

## *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](mailto:dmc@chem.wayne.edu) or [pcoleman@chem.wayne.edu](mailto:pcoleman@chem.wayne.edu)

### This Sunday:

**Leading:** Karen H.  
**Preaching:** Carol Mork  
**Presiding:** Mary Ellen  
**Treats:**

### Readings this week:

#### ***Ninth Sunday After Pentecost, 6 August, 2017***

**First Reading:** Genesis 32:22-31 and Psalm 17:1-7, 15 OR Isaiah 55:1-5 and Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

**Psalm:** Above

**Epistle:** Romans 9:1-5

**Gospel:** Matthew 14:13-21

*(To link directly to the readings (click) <http://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/texts.php?id=153>*



### Reflections:

*By Mary Ellen*

The Bishop’s Committee will be having a retreat on Monday August 7<sup>th</sup>. My old friend (and Vicar at Holy Apostles Church in St. Paul) will lead us as we step back and look at where we’ve been—SOTW is 10 years old!—where we are now, and where we’re going.



*Inviting Mystery, Embracing Compassion, Encountering Christ.*

Last summer Michael Pipkin led our retreat, reminding us that all churches must answer the questions “why?” “how?” and “what?” Most churches focus on “what?”—buildings, services, budgets. From our sharing, he figured we’re clear on “why?” and we need to maintain that, but make sure we’re okay on “how?” at this stable time. We have worked on this as we’ve changed the format of our meetings to reflect these priorities.

This year we’ll be asking folks to reflect on what encouraged them to commit to ministry at SOTW, and what has encouraged them to keep on.

And a couple questions for all of us to reflect on:

1. What has God done in our midst over the last ten years that has most inspired you? In the last year?
2. How has the greater SOTW community shaped your ministry? How has the community shaped your sense of God’s presence in the church/your life?

As we consider where we are at now, we’ll be asking this:

1. If you could change one thing about SOTW, what would it be?
2. If there was one thing that you think must NOT be changed, what would it be?

Then as we look ahead, we’ll be pondering this:

1. God invites you to meet up at Java Moose to talk about SOTW. What would you talk about in terms of where we’d like SOTW to be ten years from now?

**Forums: 2016 - 2017**

**Forums** — immediately following services we grab our coffee and treats and spend an hour learning.

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If you have ideas coming out of these questions, please pass them on to members of the Bishop's Committee. We'd love your input.

**Notes:**

1.) On Monday, August 7th, at 7:30 PM, **Mary Ellen** will be reading from her forth-coming book "*OMG*" for the Full Moon Reading series at Drury Lane Books. She would love to see some of your friendly, smiling faces in the group! Note this is a time-change from 7:00 which was previously published.

2.) **TENTATIVE - Save the Date:** Sunday, August, 20th. The annual Parish Gathering "Up the Trail" will be hosted by Dave & Patsy Coleman at their home on Clearwater. It will also be a 10th Birthday Party for SOTW. Details to follow.

3.) Would you like to be part of a team focusing on **pastoral needs** at SOTW? Suzanne will be organizing this —which may include visits, babysitting, meals, prayers, unpacking boxes—for those in need. Please let her know if you'd like to be involved! 387 1536

4.) Patsy Coleman has agreed to put together a new, and much-needed Parish Directory. Please forward updated information (address, phone, e-mail) to her at [PColeman@chem.wayne.edu](mailto:PColeman@chem.wayne.edu)

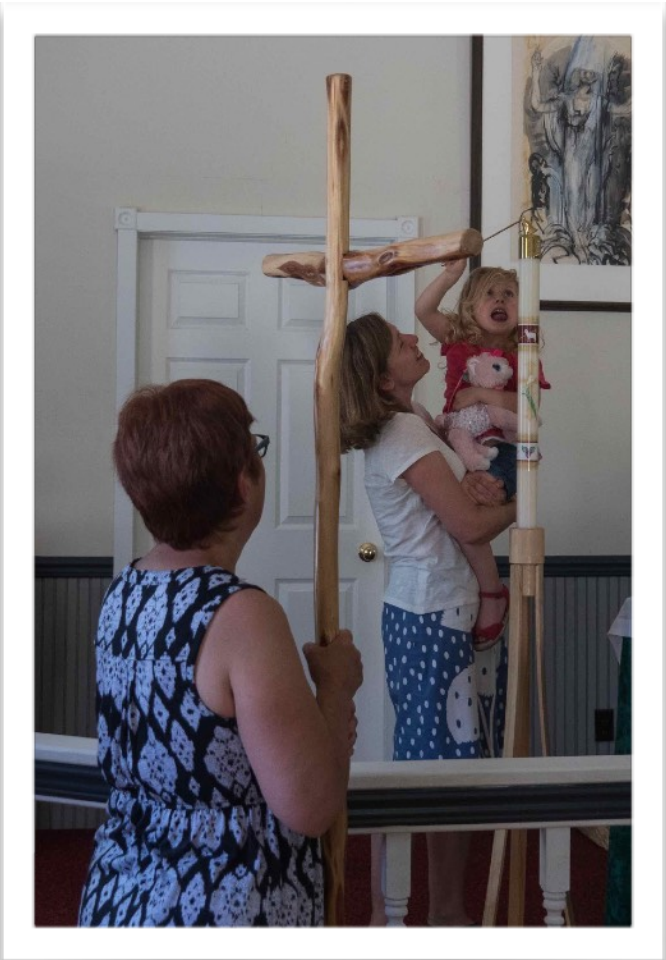
5.) **Ruby's Pantry** will be next Tuesday, August 8th. It will again be held at the Community Center as the construction at the school has not been completed. If you can come 2:45- 3:00 to help set up that would be great! Truck and skid- steer to unload it should be there around 3:30.



6.) **Ritalee Heurung Walters** is celebrating her birthday **TODAY** with a big cake at Voyageur's Brewery tomorrow at 5:00. No singing, no presents -- just cake. (She hopes to see lots of kids and wreck their suppers!)

Photos by Ellen Stubbs.





**NEW Math for Vintage Minds:  $3 \times 70 = 210$  Celebration = Hillary + Bonnie Gay + Karl**

Last Sunday, July 30, 2017

