

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:

Preaching: Mary Ellen

Presiding: Carol Mork

Readings this week:

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost, 22 October, 2017

First Reading: Exodus 33:12-23 and Psalm 99 **OR** Isaiah 45:1-7 and Psalm 96:1-9, (10-13)

Psalm: Above

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

(To link directly to the readings (click) <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/texts.php?id=164>



Reflections:

By Ritalee Walters

Our daughter has been receiving communion and worshipping at our church since the age of one or two. She is free to sit at a small table in front of the altar



Inviting Mystery, Embracing Compassion, Encountering Christ.

and color, or play with Play Doh or toys. She is hugged and kissed at the sign of peace, carries up the gifts, walks around with collection baskets, rings the church bell, sings along when she knows the melody or words, holds hands with our whole congregation for the Our Father, and puts out the candles at the end of service. She snacks, plays with other kids, sometimes asks to use the bathroom or go home during the service, and is always welcomed, blessed, encouraged, and treated like a full member of the church. The driftwood and stone crucifix on our altar was made by a member when she was five. Whether kids want to snuggle close to their parents or play with other kids, a variety of church experience is open to them. I like that she sees women in positions of power within the church, and all marriages sanctified. She sees people show up regularly to express their love of God, each other and creation.



Forums: 2016 - 2017

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

Oct. 22 — *Evolution and Faith*
MEA

Vicar:

Mary Ellen Ashcroft
Phone: 218-387-1536
<maryellenvicar@gmail.com>

Assisting Priest:

Carolyn Schmidt
Phone: 218- 387-1806
<madrecj@aol.com>

www.spiritofthewilderness.org

<https://www.facebook.com/SpiritoftheWilderness>

Box 1115 Grand Marais, MN 55604

Notes:

- 1.) This Sunday. **Forum** after Church. "Evolution and Faith" by Mary Ellen.
- 2.) We would like to have more different voices in our newsletter **Reflections**. Would you like to sign up--perhaps for once a month or once every two months? Please let Mary Ellen know.
- 3.) Save the Date: **Enneagram Retreat** Friday and Saturday, Dec. 1 & 2. Location TBD. Led by Marcia Hyatt and Mary Ellen Ashcroft
Early bird sign up: \$150.00. Space will be limited, so if you'd like to do the retreat sign up early with Mary Ellen



Photos by Ellen Stubbs





Financial Update from the Bishop's Committee:

The chart below shows how our finances have been going for the first three-quarter of the year. Our income and expenses have been tracking close enough to our projections that it is hard to see the differences in the graph.

If you look at the numbers below the graph, you can see that through the end of September, our income is \$503 dollars below our projection, and or expenses are \$425 above our projection. Our actual expenses have exceeded our income by \$928 more than projected for the first nine months of 2017.

These results are not a major concern to the Bishop's Committee, but we will need to closely watch our finances through the end of the year

Spirit of the Wilderness 2017 Budget Tracking

