



The Phoebe Needles Center

"And there shall be a portion that you shall set apart, with a sanctuary in the middle of it." Ezekiel 48.8

"FRIENDS OF PHOEBE NEEDLES" ~ QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
NOVEMBER 2009

Volume XI, Issue III



COMING UP...

THE CENTER FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

December 8th
"Christmas In the Mountains"
TBA

January 14th
"A Mountain Music Tribute"
with Alan Messenger

February 9th
"How to Spot an Antique"
with Peggy & Joe Klutz

March 9th
"What's the Buzz About Bees"
with Joe Newbill (Carolyn)

April 11th
"The Civil War"
with Phil Sheridan & Doris Eames

May 11
"Our Disappearing Birds"
with Bill Grant

May 25th
"Mod-u-Kraf Tour"
with Jeff Powell

June 8th
"Financial Planning & Investing for Seniors"
with Ginny Jarrett

The programs begin at 10:00 am followed by a gourmet lunch at noon. To register, please call the Center several days in advance at 540-483-1518 or 800-848-1677.

The cost for an annual membership in the Center for Lifelong Learning is \$45 for an individual and \$65 for a couple. This covers the \$8 program fee for each of the monthly programs. It does not include the cost of lunch, or the additional charges for a program that includes materials or supplies.

SERVING ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We are looking for people to serve on the Phoebe Needles Center Board of Directors. Board members serve a three-year term beginning in January.

Each board member commits to: praying daily for the ministry of the Center; volunteering for various jobs at Phoebe Needles; being an ambassador; being a generous donor; identifying others who I will invite to be financial contributors and participants in programs; recognizing that my presence at scheduled board meetings, and some Phoebe Needles Special Events and Programs is expected in developing my understanding of ministries of the Phoebe Needles Center, and as a witness to Phoebe Needles staff and those we serve.

If you would like to nominate someone, or are interested in serving on the board yourself, please let us know.



The newest activity at camp this summer
- ARCHERY!

THE RIGHT REVEREND A. HEATH LIGHT
2524 WYCLIFFE AVENUE
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA 24014

September 2009

SEND YOUR
CONTRIBUTION
TODAY!!

Dear Friends,

I wish to express my thanks for your past support of the Phoebe Needles Center and the Bishop Light Fund, and to assure you that your gift does make a difference.

Most of us find ourselves living in a world changed from that of only a year ago. The economy has brought fear and uncertainty to places it has not been before. Unfortunately, the Church is not immune to this fear and uncertainty. As people of faith, it is our call to see beyond our current reality, and continue to support programs and institutions that are bringing about positive change in people's lives.

For the past 108 years the Phoebe Needles Center has been an educational and spiritual factor in our Diocese. It has served the Diocese and greater community in many ways, and has transformed the lives of youth and adults through the years. The Center has grown to become a beacon of ministry and a cohesive Center for the Diocese and the community.

In the past six months, the Center has received funding from an anonymous source to build a swimming pool, a covered picnic shelter, and a playground. The foundation making the contribution commented on how impressed they were by the amount of ministry the Center manages with such a slim budget and staff. These facilities will enable the Center to better serve our congregations, and the wider community.

Four years ago, the Phoebe Needles Center board of directors established the Bishop Light Fund in my honor, to see that on-going programs continued, and that new programs to serve the Diocese could be begun. Your past gifts have enabled the Center to increase its capacity to serve this Diocese. I hope you will join me in continued support.

The programs, the beautiful setting, and a committed staff, change the lives of people who come to the Phoebe Needles Center. Last year one camper said, "Camp has given me a new way to look at myself, my family and my relationship with God." Comments like this remind me of the impact our giving has on the lives of other people – especially young people.

Each year the Center raises approximately two-thirds of its \$230,000 operating budget from donors like you and me. Currently the Bishop Light Fund serves as the foundation of the annual fund. After the completion of the master plan for the Center, it will become an endowment fund. In the meanwhile, I ask each of you to make a commitment toward the continued viability of this wonderful institution in the Diocese. Over the years, gifts to the Bishop Light Fund have ranged in size from five dollars to fourteen thousand dollars, but gifts of every size make a difference! It is the sum of our giving that has had such an impact on the lives of so many people.

The wife of a former student who attended the Phoebe Needles Mission School nearly seventy years ago commented, "Rudy's life was transformed by those teachers and the care they took to show all those mountain children a world and a creation that was so much greater than they ever imagined it could be. That school influenced and transformed his life in the most positive ways." Stories like this one are a reminder to me that each of us can make a difference in the lives of other people when we are focused on a common mission.

Your contribution is fully tax deductible. Please designate your check to: The Phoebe Needles Center. The enclosed envelope will direct your donation to the Bishop Light Fund. Thank you for your support!

Faithfully yours,



The Right Rev. A. Heath Light
Fourth Bishop of Southwestern Virginia, Retired

ON THE ROPES COURSE



Chatham Hall sophomore girls work together on the low ropes course!



The Roanoke Clericus on the High Ropes Course. L-R: Richard Fife, David Dixon, Rachel Gardner, Erin Hensley, Barclay Thompson, John Gardner, Ellen Hanckel, and Jonathan Harris.

"Upon this Rock the Spirit is Building"

The Phoebe Needles Center began a feasibility study for a capital funds campaign to complete the master plan for the Center. This includes construction of an adult lodge, the renovation of Phoebe Needles Hall.

THE CONCEPTUAL PLAN...

Conceptual drawings for the construction of an adult lodge to accommodate 48 people overnight and meeting space for 100. Each room will sleep two people and include a private bathroom. The facility will be fully ADA accessible.



THE PHOEBE NEEDLES CENTER MISSION

"To serve people of all ages throughout southwestern Virginia by providing facilities, and a variety of educational, spiritual and renewal programs designed to nurture people in their spiritual formation."

OUR CORE VALUES

The Phoebe Needles Center is the camp and conference center of the Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia, and as such, a Christian organization which invites and welcomes groups and individuals of all ages and faith backgrounds who seek,

an environment, facilities, and programs that nurture and challenge in a setting that is safe spiritually, emotionally, and physically;

an opportunity for transformative growth and the creative experience of God's presence;

to build community and further relationships by actively living love, forgiveness, and service.



**A remodeling of the campfire area
- with NEW seating!**

It took most of the summer to prepare the area for the playground, now we need to finish up construction on the playground itself. It will be ready in early spring for full use!



With the receipt of a grant from an anonymous foundation, we completed construction on a new swimming pool at the Center



AND a covered picnic shelter. It was completed before summer camp began, and enjoyed by campers and many other groups this summer.





The Phoebe Needles Center
732 Turners Creek Road
Callaway, Virginia 24067-5814

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"Friends of Phoebe Needles" is a quarterly publication of
The Phoebe Needles Center, Inc., a nonprofit organization located at
732 Turners Creek Road; Callaway, Virginia 24067 (540) 483-1518
or (800) 848-1677. Email PNCenter@gmail.com

All gifts are fully tax deductible.



*Consider giving beyond
your life through a bequest
to The Phoebe Needles
Center in your will.*

