

## **SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT: 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2009**

### **What is most important for you?**

*'Money doesn't make the world go round'* read the headline of the *collegetherald* Tuesday 18th this week. This article was full of the fearless questions of youth: is success measured only by the width of your wallet; what good is money if you don't have your health; what are the important things in life? Searching questions, all tumbling over one another. All food for thought in a week where we are being urged to sign on to the 2020, 20% emissions reduction target. There is pressure to take action urgently in the interests of supporting the earth's endeavors to heal itself from our destructive excesses. And the dismissive response "NZ can't afford it" from our key delegate to the Copenhagen Conference. In the same week, we are being persuaded that it is in our best interests to send combat troops to Afghanistan at the urging of the UA government. Never mind the human rights attitude of the régime there that we are defending. It has passed legislation reducing women to a place of less value than sheep or goats or useful inanimate household objects. It seems we are being persuaded by the media and our leaders to believe that business interests and alliances and the money they circulate, are indeed what makes the world go round. I wonder how we will answer the question of the young generation "what should we value?" I wonder too how we will answer the charge of our creation stories to be good stewards of the earth and all its creatures, and Jesus' charge to love our neighbour as ourselves. For those of us who have chosen the path of Christian spirituality, waking up to the wisdom of our creation myths and to our own capacity to embody the divine is worth attending too. When we are awestruck at the generosity of the earth to sustain life and at our interdependence with all humanity for mutual wellbeing, and knowing that we too are *humans from the humus* in a Hebrew play on words found in Genesis, then we experience wonder and we touch the sacred. What for you makes the world go round?

**Susan**