

Spring Work Weekend at Peterkin!! May 28-31(including Memorial Day)

First, I'd like to thank everyone in the Diocese for their support of our last Work Weekend held in September '09. In a short 2 ½ days, we accomplished many improvements: Gravatt Hall was scrubbed and vacuumed from the ceiling to the floors, the library and board game areas of Gravatt were reorganized, mattress covers were installed; many pews in Strider Chapel were repaired; the Apostles Trail was reclaimed; all new toilets were installed in the Pavilion; 3 outdoor clotheslines were built for the campers' lodges; the multi-colored entrance signs were repainted; the kitchen porch undercroft was rebuilt; and resting benches and back-country trail markers were repainted. With these and any other improvements I may have missed mentioning, our shared community will look, feel, and function better for our kids this Summer. Let's keep this momentum going!

After a Winter like this one, though, who wouldn't welcome a warm Spring with open arms? Peterkin's Camp Director, Daisy McBride, reported that Peterkin has compiled a total snowfall for the season in FEET rather than inches! At one measure there was a mass of 42+ inches of snow at one time. What does this do to the roofs of buildings? To paint?

This past weekend, February 19th and 20th, the Peterkin Board met in Gravatt Hall to conduct some new business. Included in this meeting were Bishop and Board-approved projects for the Spring Work Weekend. Our goal is really outdo ourselves from the last work weekend.

The Board and I have ambitious, yet possible goals for this coming Spring weekend. In 4 days and 3 nights, I wish I could push a schedule like Ty Pennington's on "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition," but this isn't TV, it's a weekend at our spiritual home.

Gravatt Hall needs a kitchen. No, not a kitchen stove, an entire KITCHEN! We also need a BRIDGE! That's right, we want to build a small hiking bridge across Mill Run near the Falls at the 3rd crossing, hopefully made of 4 telephone poles and treated lumber. New signage for all of the buildings would be very valuable to all who visit this gorgeous campus. The 25 foot steel flag pole in front of Gravatt needs refinishing. The stage in the Christian Pavilion could use some special stage/track lights installed. Strider Chapel would benefit from a permanent, reflective screen installed behind the pulpit-area for use with an LCD projector. We would also appreciate monetary donations to purchase and equip all of the campers' lodges with area rugs and bean bag chairs for their grand and often under-utilized central areas. All this, in addition to as much painting and planting as we can muster enough volunteers to complete!

Are you a gardener? A plumber? A carpenter? An electrician? A cleaner? A painter? A trailblazer? Or are you like me: a wanna-be all of the above? Like the Bible says, "We are all parts of one body." Whatever you can bring to Peterkin for Work Weekend (talent, muscle, money, connections), BRING IT ON! Don't forget that your TITHE can include your TIME.

We have a policy that only those over the age of 18 attend. If you would like to donate funds toward these specific projects, please send checks to the Diocesan House with a specific note in the Memo "For Work Weekend." There is now a sub-account in the Peterkin Maintenance fund specifically for these projects.

Please contact me, Nathan Arnett, to register as SOON AS POSSIBLE. This helps in organizing projects and materials needed. My Cell: 304-552-1422; My E-mail: natarnet@me.com

In lieu of sweat, please send every coin that you can shake out of your couch cushions to:
Episcopal Diocese of WV
"Work Weekend Projects"
PO Box 5400
Charleston, WV 25311

Thanks for all of your support. Irish Blessings!
-Nathan