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August 15, 2022

Greetings St. Liz,

The Woods family is very excited to begin our time with you this coming week. It has been a long hot summer for us as I am sure it has been the same for you.

I am writing this after standing outside with our oldest daughter, Harper, as we watched a nice little summer rainstorm pour down upon us. It was just long enough that it knocked the heat out of the air and left a cool breeze in its wake. It was cool enough that we actually felt like spending more than ten minutes outside after the storm passed.

As I stood and listened quietly, it was almost as if I could hear the ground take a deep sigh of relief. I could hear kids playing in the water as it ran down the curbs of our street. I could hear the birds excitedly flap and flit in the puddles which remained, still untouched by the thirst of the dry ground. It was a reprieve. And one to give thanks for to be sure.

This summer I have spent a couple of different weeks working at two of our diocesan camps. Both of those weeks I spoke about perspective. I talked about the many things we see and encounter during our days which we can easily take for granted but if we take a moment to notice those things, if we change our perspective for even just a short moment, our encounter and our understanding might change too. We begin to notice how God is making all things new in even the smallest and sometimes unnoticeable ways. God is making new things as we come to the end of this summer and begin a new season of school and a new journey together at St. Liz.

We will give thanks for this new time together by asking God's blessing on our students, parents, and teachers on my first Sunday serving as your vicar at St. Liz - Aug. 21st. If you are a student, bring your backpack and we will ask God's blessing upon it and you, as you embark on a new year of learning and growing.

May we all notice where God is making new things in our lives and in the lives we encounter each day.

Peace,

Fr. Mike+

The Rev. Mike Woods, Vicar  
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