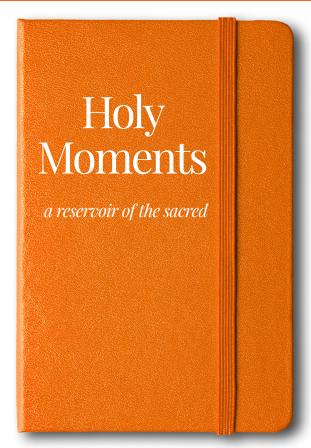


WAYZATA COMMUNITY CHURCH

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Holy Moments... they might also be described as those times when God simply winked

BY JAKE BEARD, WCC MEMBER

You, no doubt, remember the story about the guy who was running late for an important meeting but found the streets to be packed with nowhere to park. "Please, please, dear God. I'm desperate and can NOT afford to miss this one. If you can help, I promise to never miss church again; I'll even stop swearing and I'll tithe every year from now on." At that precise moment, a car began to pull away from the curb directly in front of him. "Oh, never mind what I was saying, Lord. Someone's just leaving so I'll simply duck in there. Thanks anyway."

In real life, some would describe what happened as pure luck or perhaps dumb luck. Others might look at it as merely a coincidence. Still others... who have their antenna properly affixed... recognize it as perhaps another time when God chose to remain anonymous.

Hasn't this happened to all of us? Of course, it has. And, it doesn't have to be all that complicated. Think about the time someone with whom you connect was going through your mind and suddenly your phone rang. Sure enough, there they were. In typical

fashion, you were both surprised for about a nanosecond, laughed, smiled, felt refreshed and moved on to the topic du jour.

I had one the other day, too. While sending an electronic Love Letter to a dear friend about to retire from a local non-profit, the same magic happened. A book was being assembled as a way of saying "Thanks." (Fortunately, someone recognized that unexpressed gratitude doesn't carry much weight.) The e-instructions said each participant's letter was limited to a max of 1000 characters. That included spaces, periods and any other punctuations. There was even a counter in the lower right corner of the screen. Midway through this note, I noticed the counter was actually keeping score. When completed, I happened to glance at the tally. It was exactly at 1000! I even tried typing a couple more letters to see what would happen.

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