

Wilderness Words



Spirit of the Wilderness www.spiritofthewilderness.org

Weekly News—April 26, 2012

Vicar Notes:

On Tuesday, I attended the installation of Devon Anderson as rector of Trinity Church, Excelsior. It was a wonderful celebration of new ministry. A couple things really stood out to me as very relevant to us at *Spirit of the Wilderness*.

One, is the model of ministry outlined in the liturgy – a ministry of all the baptized.

The Bishop asked: “Dear Devon and the people of Trinity, do you commit yourselves to lively proclamation of the Gospel through the work of this congregation and the larger church, working together in love and harmony and in mutual respect for the ministries of all the baptized?”

We prayed that God would “strengthen and sustain the ministers of this congregation, lay and ordained, that they may faithfully follow in the way of your Son Jesus Christ, proclaiming in word and deed the good news of the kingdom...”

Later the Bishop said this: “Good people of Trinity, through Baptism you have been adopted into the community of faith, the Body of Christ, the Church. Together with your rector, you have been called to share in the Church’s mission to reconcile all people to God and each other in Christ. As your bishop, I remind you that in Baptism, you are fully empowered and authorized to exercise ministry in Christ’s name... Having covenanted in Baptism to do this work, remember that each of you has resources and gifts for ministry...” Does’n’t this ring bells with you about our ministry here at *Spirit of the Wilderness*?

The second thing that stuck out was from the sermon. The preacher, Rev. Ernesto Medina, reminded us that mutual ministry is a covenant. He defined “covenant” as “the promise to love one another despite knowing the truth.” This is profound, I think, for us as in all our covenant relationships – in the church, in our partnerships. And how different from the way love is so often portrayed in the world around us.

What a wonderful time to be a part of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota, and to be acting as ministers within a covenant!

Blessings,

Mary Ellen

What's happening?



Howard serves the

Seder
Passover
Lamb

Dragon-boat

Time to sign up with our new coordinator—Kathy Sullivan.

April Social

What: Come and celebrate your vicar's 60th birthday

When: Friday, April 27th, 6 PM.

Where: WindCradle

What to bring: an appetizer and liquid refreshment to share...

Thinking ahead:

- April 29th—SOTW at the Care Center, 2 PM.
- May 19th is our "Yurt Raising Day" at WindCradle. We have volunteers coming from a number of places to help, and then will have a party and music in the evening. Would love to have you there!
- June 4th—Potluck social at WindCradle. Alex Logan, a vicar from England, will share about her experience of working with folks on the outside.
- July/August—We'll be celebrating the Fifth Anniversary of Spirit of the Wilderness. Would you like to help plan some celebrations? So far, mark your calendars for an evening at WindCradle, Tuesday August 21st for Dwight Zscheile (mission church expert who met with us early in the process—to spend an evening with us).
- Would you be interested in a new *Deepening Roots* course starting up next year? Do you know someone you think might be interested in the course? Please let me know.....(387 1536)

An easier way to pay your pledge—

We are setting up a system so that members can automatically have their pledges taken out of their accounts and deposited in our SOTW account. If you're interested, please talk to Reed.

Ongoing Book Group

Our book group (to help expand our cultural understandings) will continue to meet one Wednesday evening a month, beginning on May 9th.

For that meeting we are reading Scott Momaday's *House of Dawn*.

We will continue to meet at the congregational church at 6:30.

For those who haven't been able to come our Lenten discussions, you are still welcome to come to the ongoing book group. And if you want to read the novels we've read and discussed—*Waterlily* and *Night Flying Women*, many of us have copies and would be glad to loan them out!

Anyone feeling called?????

To organize greeters to welcome people coming through the door—making sure they have name tags and the right papers?