

Faith In Practice

Life Changing Medical Mission



The Promise We Hold

**“For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb.
I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made.”
Psalm 139:13-14**

**“We have been made for the fullness of life that
can only be realized in love.”
Pope Francis**

You can hear it, can you not, the Psalmist’s astonished almost child-like wonder? “You know this heart that beats within me better than I do, O God.” Can you not also hear the promise shimmering in the words? “What will you do, O God, with this mysterious and wonderful and burgeoning life that you have created in me?”

The essence of each elusive, mysterious, and astounding life. Fearfully and wonderfully made. Created for a life that can only be fully realized in love, as Pope Francis wisely adds.

Your life, fearfully and wonderfully made. Created to be fully realized in, and by, love.

This pandemic has been an awkward and at times, violent dance, it seems. We have been wrenched from moments of paralyzing uncertainty to moments of soaring possibility and back again. From one moment of gaping emptiness suddenly transformed to a moment of reimagined vista in the next. And back again. And again.

Through it all, it seems to have cracked us open, laid us bare. I know it has done so for me. It has left me uncomfortably bare and exposed, clumsy, off-kilter. And, yet, it has been in this very place, the only place, if I am to be honest, where I just might be ready to allow the Psalmist’s wonder in. Where I might whisper these ancient words as my own. The place where I might listen for the beat of my own heart and hear in it the promise it holds. Where I might whisper, “O God, you who have created me, how shall you lead me into fullness of life? A full life fully realized in your love?”

So, as together we leave the vestiges of COVID-19 behind, as we mourn what it has taken from us, as we honor what it has given us, I hope you will join me in asking these questions. I hope you will join me in the promise that God holds out to each one of us, the promise that resides in our own hearts. Fullness of life realized in love. As we tentatively, boldly, live into the promise to become all who God has created each one of us to be. Who we were meant to be all along.

In humble gratitude,

Rev. Linda L. McCarty

Questions to Consider

Do you ever stop, astonished, by the life that courses through you? Do you ask yourself what is it that God created in your inmost being, intricately knit in the heart of you? How can you, in this knowledge, embrace fullness of life, your true purpose, in a new way?

Can you see yourself through God’s eyes? In God’s eyes? What do you see? What promise do you see deep inside you that waits to be fulfilled, realized in love?

Volunteer teams are now serving in Guatemala once again. As they return, there is a tenderness, a wonder, in them. And many tears. A coming home. Home to Guatemala and somehow a coming home to self in a very special and intimate way. I think it is because it is through this mission that they find themselves becoming more ‘fully realized in love’. Thank you being a part of that miracle.



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