

MY GOD MOMENTS

THE TIMES IN MY LIFE WHEN I FEEL THE PRESENCE OF GOD

by Maria Cirillo-Lein



I am very blessed to have a home on the Elk River. Whenever I take a moment to look at the river, I am struck with awe and I become mindful of God. (And that's a lot of God moments because the entire front of our house opens to the river.) I encounter God in the glory of creation, whether it is sunny, cloudy, rainy, foggy, snowy, windy, icy, drizzly; you name it: there is God!

In every season there is always something to notice when I reflect upon the river: a heron homing at day's end, a diving duck with its tail feathers on end, a hummingbird hovering near the honeysuckle, an osprey building a nest or feeding its young, a woodpecker peck-peck-pecking at a dead branch, a majestic bald eagle swooping up into a tree. And not just flora, fauna or feathered friends, most often I notice the tides, the flow, and the light: the sunlight or the moonlight, shimmering across the water; the light of dawn reflected between the clouds; yes, even the lack of light, the total darkness, but for the pier lights. Even the cloudiest, foggiest day reminds me of the beauty and the wonder that is always there, but sometimes not seen, just as God's love is always there, but at times not perceived.

I especially love the time between first light and sunrise. The colors of dawn are amazingly spectacular: bright yellows, fiery oranges, warm magentas, deep blues and purples. On a clear day the sun creeps over the horizon and a shaft of light reflects across the water. As pictured to the right, day after day God becomes manifest and shines "i," or better "I am." And as I have grown in faith and become more convinced that I am a beloved child of God; that we are the beloved children of God, made in God's image, I remind myself that "I, too, am." "I am enough. I am so enough. It is unbelievable how enough I am." That you are; that we are so unbelievably enough, in all of our shortcomings and imperfections, all created in this blindingly beautiful image of God.



The upcoming Day Retreat, "Streams of Living Water," will be held at our river house at 14 Park Lane, Elkton, MD 21921, on Friday, May 31st from 9:30am-3:30pm, as a benefit to Oasis Ministries. Take time this season to be still and know. Come to the water and drink in God's Spirit.