

## Wilderness Words



## Spirit of the Wilderness

Weekly News—September 28, 2011

### Vicar Notes:

Walking along the Superior Hiking Trail through a maple forest off the Arrowhead Sunday, I was struck by the amazing sensuality of this season—the loamy smells, the heart-rending oranges against blue sky, sounds of soft breeze in leaves. What an amazing season this is here on the north shore!

So beautiful, but also sad: the leaves won't last long, the sunny days are fleeting. Soon it won't be so hard to stay indoors or to find a parking place!

There's a tiredness from the busy summer season, but also a sense of bracing ourselves for the cold weather, the dark nights.

C.S. Lewis wrote about how as humans we need the patterns of seasons as well as the difference each one brings. Minnesota's intense seasonality—we cannot possibly ignore the seasons like I did when I lived in Cape Town's Mediterranean climate—reminds me that our church year provides the same range of color and mood. As we near the end of the long season after Pentecost, we've been lulled into feeling this might go on forever, but soon we'll be jolted into preparation and repentance in Advent; the joys of Christmas, moving into Epiphany and then Lent...

During the depths of winter we might long for more sunny 70 degree days, but we would hardly notice them without the sub zeros. Similarly the church year invites us to experience the full range of "temperatures"—thus our faith invites us to embrace the wide range of highs and lows of our lives.

—Blessings,

+ Mary Ellen



### Upcoming Events:

- October 9th—Blessing of the Animals service, 10:30 Invite two or four footed friends!
- October 12th—Bishop's Committee Meeting—any agenda items to Lee, Rolf or Mary Ellen.
- Coming soon!—trainings for lectors, leaders and preachers!

**Please bring any older mugs you have for a church collection—we have folks who are willing to take them home and wash them!**

### Please Pray:

- Dave Coleman as he recovers from surgery in Detroit.
- Lorraine and Jerry in their new home in Duluth.
- For Eleanor Matsis, at the Care Center.
- For Beth Lang as she moves from her long term summer home in Grand Marais to Milwaukee.
- For the sale of Carolyn and Milan's house in Montgomery.