

WILDERNESS WORDS

Editors

If there is anything that you would like to have included in the Newsletter:
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This Sunday:

Leading: Lee
Preaching: Carolyn
Presiding: Mary Ellen

Readings this week:

**Day of Pentecost,
15 May, 2016**

First Reading:

Acts 2:1-21 or Genesis 11:1-9

Psalm:

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Epistle:

Romans 8:14-17 or Acts 2:1-21

Gospel:

John 14:8-17, (25-27)

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

Reflections:

Reflections from England — written by members, put together by Mary Ellen—

What stands out for SOTW travelers on our trip to England:

The beauty of the countryside, amazing Cathedrals, meditative feeling being in the churches....

Evensong in different Cathedrals—each glorious, each different—all parts of a very old tradition, and yet the same as Spirit of the Wilderness in so many ways.

A unique exultation of spirit I felt at Fountains Abbey and at Evensong at York Minster, feeling closer to the creator than I've ever felt.

To touch 1000 years of history! So much to reflect on!

Reaching back to touch our history and ancestors and the connections we have to them, and the connections in our group, watching out for each other, enjoying each other.....the poems and history lessons, and a spiritual connection to our travels.

Daily new adventures, friends old and new, believing the future will continue to improve....



*Inviting Mystery, Embracing
Compassion, Encountering Christ.*

Seeing and experiencing much history, set in stone in the form of churches, castles, walls. I hope to remember and digest this trip for years.

Walking, friends, castles, walks....can't describe this fantastic trip....fun and community. Fields of gold, stone fences—the rain and wind helped me feel the hardships faced by the common people.

Morning walks before breakfast to savor the beauty and history around me. York Minster Evensong choir and organ continue to play over and over in my head and heart.

Psalms echoing in ancient cathedrals, connection to history. Friendship and fellowship, arches, and gorgeous ruins.

Save these Dates

May 24th: Ruby's Pantry Volunteer Appreciation Party. See notes.

July 3rd: SOTW at the Care Center.

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The joy of participating in this community as friendships are begun or deepened as we share everything in joy.

A Request:

While on sabbatical I visited Lamula School with my friend Anne. She volunteers there in the Molweni township, teaching math, and reading and leading an extra curricular program at the end of the day on Tuesdays.

We worked with two classes—second and fourth graders, each with around sixty Zulu kids in one class. For the extra curricular time, half of the kids left and the others played educational games—did puzzles, junior scrabble, checkers, chess, opposites, etc. The kids loved it and you could see them learning....but the games were in short supply and were dog eared, with missing pieces,

I plan to mail a box of educational games and puzzles to Anne for use at Lamula school, and would invite you to dig out one from your basement or buy one to send. The kids are 6-9 years old and learning English.

We'll collect these at church and I'll plan to mail them in late May. Karen Kobey has decorated a box for games for kids to be put at the back of the church until end of May at which point they will be mailed. Thanks! *Mary Ellen*

Reflections! It was great to hear 'many voices' during Mary Ellen's sabbatical. So we will continue from time to time. If you are willing to author an occasional Reflections for our Newsletter please let Mary Ellen know. We will again take over coordinating this after our return in early July.



