

Wilderness Words



Spirit of the Wilderness

Weekly News—September 30, 2010

Mentor Notes:

I just got back from clergy conference in Buffalo MN. It was good to be with clergy from all over the state. The speaker was from Virginia Seminary and was charged in helping us think “outside the box” about being church in a post-Christendom era.

I was struck by how painful an adjustment this is for most: how giving up the idea that if we do things “right” according to the book, people will stream to church and everything will be as it was.

The bishop asked me to speak about Spirit of the Wilderness and some of the things we’ve learned in building our community—I spoke about learning to listen to the needs of those around us, to be expectant, to listen together to the spirit. Jay Hanson and Carolyn Schmidt both chimed in about some of what we’re doing as we do church in a new setting.

In my “one on one” time with the bishop, he talked about how much he loved being with us early this summer, and how he had a picture of our group on his phone that he often showed to people as an example of the church in Minnesota!

Let’s give thanks for our life together!

Peace, Mary Ellen+

Dates:

October 4th: Food Shelf 3-5

October 17th: Adult Forum

October 19th: Spirit business meeting (evening)

October 20th: Social at WindCradle

October 30th: We are introduced at Convention

November 11th: Empty Bowls

November 14th: Shakes and Lectio at Emily’s



For your prayers:

- Those who are part of our fellowship who are suffering—body, mind, or spirit.
- For on-going guidance as we at Spirit of the Wilderness seek to follow the Holy Spirit’s leading.
- That our introduction at Convention might be an encouragement to the rest of the church in Minnesota.
- For those in Cook County who need a church home. That we might be bold in inviting them to join ours.
- For those in Cook County in any kind of need.