

Pastor Brian Goke
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Living Amazed

This past week, while attending the annual Leadership Conference for the Southeastern Synod at Lutheridge, I took advantage of the beautiful fall weather during our mid-week afternoon break, and went exploring in the mountains surrounding Asheville, NC. Clearly I was at the right place at the right time. While the trees had not fully peaked in colored at the lower altitudes, I did experience some incredible hues of yellows and reds as I climbed higher in elevation. In fact, at around 6,000 feet, the colors were downright brilliant and the views from the vistas were gorgeous. The air was crisp and clear with all the smells of autumn. It was a day of wonder and amazement.

In Matthew 22, Jesus was having a discussion with a group of people who were wrestling with challenges in their lives. "When they heard this answer, they were amazed, and left him and went away." The people were amazed by what they heard and saw in their encounter with Jesus. They were amazed! The challenge for you and me in life's journey is to live with wonder and amazement. God has given each one of us tremendous blessings and much for which to be thankful. My prayer for each one of us this week is that we would have eyes to see all the wonders of God's goodness in our lives, and be amazed.