

Wilderness Words



Spirit of the Wilderness

Weekly News—August 24, 2011

Vicar Notes:

The United Church of Canada pastor who visited with her husband last Sunday is on sabbatical. Her sabbatical topic is “Different ways to do church.” I had met her at a clergy women’s gathering in Thunder Bay and after we chatted she wanted to come and visit Spirit of the Wilderness.

Joyce’s visit made me very aware of “different ways we do church.” Before the service I showed her many of our handouts, etc. But I realized during the service that our “different way of doing church” is mostly about attitude—not having to get everything exactly right, being open and welcoming, etc.

She commented to me as they were leaving, “Well, now I have twenty new best friends.” They also offered some musical talents for the next time they visit. And that sums up a lot for me:

1. Our open friendliness.
2. Our offering a place for folks to explore their gifts.

Let’s remember the centrality of these to who we are! There’s a lot to be said for showing up.....

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 in Duluth as they settle into a new situation..
- 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.