

NOVEMBER 8TH 2012

THE SACRED TREE

It may be that some little root of the sacred tree still lives. Nourish it then that it may leaf and bloom and fill with singing birds. --Black Elk

My Dear Friends,

This evening I'm looking out my window here at Holden Village. The aspen trees down the road have mostly lost their leaves now. The tree just below my window is hanging onto its brilliant gold leaves a little longer. It snowed a bit today, and more is predicted. Last week a white hare bounded past me, and a family of deer were grazing a few feet from the back porch. Snow is frosting the peaks that rise above our Village. Every day when I walk out my door, I am struck by beauty, and I am in awe that I get to live here.

Our winter community tends to be fairly progressive, so there was much celebration last night as the results came in from this election. I'm coming to know these new friends....friends of all ages and from all over the country. It's a strange reality that we all know we are temporary...that there will be many goodbyes as people return to their lives outside the Village. We'll be here longer than most. Keeping in touch with our family and friends outside the Village is even more important, since the distance and communication challenges are daunting sometimes.

I'm happy here. I love the rhythm of our life. We work very hard. And we play and laugh and worship together. It binds us as a community. And I love that Scott is happy. I'm enjoying being the postmistress of the Village. And I like being on the program coordination team, helping to plan the events, large and small, that help make this place so unique. There's a women's retreat coming, the Snowdance Film Festival, hopefully a singing weekend, Winter Olympics, Holden-style (power knitting, anyone?), Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas....I will never be bored! I've started a weekly song circle, and have been invited to help with sermons. So I wear many hats! Here's a link to Holden: www.holdenvillage.org where you can watch for updates of events. Come visit!

I love letters! If any of you feel so moved, here's my address: Holden Village, HCO Box 2, Chelan, WA 98816-9769.

I'll be in Edmonds this weekend for a concert on Saturday and a Voices of Compassion workshop on Sunday. The details can be found here: <http://www.lindasongs.com/pages/itinerary.htm>. Also, you can order *Carry Us Through This Night*, the CD and the accompanying songbook, on my web site, with a printable, snail mail ordering form. Here's the link. From here you can listen to song clips, go to the reviews, and go to the order form. <http://www.lindasongs.com/pages/discography.htm>. You can also listen to more song clips at CDBaby, and you can use a credit card and order that way: <http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/lindaallen5>. I'm really proud of this book and CD. My hope and prayer has been that these songs would be of use, so I am just delighted when I hear of ways that the songs have been healing for someone.

I'm remembering a song I wrote some time back. I do so love the trees here! Here's the first verse:

*Sometimes I'm cedar with rain in my hair
Roots growing deeper with each passing year*

*Sometimes I'm willow, I bend with the wind
Sheltering my children 'til the sun comes again*

Deep peace of the Village to you –
Linda