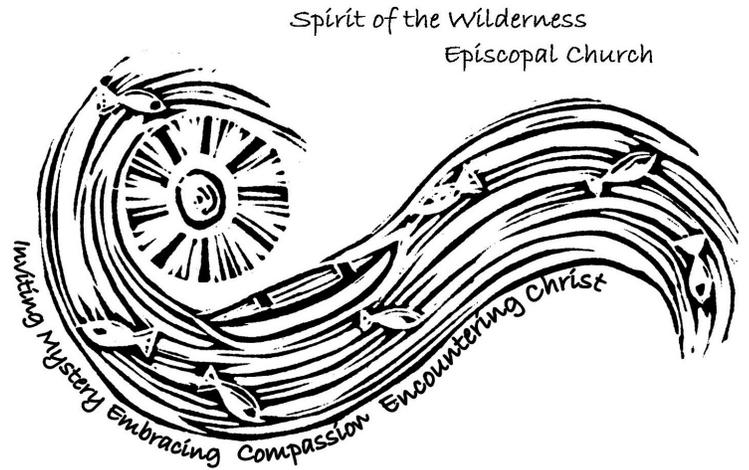


# Wilderness Words

Newsletter—  
April 9, 2014

[www.spiritofthewilderness.org](http://www.spiritofthewilderness.org)  
Box 1115 Grand Marais, 55604  
[spiritwilderness@boreal.org](mailto:spiritwilderness@boreal.org)  
Vicar, Mary Ellen Ashcroft  
Phone 218 387 1536



## Vicar's Report

About fifteen years ago, the national Episcopal Church started a program for clergy called CREDO—to help encourage health in several areas—physical, financial, spiritual and vocational. Each CREDO has faculty in each of the above areas; Milan has served on a number of CREDO teams as the physical health teacher. The retreat takes place in different parts of the country and lasts eight days. Virtually the whole expense of the conference, including airfare is covered by the program. CREDO has been a big investment for the national church and has paid off in terms of clergy remaining balanced and effective even ten years after they've attended. Colleagues of mine often refer to their CREDO plan: 'oops, I've got to get back to my CREDO plan' they say. Carolyn Schmidt is right now on a retirement CREDO.

I'm going to CREDO late April to early May in Prescott, Arizona. And since CREDO is flying me out there—and I've never been to Arizona at all, I'm going to go a few days early. I'm going to spend several days with Reed and Barbara in Tucson. I'm looking forward to catching up with them, and encouraging that the snow will melt here! Then with Suzanne's son we'll camp at the Grand Canyon for three nights. And then on to CREDO.

I ask your prayers for my time at this conference—that I will be open to learning all I'm meant to while I'm there. I understand that the program was developed, partly because so often clergy get so busy in their own world, that they don't step back and look at big questions. I'm trusting this will be a good time in this regard.

In the meanwhile we have this intense time in the church year—Holy Week and Easter. This Sunday Val is leading our service at Spirit of the Wilderness with a reading of the passion. I'll be on my monthly teaching weekend away, but will be preaching at Holy Apostles, the largely Hmong congregation I've been teaching at.

During Holy Week I invite you to make some special time for prayer. The Book of Common Prayer has special collects for Holy Week—p. 220-221. Use these morning, noon and night during Holy Week. (Remember if you don't have a BCP you can 'borrow' one from the church.)

On Thursday we have our Seder Meal, to which all are invited. This is a great occasion in our church year. Please RSVP your plans to attend, and let us know what you'll bring. On Good Friday there are two options—12:30-1:15 at the Dental Office we'll have a quiet, liturgical service—bring a BCP if you have one. At 6 PM members of the community will gather at St. John's for the annual interdenominational Cross Walk through town ending at the Evangelical Free Church for a service at 7 PM with Dale McIntyre preaching.

And then Easter. In preparation for that day, consider this question: what do the death and resurrection of Christ mean to you?

Blessings, Mary Ellen

### Coming up:

Thurs, April 10, 5:30 for 6:00 PM. Centering prayer at Lee and Karl's.

April 10th—Ruby's Pantry meeting 6 PM. Community Center.

Sat, April 12, 12-2. Need someone to be at the JHP.

### Holy Week and Easter Services:

Palm Sunday—reading of the passion.

Thursday, Seder Meal, 6 PM at Howard and Bonnie Gay's. (see sign up sheet)

Good Friday, 12:30-1:15 Quiet liturgical service at the dental office. (Bring a Book of Common Prayer if you have one handy.)

Good Friday, 6 PM Interdenominational cross walk begins at St. John's; service at 7 PM at the Evangelical Free Church with Dale MacIntyre preaching.

Easter Sunday service at 10:30—come prepared to celebrate!!



**Coming Soon to a venue near you!!**  
(Spring beauty, a lovely spring ephemeral flower.)

### Outreach News:

April 10th—Ruby's Pantry meeting 6 PM. Community Center. We're close to having a venue and agreement, to start in the fall. Need 6-8 volunteers from each church one Sat. a month.

**Seder meal: Thursday, April 17**  
**6-9 PM at Hedstroms.**  
Please RSVP to  
[spiritwilderness@boreal.org](mailto:spiritwilderness@boreal.org) or  
by phoning 387 1536.

Let us know what you're bringing!

#### Ritual food:

Parsley

Haroses (people can find recipe on line)

Horseradish

Hard boiled eggs.

A packet or two of Matzo crackers.

#### Side dishes:

Pilafs and green veggies.

Some dessert.

#### Beverages:

Red wine, and fizzy something for others!

### Adult Forums

**Sunday, May 4**, noon-1:00—Why liturgy? Carolyn Schmidt

**Sunday, June 8**, noon-1:00—Matthew revisited, Carol Mork.

**Sunday, July 6**, We're thinking of having a historic service—turning back the clocks to what would have been when the prayer book was first used! Karen Halbersleben will set up the historical context, and then we'll proceed with the service, with time following for more input, questions and reflection.

**Sunday, August 10**—The Canon of Scripture—how were the books of the Bible selected? Mary Ellen.

### Mapping Mystery

**We need someone to be at the Johnson Heritage Post on Saturday, the 12th from 12-2.**

**Also someone to help artists pick up their work on Monday, the 14th, 2-6**

### Sunday, April 6th:

Leading: Val

Homily: Reading of the Passion

Music: Karen and Layne