

Wilderness Words

Newsletter—

April 2, 2015

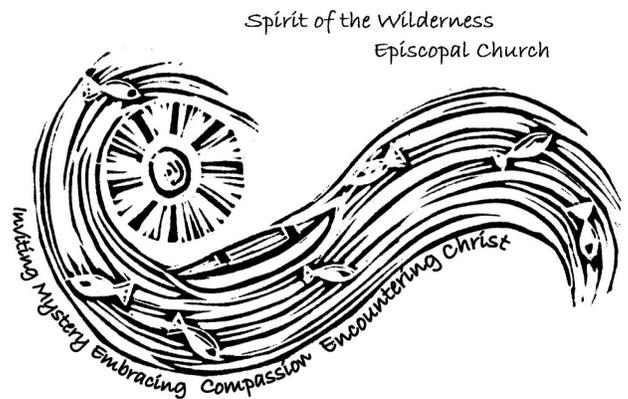
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Vicar's Report

Most of you know that I do am employed 40% time by *Spirit of the Wilderness*. Someone mentioned at Bishop's Committee last night that many people probably don't know what I do with the other 60% of my working time. Some, of course, is "donated" to the church by working more hours. But some of the time I travel.

For the past two years I've been going for one long weekend a month to the Twin Cities These weekends are enriching in many ways. Not only do I earn some supplemental income and see grandchildren—I also get to work with a number of churches. I've been teaching the *Deepening Roots* course, which includes teaching people who will teach the course in their own congregations. I've also been leading a group similar to our South Africa Book and Movie and another book group. I do spiritual direction with a number of people.

The most exciting has been the Sunday afternoon teaching I've been doing for a group of emerging leaders at Holy Apostles Episcopal Church in St. Paul. This largely Hmong church has been preparing a number of leaders for shared ministry, and I've been a part of their training for two years—teaching them on the gospels, Paul's letters, reading scripture, preaching, and what it means to be an Anglican. This gives me an opportunity to pursue a passion of mine—teaching—as well as to dive deeply into some areas I remember a little vaguely from seminary! You've noticed that this material has been appearing in some adult forums and sermons!

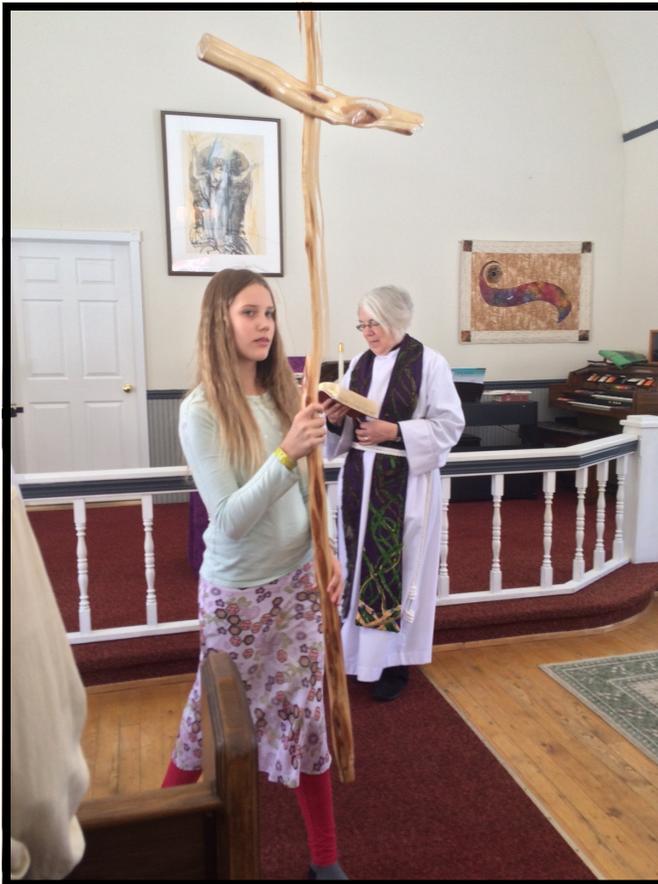
The cross cultural work has been fascinating and very educational for me. (You've heard me mention this in newsletters and sermons!) It is also a great way for me, but as important, for *Spirit of the Wilderness* to be visible to the greater Episcopal Church in Minnesota.

The folks at Holy Apostles will be ordained in June, so that commitment will end. I will be discerning about what other teaching responsibilities to take on when I get back from my sabbatical. I hope to try to schedule so that I don't have to be in the cities on Sundays.

This may also free me up to take on a few more opportunities to lead retreats, preach, and consult in other parts of the country. I love the opportunity to lead a retreat—like I did in Tucson a month ago, and will be doing in Columbus, Ohio next weekend.

But many clergy are also realizing that they are going to have to change the way they operate in their churches—that they are going to have to encourage more active lay ministry. This is an area in which, thanks to you and our wonderful church, I will enjoy doing some consulting on!

Easter Service schedule on page 2!



Mark your calendars:

Thursday, April 2nd—5:30 for 6:00 Seder Meal at Hedstroms.

Friday, April 3rd—Good Friday service, 1-2 at the Dental Office.

Friday, April 3rd, 6 pm—Interdenominational Cross walk begins at St. John's Catholic church.

Friday, April 3rd, 7 pm—Interdenominational service at St. John's.

Sunday, April 4th—Easter celebration!!

**How about joining us for the Second Annual Spirit of the Wilderness Women's Canoe Trip this summer?
Please let me know if you're interested and we'll start thinking about a time to make this happen!**

Adult forums:

April 19th—Anglican or Episcopalian??? (Mary Ellen)

May 17th—Life: quantity or quality? (Ellen Stubbs)

May 31st: Historical Service—1670. (Karen Halbersleben)

June 7th: Sacraments—(Mary Ellen)

Celebrants wanted! During Mary Ellen's sabbatical. We are looking for 3-4 supply clergy to serve and preach, giving us a different perspective. If you know someone you would like to invite please send me the name (and contact info if you have it). Milan.

Lessons for Easter Sunday

Acts 10: 34-43

I Corinthians 15:1-11

John 20: 1-18

What does Easter mean in your life? How do you celebrate new life?

This Sunday:

Leading—Karen H.

Preaching—Mary Ellen

Presiding—Carolyn

Deacon—Ginny

Music—Layne, Karen, Gina and Bob

Treats—Mary Ellen

Want to bring treats for next week? Please let Beth Kennedy know...bkennedy@boreal.org.