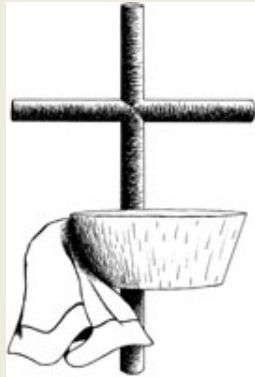


# DEACON UPDATE



## MIRACLES

December 2012

Advent is full of miracles, isn't it? Angels appearing fairly regularly with unbelievable messages to share, women giving birth under unusual circumstances, the least likely people as key players in events that change the course of history. As we hear the Story, one we know by heart, do we take the time to experience the wonder of those miracles?

There are miracles today, too, of course, even if you personally haven't experienced one. Or have you? Hear these words from a Lemony Snicket children's book called *The Lump of Coal*:

"It is a miracle if you can find true friends, and it is a miracle if you have enough food to eat, and it is a miracle if you get to spend your days and evenings doing whatever it is you like to do, and the holiday season - like all the other seasons - is a good time not only to tell stories of miracles, but to think about the miracles in your own life, and to be grateful for them."

Advent is a season of miracles, a time of hope, a calendar page when keeping the faith may come a bit easier; but, as Mr. Snicket suggests, all of the seasons are good times to remember the miracles in our lives. As people called to care for others, let's take better care to appreciate all of the little miracles in our own everyday lives, to remember our faith in things unseen. Let's share the stories of our miracles, big and small, so that others might begin to recognize their own miracles, and have faith that things can be different.

—OVER—

*Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.*

— Hebrews 11:1

Many blessings to you in this holy season of miracles.

In the peace of Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna Kline". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of "Donna" and "Kline" being capitalized and prominent.

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