

Wilderness Words



Spirit of the Wilderness

Weekly News—October 11, 2011

Vicar Notes:

Our church photographer Ellen Stubbs brought some great pix from our Dragonboat races in July. Two pictures are very similar of our team paddling up to the finish line—our first race and our last one.

But the difference is amazing! In the first one, our paddles are at all different kinds of angles—up, down, over and around. The final one—in which we shaved off lots of time—we are working as one. Our paddles are all in the same position, and we are all bent over cutting into the water.

When I saw these pictures, I was struck by the significance of the pictures. Our individual form and skill in the first race may have been fine, but we were a mess (and pretty slow, too!) The last race saw us working as a team, pulling together, and we could feel the difference. (And so could those who timed the race!)

The same is true in our life together as a community. Our individual form and skill—in anything we do—is fine and good. But what really, really matters is how well we pull together.

We're just at the end of a long tourist season—and one thing we may need to do is to pull back together and remember how to watch each other and think of the whole.

This is in keeping with scripture, in which there are no solitary Christians—those earliest faith communities knew they needed each other, and they needed to paddle together, just as we do. Paddles up!!

—Blessings,

+ Mary Ellen



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

Upcoming Events:

- October 18th: House Blessing at Carolyn and Milan's house—5:30. Potluck.
- Coming soon!—trainings for lectors, leaders and preachers!
- October 28th and 29th—Lee, Mary Ellen and Carolyn will be at Diocesan Convention in the Twin Cities.
- Anyone want to host a November social?