

Counselor's Corner: A New Thing

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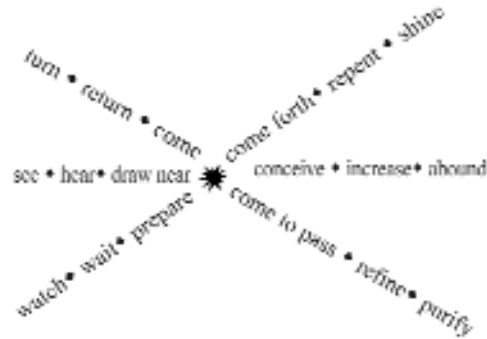
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The traditional texts read during Advent are some of the most beautiful prose and poetry in all of scripture. The verbs and phrases, if we truly listen, can stun us with their words and images of change, surprise and motion, of a new order and way of being. The anticipation and waiting of Advent is a time of hoping, believing, counting on the new thing God is doing in our midst.



Margaret McCray



The wolf shall dwell with the lamb—the leopard lie down with the kid— a little child shall lead them
 eyes of the blind opened— ears of the deaf unstopped
 a virgin shall conceive
 streams in the desert
 the proud scattered — the mighty put down
 the rich sent empty away
 every valley lifted up — mountains and hills made low
 Prince of Peace
 the hungry filled
 I am about to do a new thing
 wait for new heavens and a new earth
 word made flesh

God is doing a new thing everyday. The birth of the Christ Child is God's wake up call that things will not be the same. Expect the unexpected. Change is the nature of God's creation.

We are created such that our own physical and emotional reality is one of constant change—bidden and unbidden. Cells divide, die and new cells are born. Knowledge increases. Relationships evolve. Families grow. Communities strive. Bodies age. Opinions shift. Circumstances change. Faith deepens. Doubts arise. Pain happens. Wisdom comes. Joy erupts. Love abounds.

God is constant, making the kaleidoscope of change bearable, even welcome, for it is the essence of what it means to be human.

Watch, wait, prepare. This is the Advent of Life abundant. This is the Advent of the Light that darkness cannot overcome. This is the Advent of our Christ! God is doing a new thing! See! Hear! Come!

Historic Height Theater Benefit Raised Funds for Foodshelf
 Westminster's benefit showing of "The Sound of Music" at the Historic Heights Movie Theater supported the Groveland Food Shelf to the tune of \$1,408.74! With so much need, especially as winter arrives, it is particularly important to keep the food shelves stocked. Thanks to so many people who contributed to this annual event and we hope you enjoyed the movie as well. If you have suggestions for next year's film, contact Randy Greene—he's already on the lookout for next year's classic film.

Parking Reminder

There are three areas of underground parking available on Sundays. When you enter the underground lot, the large area in the middle level is for handicapped parking. The upper section (where staff parks during the week) is for seniors and those with handicaps. The lower section is available to all, especially families with young children.