

Wilderness Words



Spirit of the Wilderness
www.spiritofthewilderness.org

Weekly News—January 3, 2013

Vicar's Notes

On January 27th we'll be having an afternoon retreat at WindCradle. It will be a time for us to look back at the last few years in our life at *Spirit of the Wilderness*, and to look ahead. It's all too easy within the day to day bustle of church life—for us to NOT stop and consider where we are and where we're headed—our longer term direction as a church.

This afternoon retreat will begin with lunch after church, and last till four thirty. Those on the Bishop's Committee will be there, but all are invited. If you are further afield and unable to be physically present, I would invite you to pray and consider along with us, and send any input my way.

For a retreat like this to really work we all need to prepare. Here are several suggestions I'd like to make in that regard:

1. Over these next few weeks, the New Testament lectionary readings focus on spiritual gifts and how they are used. I would like to encourage all who are preaching to focus on these passages and consider what it means for all of us to use our gifts. And all who listen to make this an issue for your thoughts and prayers.
2. For all of us—here are some question for you to chew on:
 - a. If someone asked you to describe SOTW in a sentence or two, what would you say?
 - b. If someone said, "What makes your church unique?" how would you answer?
 - c. What is working well at Spirit of the Wilderness?
 - d. Are there challenges we need to meet at this stage?
 - e. Are there parts of who we feel called to be which have slipped off our radar?
3. Spend some time praying about SOTW. What comes to you in terms of vision for our future?

During our retreat time, we'll have a chance to share and brainstorm around these. Please—whether you are near or far—give some time, thought and prayer to these.....

Blessings,

Mary Ellen

This Sunday!!!

January 6—visitor at SOTW to discuss Mama Ada Foundation.

Please bring sandwiches or some other finger food to share for an “enhanced coffee hour.” Bring any questions you have.....

- **January 13—House blessing at Jennye and Joe’s 5:30 PM.**
- **January 16—Bishop’s Committee at Jennye’s 6:30.**
- **January 27th SOTW retreat 1:00-4:30 at WindCradle.**



**No news-
letter next
week—I’m
going to be
away for
some rest
and retreat
at Clearwa-
ter!**

**Please hold
the dates
Feb. 28-
March 3 for
our collabo-
ration with
the Art Col-
ony!**

Weekly Sign up: January 6, 2013

(so you can remind yourself of what you’ve signed up for....also, if you need to find a sub)

Leader: Lee

Music : Jane

Homily: Mary Ellen

Preside: Carol Mork

Chalice #1:

Chalice #2:

OT:Howard

NT: Reed

Psalm:

Gospel: Barbara

Prayers of the People:

Coffee/treats:

Greeter/usher:

Healing prayers #1: Carolyn

Healing prayers #2: