

Wilderness Words



Spirit of the Wilderness

Weekly News—June 16, 2011

Vicar Notes:

I am grateful for the opportunity to be vicar of Spirit of the Wilderness—I count it as a great joy and to be building church with all of you. And I am learning a lot.

Growing a church from scratch, listening to God's leading, sensing our giftedness, hearing each other—how often do people in a faith community get to do this?

This really hit me recently. In our Bishop's Committee Meetings, we are taking more time for discernment, time to listen to the Spirit in each other as we consider our future. I've realized that as each of us brings our particular passions, gifts, and insights—that it is at the intersection of those that God's call is to be found. I realize that subconsciously I have assumed that MY passion, MY sense of call, MY particular perspective—that these are right or at least superior and others are somehow lesser or defective.

When instead I bring my passion, call, perspective and hear others' passions, calls, and perspectives—it turns out that God is heard at the intersection. My perspective is necessary to the whole, but it is not superior or adequate in itself. If we all know we will be heard, we can relax and listen to each other and to God. It is **together** that we will hear God's leading.

Lee's care for crafting meaningful prayers, Barbara's care for the altar, Reed's care to make our services available electronically, my concern for those who have been hurt by church, etc., etc. It is when we bring all of these that we will best be able to follow God.

The gift of the Spirit at Pentecost means we are all carriers of God—God uses us together to build church.

Blessings, + Mary Ellen



Dragonboat— July 29-30

Are you signed up? Are you paid up?
Talk to Val for more information.

Upcoming Events:

- July 10 —Welcome Sunday at Spirit.
- Look out for some upcoming social events in July and August.
- Annual meeting will be held sometime in later August.

Please Pray:

- For Lorraine—for peace and freedom from pain.
- For Jerry—for recovery from his car accident.
- For our graduates—from high school and from nursing programs—for good transitions.
- For our summer visitors that they might experience soul nurture while they are with us.