

## Wilderness Words



## Spirit of the Wilderness

Weekly News—July 26, 2010

### Mentor Notes:

Beautiful summer days...and I find myself thinking how life is so rich with wonderful beauty, but also marked by pain and destruction.

One thing I like to do on canoe retreats is to ask questions. Like: It's easier to stay at home than to come into the Wilderness. Why do something hard? What do you learn from doing something hard? What hard challenges have you encountered in your life? In conversations with people around a campfire, on a rock...everyone, it seems, has met up with challenges and disappointments.

In our life as a church, we see the same pattern—the thrilling visit by the bishop, the excitement leading up to Dragonboat, and then people who are sick, like Karl's dad, Lorraine; people who are struggling with a car accident, a beloved pet's illness, unemployment and other of life's ups and downs.

This last trip took us near some of the Ham Lake fire area, with its charred spars of trees, and below lush green undergrowth all around. Such a mixture.

Peace, Mary Ellen+

### Dragonboat—

**Friday July 30** - practice 4:30-6pm. **Parade at 7pm.** All are welcome to walk in the parade whether you are paddling or not.

**Races all day Saturday.** SOTW paddles 10:45 and 1:45 pm, and a third time will probably be added.

This weekend Val will be emailing and mailing specifics on where to meet and what time for both Friday and Saturday; and will have info printed and available at church on Sunday. Call or email her with any questions. This is a great opportunity to let the community and beyond know there is an Episcopal church in Cook County. If you would like, bring cookies/grapes/snacks to share at our "tent" area on Saturday for anyone who might stop by to chat.



### Mark your calendars:

**July 29th: 5:30-6:00** Immigration vigil at Congo church.

**July 31st:** SOTW in the Dragonboat Festival.

**August 1st:** Business meeting cancelled.

**August 2nd:** SOTW at the food shelf.

**August 14-15:** Visiting musician to work with SOTW. Please plan to come to WindCradle with any instruments/voices Saturday 9-12.

**August 25th:** August social at Greg & Coralyn's.

**Oct. 29-30:** We are introduced at The Diocesan Convention in Duluth!!!

### Please pray:

For our presence in Dragonboat, that we may reach out to those around who are spiritually hungry.

Special prayers for Karl's dad, Lorraine, Ross and Denise (injured in a car accident), and for others who are struggling at this time.