

# Wilderness Words

Newsletter—

May 15, 2014

[www.spiritofthewilderness.org](http://www.spiritofthewilderness.org)

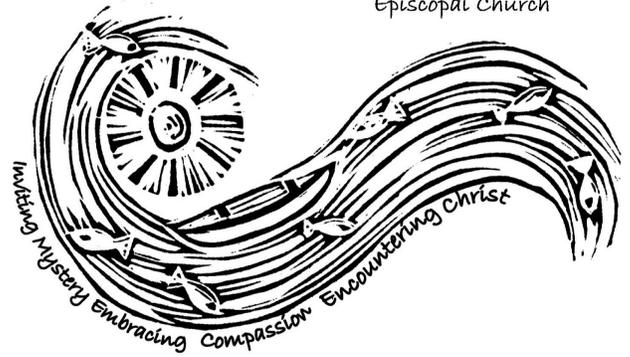
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Spirit of the Wilderness  
Episcopal Church



## Vicar's Report

This time of year, we can be almost overwhelmed by water. Most of us have been watching rivers and creeks rising—water flowing where it seldom flows.

And the waterfalls! On Friday I took some folks up to the High Falls on the Pigeon River and we were basically 'hosed down' by the pounding water, even as we stood on the platforms to look. On Saturday we went to the falls on the Brule at Judge Magney. Usually you can walk down some metal steps and 25 feet out onto some rocks to look at the lower falls. On Saturday the water was lapping up over the bottom two steps.

Then on Sunday Karen Kobey and I hiked up and around our loop—which takes us over the Crow Creek (bridge damaged by high water) and over the West Fork of the Kadunce, and then back along the roaring Kadunce River. Yesterday I took the dogs on one of my favorite ordinary hikes—from 14 down to Kimball Creek, which we usually cross and then head up the other side. The dogs got to the creek first and stood where the bridge had entirely vanished!

The power of all this water is stunning! It roars and sweeps. If some small item like a bridge is in the way...well, off it comes!

In Arizona I saw no water except in bottles.

In John 4, Jesus asks the woman at the well for a drink of water. He was thirsty. So was she. I try to imagine what it would be like if I had to, like many across our world, walk miles hauling water in jars and pots to take home for cooking, drinking, and cleaning.

Jesus says to her, "Those who drink of the water I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."

The gallons and gallons of water flowing down our rivers into Lake Superior: as we see those, let's ponder the water that Jesus promises each of us. What does it mean to drink this living water? What does it mean to have it pouring out from our inmost beings?

Think about that as you watch the water flow.

Blessings, Mary Ellen

## Coming Up!

Thursday, May 15th, 6 PM—Centering Prayer at Schmidt's.

Monday, May 19th,—Worship committee—speak to Layne, Lee, Karen Kobey or me with suggestions.

Tuesday, June 3rd, 4-7—visit from Michael Pipkin, Missioner for Finance in the Episcopal Church in MN.

Wednesday, June 4th, 6:30—Bishop's Committee at Schmidts.

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

Sunday, June 22nd, Welcome Sunday—who will you invite?

### Outreach News:

**Kody's Closet**—We've delivered a couple of bags to the social worker who will be distributing items to students in need at the high school. Please put additional toiletry items (shampoos, conditioners, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, toothpaste, toothbrushes, dental floss, bar soap, shaving cream, lotions for girls for shaving, etc.) into the box at church.

**Ruby's Pantry:** This outreach opportunity will begin in September and will involve SOTW providing 8 volunteers one Saturday per month. More info on this soon, but for now please pray about being involved in this great scheme for meeting hunger needs. Contact Kathy Sullivan if you'd like to be part of the team!

**Mentoring:** The YMCA has hired its youth coordinator, so this will be another opportunity beginning in September, to mentor students after school.

**Good Samaritan fund:** We need to continue to find ways to put money into this fund, so that we can be faithful to our commitments, but still have enough in our operating fund. Here are some ideas:

- Work at the First and Second Thrift and send your earnings to Good Sam fund.
- Schmidts are planning a lemonade stand at their Croftville Road house on July 5th. We'll need posters, cookies, dog treats, folks to sit at the stand, a tent, etc. How would you like to help?
- Hold some special event that only you could think of!



Coming Soon to a venue near you!!

(Marsh Marigolds)

(Ellen Stubbs pix)

Anyone interested?

In a Deepening Roots class in Grand Marais next fall?  
In a short (3 nights) Boundary Waters trip next summer?  
Let me know.....

### Adult Forums—Notice changes

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

**Sunday, July 6,** Historic service. Karen Halbersleben.

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

### Readings:

May 11, 5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60

Psalm 31: 1-5, 15-16

I Peter 2: 2-10

John 14: 1-14

In our gospel reading, John talks about heaven, seeing and believing. As you read it consider some questions you have about what he is saying here.

### Sunday, May 18

Leading: Val

Homily: Carol M.

Music: Layne

Presiding: Mary Ellen

Treats: ??????