

## *WILDERNESS WORDS*

### Editors

If there is anything that you would like to have included in the Newsletter: 218-388-9903 and [dmc@chem.wayne.edu](mailto:dmc@chem.wayne.edu) or [pcoleman@chem.wayne.edu](mailto:pcoleman@chem.wayne.edu)

### This Sunday:

**Leading:** Suzanne  
**Preaching:** Mary Ellen  
**Presiding:** Mary Ellen

### Readings this week:

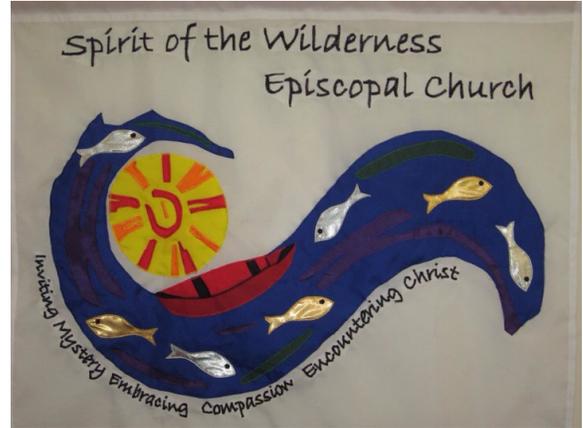
#### *Baptism of the Lord*

**First Reading:**  
 Isaiah 43:1-7  
**Psalm:**  
 Psalm 29  
**Epistle:**  
 Acts 8:14-17  
**Gospel:**  
 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

(Click on citation to go directly to the reading.)

### Vicar's Reflections:

A few of you have asked about my upcoming sabbatical, so I'd like to fill you in on my revised plans, in which I'll be out of the country less, but still away from the parish for the Lilly Foundation's required three months.



**January 19<sup>th</sup> to Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>** St. Paul where I'll be based for just over a month, staying (thanks so much!) at Hillary and Carol's condo. I'll be seeing my spiritual director, spending time with grandchildren, visiting a couple art galleries, and resting.

**Jan. 24<sup>th</sup> to Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>** Washington State, where I'll stay in a rain forest on the Olympic Peninsula, in my old home town of Bellingham, and then at Grunewald Retreat Center.

**Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup>** Santa Fe, based first in a Benedictine monastery and then with my friend Lisa.

**Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>** I fly to Cape Town for a few days with old friends. Suzanne arrives a few days later.

**Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> and after....** Cape Town for a week and then up the coast, visiting some of my old haunts, game reserves and botanical gardens, a community of reconciliation, etc. We'll be with great friends of mine in Grahamstown for Palm Sunday, and then in Durban with another great friend for Good Friday and Easter. We'll be doing a safari hike in Umfolozi, and then Suzanne will fly back and I'll stay another week, hiking the Wild Coast with my friend Anne. I fly back on April 13<sup>th</sup>. I'll spend a couple days with kids and grandkids in the Twin Cities before arriving back in Grand Marais on April 16<sup>th</sup>.

What are my goals for this sabbatical?

Rest: Despite all loving support, I'm feeling spent from the last while.

Re-visioning—I'll be especially focusing on issues of context—how the church can be part of the Anglican Communion and yet true to its particular time and place? I'm going to be visiting and talking

**Save these Dates**

**Saturday, Jan. 9th:** 7:00 AM.  
Mary Ellen Ashcroft will bless the dogs as part of the Gunflint Mail Run Sled Dog Race. Trail Center Lodge.

**Tuesday, Jan. 12th:** Ruby's Pantry. Lots of volunteers needed. *See Notes.*

**Sunday, Jan. 17th:** Mary Ellen Ashcroft "going away Sunday" for partial sabbatical. Lunch after Church at the Trail Center Lodge. *See Notes.*

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about the arts--how can art be part of the good in a particular place? I will also be thinking about wild landscapes and their role in a spiritual community.

I'm trusting this will be a great time for all of us!

Peace, *Mary Ellen*

**Notes:**

1.) **Ruby's Pantry:** Greetings, fellow Spirits! Please consider helping out at the next Ruby's Pantry distribution, Tuesday 12 January.

A large number of our regular volunteers have left the area until spring and we will definitely need more help. Besides SOTW's normal assistance in set-up, food distribution, and clean-up, we will need more greeters this month because EVERYONE needs to fill out a new registration form for the new year. Changing things a bit, volunteers, please arrive at 3:00 instead of 2:30. There has been a lot of standing around waiting for the truck, and I'm sure you can make better use of your time.

If you can help please let me know: Karen Halbersleben <khalbers@icloud.com>

2.) **Mary Ellen "going away" Sunday, Jan. 17th.** A lunch will follow Church at the Trail Center. Cost is covered by the Lilly Foundation. Please let Ellen Stubbs <estubbs290@aol.com> know so that we can have an approximate count.



*DavidRJohnson.Zenfolio.com*

## Sense of Wonder: Expressing this Place Call to Artists: 2016



**Spirit of the Wilderness  
Episcopal Church  
invites artists to participate in  
our 7th annual art show:**

**Johnson Heritage Post  
March 4-28**

Opening talk—Chel Anderson March 4.

Context shapes us: where we find ourselves affects us in ways of which we may be unaware. Artists are drawn here; some who wouldn't have called themselves artists begin to create art when they're here. Here's a chance to ponder how you as an artist have been formed by the landscape, atmosphere, light, seasons, and community along the North Shore.

Use these questions to spark your artistic juices for our annual show:

How would your artistic expression be different if you lived somewhere else?

How is your spirituality (and your artistic expression) rooted in this particular place?



Artists need to submit work with title, price and artist statement by March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Questions: students contact Mary MacDonald; Bonnie Gay Hedstrom (387 2538) or Ellen Stubbs (663 7298).



New this year: not only will high school art students submit work, but younger students will also be encouraged by their art teachers and others to respond to the topic.