

Wilderness Words



Spirit of the Wilderness

Weekly News—August 17, 2011

Vicar Notes:

Last Sunday after church, a visitor commented: “This was the most meaningful worship service I’ve been to in my whole life.” She had attended church for fifty years, but she was new to Spirit of the Wilderness. Her comment and her elaboration on it—about “life” being present in our worship underlined for me what we are trying to do at Spirit as we welcome and include.

We’ve been talking about how all that lively life can be more fully included—and we will be trying several new things over the next few weeks:

- I’ve ordered “Sunday Papers” which highlight the gospel readings with coloring and activities for kids.
- I’m looking for Godly Play materials—like Montessori materials but using biblical themes.
- We’re kicking around the idea of making something for our kid helpers to wear—little seasonally appropriate stoles or the like—when they’re carrying a candle or the elements. (Spirit seamstresses, do you hear a call?????)
- On September 11, I will meet with the kids and their parents, as we walk through the service and possible ways for them to be involved.
- I’ll type this up afterwards so that kids who are new or are visiting can find a role, and also so that all of us who lead or are at the altar can be consistent in our messages to the children.
- I’ll include a message on kids in our FAQ handout.

The phrase, “It takes a village” can seem like a truism. But it’s true, and it takes a village not just to raise a child, but to “raise” each of us, loving, supporting, challenging. Spirit is our village and I’m thankful for our life together.

Blessings, + Mary Ellen



Dragonboat—
2011

Upcoming Events:

Over these next weeks, we’re doing an “official” signing and info collection in preparation for our first annual meeting. If you won’t be in church, let us know so we can make sure you’re on the list!

- August 28th—Care Center Service at 2 PM.
- August 31st—Bishop’s Committee Meeting—agenda items to Lee or Rolf or Mary Ellen.
- September 11th: 9:45- 10:15 Meeting with children.
- September 18—Annual meeting held after church.
- I’m putting together a Women’s Spirituality Group for Fall—anyone want to sign up?

Please Pray:

- For Lorraine and Jerry as they move to Duluth so that they can be together as they deal with health issues.
- For Beth’s mom and Beth as she cares for her.
- For our summer visitors that they might experience soul nurture while they are with us.