



WONDER IN ALL

The Bread of Wonder

*a reflection by
the Rev. Deacon Katherine Ferguson*

The Beatitudes bring me up short every time. When I was a child, I thought I had it made! I was poor, and a big treat was playing with the little boy who lived behind my uncle's house where I lived with my mom and grandparents. Our special lunch was a mustard and sugar sandwich on Wonder bread!

Mom taught Sunday School where I learned about the Beatitudes. I was poor, but I had food. When I went to school, I was picked on by many of the children so there was a lot of crying and weeping both at school and when I went to bed. I remember one bully who attacked me with a crescent wrench. Yes, I was positive that Jesus was talking to me through the Beatitudes!

My life has changed significantly since then. I live comfortably, I have food. I graduated Deacons' School after 27 months of study and many, many years of discernment, and have recently celebrated the first anniversary of my ordination.

I try to treat others as I would want to be treated. There are still people who trouble me, but the Holy Spirit has taught me how to pray for them. Am I always successful? No. But when I fail, I return to God in prayer, asking both for forgiveness for not

having lived up to the lessons of the Beatitudes, and the strength to keep on trying.

It is during this Stewardship season, that I feel called to reassess where I am in my life. What am I doing and how I am giving my time, talent, and treasure, to ensure that the church is able to continue God's work through Jesus — at this time, on this earth? Is there a way that I can do more to help the church move forward?

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry tweeted in October 2016, that, "The ministry of the Deacon is to help us as the Church move out from beyond our doors, to follow Jesus out in the world." I was so moved by this that I had it framed and it is at both my desk at my secular job, and on the wall in my office at church. They are constant reminders to me to reach out to people, to be able to make a difference in their lives, to help them see the "Wonder in all."



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Diaconate and a member of the Association of Episcopal Deacons, "whose mission is to increase participation and involvement of all baptized persons in Christ's diaconal ministry."

All Saints Day

Luke 6:20-31



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Reflection Questions

1. How do you apply, in today's world, Jesus' instruction to, "Do to others as you would have them do to you" ?
2. How can you follow Jesus out into the world, and what are you being called to do?
3. Who are your enemies and how can you love them?

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