

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: Beth
Preaching: Mary Ellen
Presiding: Mary Ellen
Coffee Hour: Beth

Readings this week:

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost, 25 September, 2016

First Reading:

Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15 and Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16 OR Amos 6:1a, 4-7 and Psalm 146

Psalm: (above)

Epistle: 1 Timothy 6:6-19

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

(Click on citation to link directly to



Reflections:

by *Karen Halbersleben*



Inviting Mystery, Embracing Compassion, Encountering Christ.

Athletes develop "muscle memory" by practicing the same movement again and again so that, when they need to execute in a game situation, their body does what is needed without the athlete needing to think about it.

One of the glories of our small group is that I've developed "spirit memory." By practicing every month being honest and vulnerable with each other, I had developed enough "spirit memory" so that I didn't mind showing my vulnerabilities around Looker's so sudden illness and death.

Old me would not have sought out Karen and Ellen's company the day after Looker died, and would never have chosen to spend upwards to two hours sitting with them as they encouraged me to talk and cry. Old me would NEVER have come to church Sunday: too exposed; too raw. Instead, "spirit memory" kicked in, and I knew I had to be there, that it was OK to be vulnerable, to allow your love and support to flow over me.

I thank you for your kind words and hugs, your cards and flowers, your sweet gifts to the Good Samaritan fund in Looker's honor. I am so grateful to you all and to our small group which is helping make me a better person.

With deep love and gratitude,

Other Karen

Save these Dates

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Mary Ellen Ashcroft

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Cancer Prayers:

Continued prayers for Stephen Ashcroft.

Prayers for Jeff Kidder, who has led several retreats for the SOTW, as he fights a newly-discovered cancer.

Prayers for the Rev. Erv Brown who was active in the parish earlier. His cancer has returned along with related maladies. He is currently in the rehabilitation section of the community that he and Tish live in. As his strength returns he will return to their apartment in a hospice mode.



Note: Intern Next Summer?

We loved having Marcella as an intern this summer and would like to do that again. Does anyone have housing ideas for an intern for a month or two--before I start reaching out to seminaries? Let me know.....

Thanks, *Mary Ellen*



Good Bye and Safe Journey to Sue & Ron and to Barbara & Reed

Notices/Notes:

If you would like to contribute to the Keiskamma Trust—with its health, education and arts programs—please write a check to SOTW with Keiskamma Trust in the memo line. We'll send those together. For more info: <http://www.southafrica.net/za/en/articles/entry/article-southafrica.net-keiskamma-trust>

Suzanne and I plan to fund a scholarship for students who show promise at Holy Cross School (run by a group of Episcopal brothers) in Grahamstown to attend a high school in the area. If there are others who would like to meet this challenge, please either contact me or the site below. To fund a student will cost around \$600.00 a year. Zinzi and her husband Matthew will work with us on this, this.but here is more information: <http://www.umaria.co.za/scholarships.html> Thanks, *Mary Ellen*

