

## Harvest decorating course set at Christ Church

In mid-November, the Rappahannock Community College Educational Foundation's Rappahannock Institute for Lifelong Learning (RILL) will bring back horticultural expert Laura Anne Brooks with a new course on flower arranging. In a single session from 1-3 p.m. on Tuesday, November 15, in the parish hall at Christ Church Parish on Route 33 at Christchurch in Middlesex County, Brooks will cover "Arranging in Harvest Baskets."

This design class will focus on creativity in traditional and contemporary styles of arranging with baskets, including a cornucopia. Each person will complete at least two arrangements of different sizes. Floral foam and plant materials will be provided, but participants should bring their own harvest baskets to class, as well as any seasonal flowers or garden plants of their own that they wish to use in their arrangements. They may also buy items from the instructor that may not be readily available in the area, such as bunches of flowers, pumpkins, gourds, or baskets with just the right "feel" for arranging. (Purchase of additional items is not required.)

"Baskets of all shapes and sizes: upside down, backwards, right side up, inside out, and over each other are the current trend," said Brooks. "My own demonstration will include a hanging basket, a tall basket, at least two sizes of cornucopia for Thanksgiving, and three ways to change out the 'English posy basket' to harmonize with the seasons of late autumn, Christmas, and the New Year."

Brooks also will show how to make a basket from a pumpkin or gourd. Finally, a Japanese ikebana basket design will motivate students to study Japanese design in a future class.

Advance registration, with a payment of \$30, is required to take this course. For more information on "Arranging in Harvest Baskets" and other RILL courses, or to register, call Sharon Drotleff at the RCC Educational Foundation office (804-333-6707), or email her at [sdrotleff@rappahannock.edu](mailto:sdrotleff@rappahannock.edu).