

## Wilderness Words



## Spirit of the Wilderness

Weekly News—February 24, 2011

### Vicar Notes:

What's ahead for us at Spirit of the Wilderness? How do we know what God is calling us to?

There are some things we can be sure of—areas that the witness of scripture and the history of the church speak very clearly about. For example, we can be sure God is calling us to grow—deeper as individuals and a community of faith, etc.

There are other areas of God's call which are more contextual; in other words areas God might be calling us to very specifically. For example when I was in the church in South Africa, we felt clearly called as a church to start a clinic in a squatter area near town. At Messiah in St. Paul, there was a clear call to be involved in the Frogtown community. We are beginning to pray about ministry in Grand Portage.

Our Bishop's Committee will begin in the next few months to raise questions for discernment and to ask together, "What is God calling us to?" This means that that group will be more fully committed to spiritual leadership rather than simply business leadership at Spirit of the Wilderness.

One last important area for discerning God's call comes out of our commitment to be missional: that is to ask the question—where are we seeing God at work?—and then responding to that. I'm intrigued that we are getting visitors most weeks from other parts of the state—a ministry of encouragement? Our ongoing collaboration with the art colony—a ministry to artists?

Let's all make this question part of our prayers.

Peace, Mary Ellen+



### Don't forget!!!

- **Monday, March 7th: Food Shelf**
- **Wednesday, March 9th: Ash Wednesday evening at WindCradle.**
- **Sunday, March 13th: Baptism at Spirit 10:30**
- **Wednesday, March 16th: Bishop's Committee** meets with facilitator 6-9 Reed and Barbara's.
- **Saturday, March 19th: Chili competition** with proceeds to Feed My Starving Children—who would like to enter?
- **Tuesday, March 22nd: House Warming and Potluck Social @ Kathy Sullivan's house—6:30-8:00.**
- **Sunday, March 27th: Bishop's Committee Retreat 12-6—place TBA.**
- **Wednesday, April 6th: Adult Forum @ WindCradle** on the gospel of Matthew
- **Art Colony Collaboration, April 10-24** : April 8-9 retreat on Creativity and Spirituality; April 10th opening.