1991) and received an MA in American Studies, with honors. After college, Augusta participated in the Washington National Cathedral Young Adult Service Intern Program. Augusta graduated from Virginia Theological Seminary in 1999.

The daughter of an Episcopal priest, she was born in California and spent her youth in Honolulu, Hawaii. She is married to Steve Anderson, and they have four young children.

Keith Martin

Keith Martin is the John M. Blackburn Distinguished Professor of Theatre at Appalachian State University in Boone. His career in the not-for-profit sector spans over 35 years and includes producing, artistic direction, choreography, and management in professional theatre, dance, opera, symphony, film and television, for which he received an Emmy® award in 2010.



Keith is a resource consultant with ARTS Action Research of Brooklyn, NY and Portland, OR. He was Producer and Managing Director of Charlotte Repertory Theatre and has held the positions of Artistic Director of Theatre Charlotte, Executive Director of Community Theatre of Greensboro and Administrative Director of A Company of Players.

He holds both BFA (magna cum laude) and MFA theatre degrees from UNC-Greensboro, and has lectured at numerous academic institutions including Duke University, UNC-Chapel Hill, Wake Forest University, College of Charleston, University of Alabama, and the Yale School of Drama.

A lifelong activist and arts advocate, Martin has served on numerous state and national boards. He is also a member of Holy Cross Church in Valle Crucis. As a teenager, Martin participated in the youth service corps that renovated parts of the Mission School to become a Conference Center. He has a deep and abiding love for Valle Crucis and the Mission School.



Jim Sturdivant

Jim Sturdivant is a Wilkes County native and worked for 25 years with various manufacturing companies. Currently he works part-time at Wilkes Community College as a math tutor and adjunct instructor. He and his family joined St. Paul's Wilkesboro in 1996. Jim has served as Senior Warden, Discernment Committee member, Retreat Planning Committee Chair and Stephen Minister. He

has one son, Luke, who is a freshman in high school, band member, scout and acolyte. Valle Crucis is special to Jim because of the years St. Paul's Wilkesboro parish has attended to celebrate its family retreat.

Rev. Karla Woggon

The Rev. Karla Woggon is the rector at the Church of the Ascension in Hickory. She serves on the Greater Hickory Cooperative Christian Ministry Board of Directors and Exodus Outreach Foundation in Hickory, which provides a supportive housing program for individuals recovering from alcohol and drug addiction. Karla grew up in the Diocese of Western NC, where she was very active with Diocesan Youth Programs and Happening and spent many, many weekends at the Conference Center. She says, "Some of my most formative religious experiences took place at VCCC."



Karla attended Appalachian State University and attended many Campus Ministry Conferences at VCCC. She moved to Louisiana for graduate school and was ordained a priest in the Diocese of Louisiana. Karla served parishes in Louisiana and the Diocese of Washington but returned in 2007 to serve as the Rector of The Episcopal Church of the Ascension in Hickory NC. For the past 8 years, she has found wonderful holy solace during yearly silent retreats in the Hermitages and has enjoyed vestry and clergy conferences in the Farm House and Inn.



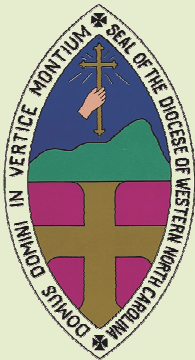
Valle Crucis Conference Center

Post Office Box 654
Valle Crucis, NC 28691

Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
BOONE, NC
PERMIT NO. 34

Good News 1 Quarter 2016



The Valle Crucis Conference Center is a ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Western North Carolina. Located on over 450 acres of mountain woodland and verdant farming valley, the Conference Center is truly one of the more beautiful places on Earth. With its beauty comes a sense of timeless spiritual grace that transcends denomination or faith tradition.

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 Valle Crucis Conference Center is located in the historic Mission School, featuring buildings dating from the late 19th Century and early 20th Century, nearly all of which are on the National Historic Register.

The Conference Center is open year-round to accommodate groups of 5 to 150. Rates include three hearty, nutritious meals a day and arguably the best towels in Western North Carolina lodgings.

To inquire about availability of our accommodations or meeting spaces, or to learn about our Hermitage retreat cabins, visit our web site at www.vcconferences.org or call **(828) 963-4453**.