



Good News

SEPTEMBER 2022

From the Rector: A Month of Miracles

I experienced a miracle this week that I want to share with you.

Recently, an opportunity, born of a meal I had with a Catholic priest and friend, arose for our friend Laura and her family, who once lived with us in sanctuary. As you might recall, our dear Mary Provins taught Laura how to make handmade chocolates while she was with us at St. Andrew, and Laura has subsequently made chocolates for friends and neighbors, as she has been able, to help support herself and her children while she awaits her U-Visa (now pending for 5 years.)



During my recent dinner with the aforementioned pastor, I shared Laura's story. The pastor, who serves a very large parish in Cuyahoga County, offered to give Laura a monthly opportunity to offer her chocolates to the parish, expand her circle of friends and neighbors, and share her story of faith and perseverance with the community. Laura gladly accepted.

In order to make the volume of chocolates needed for her first visit to the parish, Laura got to work. In the process of doing so, she learned that bulk chocolate costs have risen considerably since the last time she had been able to make them and that the funds she had available to purchase chocolate were far less than she needed. We consulted, I consulted with others, and

FROM THE RECTOR (CONTINUED)

we commiserated. It looked as if Laura's wonderful opportunity to gain greater self-sufficiency during her time of waiting was stalled before it had even started.

Then yesterday, out of the blue, an acquaintance who had attended our sanctuary concerts some years ago, unexpectedly appeared at my office door with an envelope full of money. She and I had talked briefly several months ago, long before this chocolate-making opportunity arose, and I had at that time up-dated my friend on Laura's status. It was great to catch up, she wished Laura well, but we hadn't talked since.

The arrival on my doorstep of this good-hearted person, with an envelope full of cash (more than I'd ever held in my hands before), on a particular day of challenge for Laura, when I could offer her nothing, felt like a miracle.

God does answer prayer. I don't know the rhyme or reason of it, and I don't need to, do I? All I need to do is welcome God's presence, God's consolation, and God's help which comes in the form of a stranger, a friend, or an acquaintance with the face of Christ and an envelope stuffed with just what Laura child of God needed to, by grace, move forward.

Do you have a miracle story too? We'd love to hear it! Let's make September a month of miracles, born of grace. In the words of Albert Einstein, who shared his gifts so generously with us all "There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle." As always, the choice is yours to make.

Miracles

Walt Whitman - 1819-1892

Why, who makes much of a miracle?

*As to me I know of nothing else but
miracles,*

*Whether I walk the streets of
Manhattan,*

*Or dart my sight over the roofs of houses
toward the sky,*

*Or wade with naked feet along the beach
just in the edge of the water,*

Or stand under trees in the woods,

*Or talk by day with any one I love, or
sleep in the bed at night with any one I
love,*

Or sit at table at dinner with the rest,

*Or look at strangers opposite me riding
in the car,*

*Or watch honey-bees busy around the
hive of a summer forenoon,*

Or animals feeding in the fields,

*Or birds, or the wonderfulness of insects
in the air,*

*Or the wonderfulness of the sundown, or
of stars shining so quiet and bright,*

*Or the exquisite delicate thin curve of the
new moon in spring;*

*These with the rest, one and all, are to
me miracles,*

*The whole referring, yet each distinct
and in its place.*

*To me every hour of the light and dark is
a miracle,*

Every cubic inch of space is a miracle,

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*Every square yard of the surface of the earth is spread
with the same,*

Every foot of the interior swarms with the same.

To me the sea is a continual miracle,

*The fishes that swim—the rocks—the motion of the
waves—the ships with men in them,*

What stranger miracles are there?

BRUNCH CELEBRATION

Please join us on September 18th for a Potluck Brunch celebrating the Rev. Dawson Moore! Rev. Dawson has



recently been called as the Priest in Charge at Christ Episcopal Church in Geneva. While Dawson will have many new obligations at Christ Episcopal, he will continue to worship with us

when able.

Join us immediately following the service for food and cake. Brunch potluck items are welcome.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!

Please contact the church office if you are able to help out in these ways: Office Assistant, Lectors for Sunday Services, Guns to Gardens program.

September Celebrations

Birthdays

- 04 Shirley Poitras
- 05 Judy Cudnik
- 05 Samia Bishara
- 07 Meg Nemeth
- 08 Frank Fecser
- 16 Jackson Frantisak
- 20 Dorothy Hickey
- 21 Heather Catlett
- 23 Richard Ezzo
- 23 Michael Bailey
- 26 Candace McCready
- 27 Debra Perse

Anniversaries

- 09 Brian & Micki Rotz
- 27 Tom & Joan Lally

HARVEST CELEBRATION

We are having a cook out with our panty guests and volunteers on Wednesday, September 28th and you are welcome to join us! Hamburgers and hotdogs will be provided. Side dishes would be appreciated for this event which will run from 6 to 8 pm.

