

WILDERNESS WORDS

Editors

If there is anything that you would like to have included in the Newsletter: 313-673-6519 and dmc@chem.wayne.edu or pcoleman@chem.wayne.edu

This Sunday:

Leading: Karen H.
Preaching: Michael P.
Presiding: Mary Ellen

Readings this week:

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost,
7 August, 2016

First Reading:

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20 and Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23 OR Genesis 15:1-6 and Psalm 33:12-22

Psalm: (above)

Epistle: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Gospel: Luke 12:32-40

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



Reflections:

by Ellen Stubbs

Art and Creation

I must admit I wasn't feeling inspired on Sunday when Mary Ellen asked me to do the *Reflection* for this week. Nothing was coming, no nudges, no help. Until Tuesday's New York Times, with an editorial by David Brooks: "How Artists Change the World". Now *that's* inspiring! And he was writing specifically about photography-- my art form.



*Inviting Mystery, Embracing
 Compassion, Encountering Christ.*

It led me to think about creativity, and creation, and the reality that every form of creation is art. Baking bread, or creating a recipe. Painting a picture. Writing a poem, or a piece of music, or a homily. Carving a bowl. Playing a dulcimer or trombone. Sewing a dress, or a quilt, or a potholder. And especially creating a universe.

As I considered it, I realized once again that the creative process gives me a way to connect with God. And the way we see, and are led to see in the process of creating a work of art, can bring us new insights into the amazing creativity of nature, and of the God of nature, as well as the nature of God. I've always thought of God as a creator, but not really as an artist. Somehow, considering God the artist makes me feel a new sort of kinship-- we can speak "art" together, artist to artist.

For me, photography allows me to see in new ways. It can help me see the wonder in the tiniest and grandest parts of nature. It can lead me to see the humanity of people I had seen as not like me, and to see that they are actually just like me. And I can share that wonder and that recognition with

Save these Dates

Sept. 11: Our potluck picnic at Sutphin's. Hold the date and look for more info.

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Notices/Notes for week of July 25th:

1. Some people have asked how they might support The Keiskamma Trust with its various programs. Others have wondered about other programs Zinzi spoke about. We will be doing a transfer within the next month, so if you would like to give a check to SOTW ear-marked Keiskamma Trust, we will make sure it gets to them. Over the next month we'll also be discussing whether there might be a few folks who would like to fund a scholarship or two through The Holy Cross Monastery School in Grahamstown. Thanks,
Mary Ellen

others through my photos.

The SOTW Art Show encourages people who may not have considered themselves artists to see their creativity as worthy of celebration. Maybe even to lead them toward an inkling of their kinship with God the artist. And it has showed me the transformative power of participants seeing themselves as artists for the first time, widening their horizons, recognizing the potential, as Brooks says, to change the world. (You'll have to read his op-ed...)

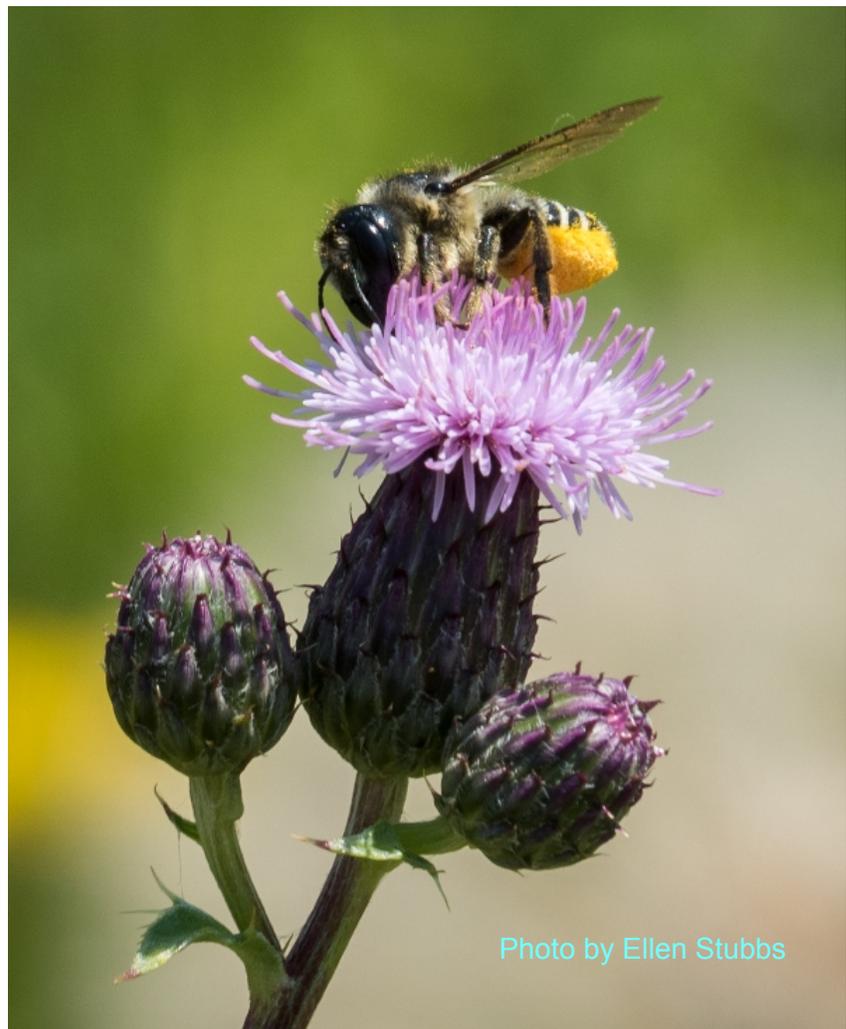


Photo by Ellen Stubbs

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 the Editors know.



DavidRJohnson.Zenfolio.com

New photo by David Johnson