

## Wilderness Words



## Spirit of the Wilderness

Weekly News—September 8, 2011

### Vicar Notes:

On Tuesday, we scattered Lizzy's ashes on a distant lake. Lee Stewart's mom, Lizzy, was the kind of person you'd talk about as "a real character." Canoes rafted together by a rocky cliff, we burned some incense and talked about the blessings she had brought into lives—an acceptance of people, a radical simplicity, a consistency of values.

I only met Lizzy after her days of traveling, protesting, being imprisoned for her peace marches was past. At the Care Center she was no longer that person. But hearing about her, considering what she had taught even those of us who had not known her in better days—made me certain of how much difference one person can make in the world. Her sense of adventure, her care for the down and out, her determination, her willingness to live out what she believed—all these are values we could live.

Against the backdrop of my thoughts about 9/11, as we prepare for that anniversary—I'm struck by a couple things:

- None of us know when we will meet our maker—when a tower falls or when we slip into dementia.
- All of us have a chance to live more courageously than we do now—like Lizzy did and like the people on the plane that went down in Pennsylvania did.
- It's good to stop and consider—what a person or an event taught us, before we go on with our busy lives.

—Blessings,

+ Mary Ellen



### 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!

- September 11th: 9:45- 10:15 Meeting with children.
- September 11th: Service of Remembrance and Hope, 10:30
- September 18—Annual meeting held after church.
- October 9th—Blessing of the Animals service, 10:30
- I'm putting together a Women's Spirituality Group for Fall—anyone want to sign up?

### Please Pray:

- Dave Coleman as he prepares for surgery on September 19th in Detroit.
- Lorraine and Jerry in their new home in Duluth.
- For our life together as a church community, as we settle back into a non-summer routine.