



*And Mary said,
“My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God
my Savior...” Luke 1:46-47, NRSV*

Dear St. Augustine’s ‘ohana,

As Christians we are story tellers. We have an ancient narrative that describes the beginning of time and the relationship between God and God’s Creation. We see this story grow through the prophetic tradition until our story recounts the life and gifts of the Son of God. But the story doesn’t end with the Resurrection just as it did not end with the Cross. **The story continues on in each of us today** as we encounter and are transformed by the Good News.

In the Gospel of Luke, two women share their stories of faith and good news.

Mary the mother of Jesus tells us of her encounter with the Divine who informs her that she will bear a child who will change the world. She proclaims her joy: “Tell out my soul! The Greatness of the Lord!” At the end of the Gospel, Mary Magdalene visits the tomb to discover it empty and receives instructions from the Risen Christ to go tell the others. She carries this Good News with jubilation to the Disciples.

What is your story? What is your Good News to share? What is the idea, dream, or challenge placed in your heart by God that that could be shared? How is God calling you to share your talents, gifts, and love with our Kohala neighbors?

Our Stewardship Campaign this year focuses on these stories – the ones inside you, the ones you are still writing, the ones we tell about those who have gone before us. We are all a part of this ongoing narrative – the ongoing Creation. **As you pray about how you will share your gifts in 2026, think about how God is calling you to tell out your soul and spread the Good News.** As you hear the stories we share each week in October, I hope you’ll reflect on your own story and recognize the many ways you already share God’s love in our community.

With gratitude,
Vicar Jennifer +