

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: Mary Ellen
Presiding: Carol M.

Readings this week:

Twenty Second Sunday After Pentecost, 5 November, 2017

First Reading: Joshua 3:7-17 and Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37 **OR** Micah 3:5-12 and Psalm 43
Psalms: Above
Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12

(To link directly to the readings (click) <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/texts.php?id=167>



Reflections:

By Mary Ellen

Family Values

This Sunday we celebrate All Saints Day—a day originally set aside because there were so many days commemorating individual saints that a ‘catch-all’ day was needed. Unlike the teaching of the Catholic Church, where you have to go through a process to be declared a saint—how many miracles? Shall we canonize or not?—the apostle Paul calls those who have turned to Christ, those who have become part of the family—these are saints.



Inviting Mystery, Embracing Compassion, Encountering Christ.

This family of saints is a great one to be part of, though a bit daunting at times. The family includes great believers and doubters, heroes and sheroes (some of whom were scared spitless), people with advanced degrees and those who never got to go to school at all.

What are the family values of this saintly group—known as the church? Believing in something bigger than self; prioritizing love; working to make the world a better place. Different eras offer different faces of these family values, but this “loving God and loving neighbor” are what characterize the family.

On Sunday, our beloved Freddie will be baptized—her official joining of the family—though she already seems pretty well ensconced! We celebrate a rite we don’t quite understand, trusting its power (within the community) to place her more fully in the family, while affirming our place in this family.

The family Freddie joins stretches back through time and around the globe, with our community at SOTW as our particular form!



Forums: 2016 - 2017

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

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Photos by Ellen Stubbs

Notes:

1.) **Jay Hansen's** brain tumor has come back, and he is in hospice: Little Hospice 7019 Lynmar Ln, Edina, MN 55435. I'm sure he and Madge would appreciate cards.

2.) For our service this Sunday (All Saints) please bring a picture of someone who's gone before who you would like to invite to be one of the 'cloud of witnesses' at the Baptism.

3.) In the Dioscean *ECMN News* this week is a story on 'Kids in Church' including copies of recent *Reflections* by RitaLee and Mary Ellen from this newsletter. See: <http://episcopalmn.org/october-2017-kids-in-church>

4.) From **Karl Hansen**: Carol referred to today's blog in her sermon (last Sunday) and I said I would forward it to put in the newsletter. We have been talking about this in our small group all year. <http://us2.forward-to-friend.com/forward/show?u=13eb080d8a315477042e0d5b1&id=7e45e18c27> I first learned about it by hearing Maria Popova interviewed by Krista Tippett, On Being: <https://onbeing.org/programs/maria-popova-cartographer-of-meaning-in-a-digital-age-jan2017/> There is an amazing amount of stuff each week ... I have certainly never followed all the links in any week, but have certainly found a lot of wonderful things. *Karl*

5.) 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.



