

## Wilderness Words



## Spirit of the Wilderness

Weekly News—May 26, 2011

### Vicar Notes:

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN on Saturday was a powerful experience for many of us. Thanks to Amber and the other youth for making it happen! Thanks also to all who participated.

One of the things that struck me most about the day was how powerful an organization can be. Even if every single person in Cook County cared about people who are starving, even if we all gave time and money—we would not be able to meet as many needs as efficiently and strategically. The tens of thousands of meals we packed came out of people carefully developing a nourishing meal, a packing system, a way to involve many people, etc. In other words by being part of that greater whole we were able to do something we could not have done as well meaning individuals.

Many of us have questions now and then about institutions like THE CHURCH or philanthropic groups. And they certainly have flaws. But at the same time they can do things that individuals cannot do, and that is their great benefit.

As people who belong to Spirit of the Wilderness, we are part of a circle based here in Cook County, as well as in The Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota, the National Church and the Anglican Church worldwide. As part of Spirit of the Wilderness, we are also connected with the other churches in Cook County through the ministerium. These expanding circles can be real gifts.

Blessings, + Mary Ellen



### Ahead:

- June 6th: Food Shelf 3-5
- June 10th: 5-7 Hedstrom opening at the Johnson Heritage Post.
- June 12th: Food shelf collection at church.
- June 15th: Bishop's Committee Meeting— (agenda items to Rolf or Lee by the 16th, please)
- **Deepening Roots: A Course for Formation.** (Offered by WindCradle.) This course, for people who would like to grow deeper in their knowledge of the Old and New Testaments as well as their theological understanding of various issues, will meet once a month Sept.-May at WindCradle. If you have questions, please talk to Mary Ellen. Maximum group size is ten.
- How about an adult forum June 13th or 14th? A suggested topic—what do we believe about Christianity and other religions? Let me know of your interest and availability....
- Anyone want to plan a social or a house-blessing?