

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 or pcoleman@chem.wayne.edu

This Sunday:

Leading:
Preaching: Lee
Presiding:

Readings this week:

***Third Sunday after Pentecost,
 5 June, 2016***

First Reading:
 1 Kings 17:8-16, (17-24) and
 Psalm 146 **OR** 1 Kings 17:17-24
 and Psalm 30
Psalm: (above)
Epistle: Galatians 1:11-24
Gospel: Luke 7:11-17

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

Reflections:

Avebury, our stop between Oxford and Salisbury, has a circle of standing stones— huge rocks set around a large space, put there by our prehistoric forbears. There is also a little village there, which caters to the many visitors who pass through.



*Inviting Mystery, Embracing
 Compassion, Encountering Christ.*

Some of us went into the old Anglican Church in Avebury and while I was there I was impressed with their way of being present to their community and tourists. Avebury hosts an annual art fair which draws many visitors, and the church has found a way to invite people to express a prayer, blessing or wish in an artsy way. (Some years with a weaving project, but more recently with a tree.)

What a great idea! I talked to the vicar there who walked in while I was looking at some of their creations from the last few years, and she told me how powerful this has been in a number of ways—for the church, the larger Avebury community and people coming to the art fair.

We are going to experiment with this at our local Art Fair this July 9th and 10th. Bonnie Gay and I have been brainstorming, and what we've got to so far is this: we are going to construct a 'tree' from some small birches,

and have leaves of various colors and shapes out for people to decorate. They will also be encouraged to write a blessing, prayer or wish on their leaf, and hang these on the tree. All ages will be encouraged to participate, by decorating a leaf, and by reading some others' wishes/prayers on the tree.

This fits very well with our sense of the importance of the overlap between creativity and spirituality which we showcase in our annual spring art show. And it is another way for us to be present to the community. I think it will be fun!

Here are some ways for people to be involved: (bolded are ways you could be involved.....)

Before the art fair, Bonnie Gay and I will need **help making leaves**. We will also need someone to **construct the 'tree'** and make sure it's portable but stable. We need a name for

Save these Dates

June 5: England trip sharing: Sunday, June 5th, during the forum time immediately after church, with English treats!

June 8: Bishop’s Committee

June 26: Celebration gathering — The Lilly Foundation would like us to gather to celebrate being back together! We’re thinking of catering something after church at WindCradle....Please mark your calendars....Mary Ellen

July 3rd: SOTW at the Care Center.

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this, and **a sign** to go on our table. We will also ask people to make **crayons, markers, glue, trimmings**, etc. available for the days of the art fair. I will figure out a rain venue.

During the art fair, we will need a couple of people to be at the table **chatting with people**, for two hours at a time, helping them to materials, helping them hang their leaves. Maybe we should have **treats for sale**, with proceeds to the Good Sam Fund.

Our intern, Marcella, will be the point person on this when she arrives next week. In the meanwhile, think and pray about how you’d like to be involved. *Mary Ellen*

Thanks for your ongoing prayers for Steve. His scan a couple weeks ago showed his tumors on lungs and liver contained by the chemo, but one new growth. A biopsy showed it to be the same cancer--good news that it wasn't a different cancer. The chemo is making Steve feel pretty crappy for part of the cycle between his treatments. Please continue to pray for him. *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.