St. Andrew Episcopal Church, 7989 Little Mountain Road, Mentor, Ohio 44060
standrewmentor@gmail.com - 440.255.8842

Important Dates in September

- 4 Sunday Worship Indoors 10:30 am
- 4 Food Pantry 1 – 3 pm
- 12 Ladies Bible Study 1 – 2 pm
- 13 Food Pantry 1 – 3 pm
- 11 Sunday Worship Outdoors 10:30 am
- 12 Ladies Bible Study 1 – 2 pm
- 17 Guns to Gardens 11 – 1 pm
- 18 Sunday Worship Indoors 10:30 am with Celebration Brunch following
- 19 Ladies Bible Study 1 – 2 pm
- 21 Vestry Meeting 6:30 pm
- 25 Sunday Worship Outdoors 10:30 am
- 26 Ladies Bible Study 1 – 2 pm
- 28 Harvest Celebration 6 – 8 pm
- 18 Sunday Worship Indoors 10:30 am

CHOIR NEWS

SING A NEW SONG TO THE LORD. (PSALM 98)

It is indeed time for our choir to sing some “New Songs!” How great it would be if a few new members were to join us in singing those new “New Songs.” Our small choir does a great job in presenting their anthems, yet they are well aware of how nice it would be to have a few more voices to blend in with the sound. Singing in choir is really a beautiful ministry. We get to encounter some wonderful music, frequently straight from scripture. We get to experience it in

meaningful ways, that in turn enrich our lives and our spirits. Folks often say “Oh, you don’t want my voice in choir.” I’ve heard that so many times. Truth is, the chances are that if you like to sing in the shower, you most likely would enjoy expanding your repertoire in choir, where you actually get to sing some of those “New Songs”! You do not need to have a music degree or to audition. Just give it some thought and prayer, and come to a few rehearsals and see what choir is like, behind the scenes.

We invite anyone who might be interested in finding out what choir rehearsals are like, to come join us a few times. What you would need to know is that we rehearse on Thursday nights, in the choir room from 7:30 to 9:00. We go over the hymns and liturgy, and focus on upcoming anthems which are presented during the traditional services on the first and third Sundays of the month. We frequently have a warmup session on those Sundays at 9:45, before the 10:30 service. Chances are you would enjoy our choir rehearsals. They are usually well-organized, but relaxed, with plenty of time for questions, sharing, and laughter. Why not just ask one of our members, for their input, rather than getting my one-sided opinion. However, feel free to call me if you want to get some more choir- related details. (Eunice May at 440-357-5680.)

Our rehearsals will start on Thursday Sept. 8, and again the next Thursday, 7:30 in the choir room. That gives us two

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weeks to prepare an offertory anthem for Sun. Sept. 18. I hope that everyone can be there and that perhaps we will be blessed with a few new voices. Please think about it. May we All have a chance to "Sing a New Song to the Lord."

Blessings to all, Eunice

VESTRY NOTES

Important Roof News:

The roof is in need of repair. Your vestry has obtained three quotes for the repair of 2 flat roof sections (a third section was previously repaired.) We selected the lowest bid of approximately \$53,000. Additionally, the slate roof over sanctuary is also in need of repairs of about \$6000. This will cover fixing the leak, replacement of damaged tiles, and an emergent repair to prevent a collapse.



We are applying for a Diocesan grant. If approved, the grant will provide for one third of the cost as a grant, and one third of the cost as a loan. The parish will be responsible for the remaining third.

It is anticipated that rent from the nursery school will cover loan payments. Some funds may also be available from the Endowment Fund. Donations towards the costs are also highly welcome!

In addition to the roof, the Worman room is undergoing renovation, some dead trees on the property are going

to be removed, and updates to the landscaping at the front of the church are ongoing.

Please let Rev. Lisa know if there are any other items you would like the vestry to address.

GUNS TO GARDENS



Our Guns to Gardens event is fast approaching on Saturday September 17th from 11 am to 1 pm. Volunteers are needed throughout that time to assist. Please contact Rev. Lisa or the church office if you can volunteer!

Additionally, please post information about this event on social media (Twitter, Facebook groups and personal pages.) A flyer and additional information can be found on the St. Andrew website at:

<https://www.standrew-mentor.com/>

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