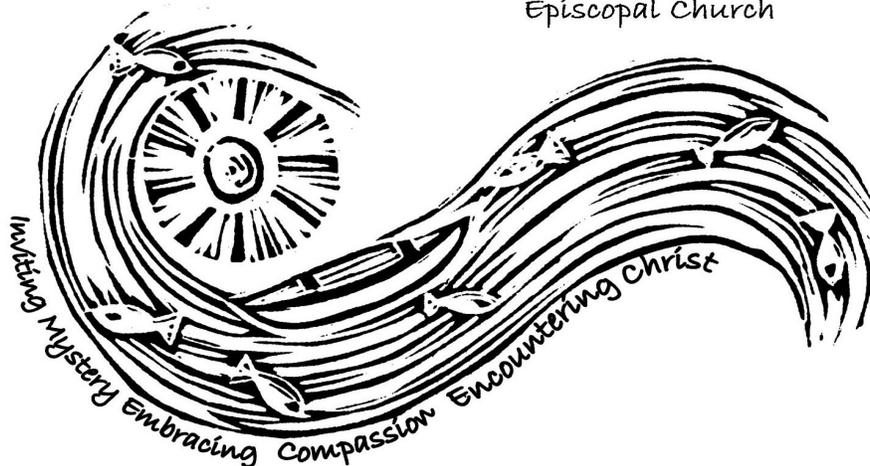


Wilderness Words

Weekly News—
Feb. 14, 2013

www.spiritofthewilderness.org
Box 1115 Grand Marais 55604
spiritwilderness@boreal.org

Spirit of the Wilderness
Episcopal Church



Vicar's Notes

Last Sunday afternoon I had a new experience—teaching about the New Testament at *Holy Apostles Church* in St. Paul. I'm doing five sessions with them on weekends when I'm in the Twin Cities teaching *Deepening Roots*. I'd not been "translated" for years—I'd speak about a paragraph, and then the translator would put it in Hmong. Sometimes when I asked for comments and questions, someone would respond in English and then someone in Hmong.

It's an odd thing to hear your "words" in syllables that seem unintelligible! There were some funny moments as we discussed *The Acts of the Apostles*, in which circumcision comes up a lot—and clearly this is an unfamiliar practice in Hmong culture, which I allowed the translator to try to explain!!

The group of around twenty that were present are all training to be leaders at Holy Apostles, a largely Hmong church. They are meeting every two weeks for two years—each Sunday afternoon for four hours. Two hours are for discernment, and two for learning. So far this year they've done Old Testament and are now doing the New Testament. Along with the Shared Ministry Training, they are trying out ministries—taking Eucharist to shut-ins, leading services, and other tasks, so that their learning is not just "head" learning, but is being put into practice.

I was struck by the fact that *Spirit of the Wilderness* has more in common with *Holy Apostles* than with most other churches, because of the way we're working to grow leadership and be truly "ministry centered." Being with that group reminded me of being at a SOTW gathering. Our cultural backgrounds may be worlds apart, but the Holy Spirit's work is similar.

On Tuesday I met with Bishop Brian. He told me how often he speaks about *Spirit of the Wilderness* as an example of God at work in the church—calling a new community together and leading them. He gave me several new books about the missional church that I'll bring on Sunday for folks to read.

Meanwhile, I'm starting to meet with Ministry Facilitators in different areas so that our "ministry-centeredness" can go from strength to strength even as we grow.

Blessings,

Mary Ellen

For your calendar....

- **February 19, 6:30 PM Bishop's Committee at Jennye's.**
- **February 28-March 3 "Seen through Native Eyes"** collaboration with The Art Colony—priests Robert Two Bulls and Johnson Loud will be working with youth and others.
- **March 14, 21 and April 4 and 11.** A book study to deepen our cultural understanding of Islam will be held *Interviews with Muslim Women* up first.

Feb. 17th Sign Ups:

Leader: Layne
Music Box: Karl
Homily: Mary Ellen
Preside: Carol Mork
Chalice:
OT:
NT: Tim
Psalm: Hillary
Gospel: Beth
Prayers of the People: Suzanne
Treats: Beth
Greeter/Usher:
Healing Prayers:



Let me know if you have suggestions for the one column
I have left to write for the Cook county News Herald!
Mary Ellen

Seen Through Native Eyes: A Celebration of Native Art **updated/corrected schedule** **(Underlined items we'll need help with—please sign up with Beth.)**

Thursday and Friday, February 28th and March 1st Artists in Residence at local schools.

Thursday evening, March 1st, 7:30 (Cook County Higher Education) The 2012 documentary "38 + 2" about the hanging of the 38 Dakota 150 years ago will be shown; a discussion, led by Robert Two Bulls will follow.

Friday, March 1st 6 pm (Grand Marais Art Colony): Opening reception for exhibit of Two Bulls' and Loud's work, and presentation—*Seen Through Native Eyes I.* Music by Briand Morrison.

Saturday, March 2nd ((Grand Marais Art Colony): Workshop: *Seen Through Native Eyes II*) To register, contact *The Grand Marais Art Colony*. Scholarships available to students at local schools.

Sunday, March 3rd (Maple Hill Church) 10:30 AM Two Bulls and Loud will lead worship at *Spirit of the Wilderness Episcopal Church*. Potluck to follow @ Hedstroms.