

Wilderness Words



Spirit of the Wilderness

Weekly News—June 30, 2011

Vicar Notes:

The last three nights I spent in the Boundary Waters with three other clergy women on a retreat. We had every kind of weather—not to mention a few bugs.

At one portage, we were waiting to put into the water while a group of high school girls were waiting for their leader who had lost something on the portage. They were from Pennsylvania, North Carolina and Minnesota, and ranged in age from 14-17.

As we chatted, I said to them, “Okay, I have a question for you. We are a group who are all in the same profession. Can you guess what it is?”

“Wilderness guides?” “How much education did you have?” “Social workers?” They asked all sorts of questions and could not figure it out at all. Finally, since they were ready to leave, they asked for a hint, and we said, “We do much of our work on Sundays.”

“You work for the church!?!?” Are you kidding?!?”

“I didn’t know that any churches had women ministers...”

“The stuff you hear about churches and ministers is so bad....like politicians...”

The fact that it took them so long to guess, that they had such negative ideas about church—that we somehow in our sweaty state confounded—made me aware of how much we might forget about how those on the outside regard us.

Just being our slightly smelly selves may be one form of evangelism!

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.
- July 17—Social at Holadays’ at Greenwood Lake.
- Annual meeting will be held sometime in later August.

Please Pray:

- For Dorothy—healing and a swift recovery. For peace for Tom and the family.
- For Lorraine—for peace and freedom from pain.
- For Jerry—for recovery from his car accident.
- For our summer visitors that they might experience soul nurture while they are with us.