**Discerning the sacred in life: 5-27-14**

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**A** few days ago [**here**](http://billtammeus.typepad.com/my_weblog/2014/05/5-1718-14.html) on the blog, I offered you brief descriptions of a pile of new books, some of which you might want to consider putting on your summer reading stack.

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But I held one out of the stack because I wanted to give it separate attention -- and not just because the co-authors are friends of mine but because it has a message that deserves separate attention.

[***Everyday Wonder: From Kansas to Kenya, From Ecuador to Ethiopia***](http://www.amazon.com/Everyday-Wonder-Kansas-Ecuador-Ethiopia/dp/149529398X/ref%3Dsr_1_1_title_0_main?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1400697821&sr=1-1&keywords=Everyday+Wonder%3A+From+Kansas+to+Kenya%2C+From+Ecuador+to+Ethiopia), by Priscilla H. Wilson and Kaze Gadway, speaks to us of being sensitive to the sacred in everyday things and events.

Kaze and Priscilla, both of whom have participated in at least one writing class I've taught at Ghost Ranch ([**I'll teach there again in August**](http://billtammeus.typepad.com/my_weblog/2008-ghost-ranch-class.html)), have known each other a long time -- since the 1960s. And together they've been involved in various kinds of church work and ministries.

The book is a recounting of some of that with special attention given to the idea of being mindful and noticing the presence of the divine.

Priscilla's words about the unexpected death of her husband Rodney and Kaze's words about her ministry to Native American women who have been physically and emotionally abused by members of their families are especially moving.

There are heavy moments of sorrow and angst in this book as well as light moments that help to provide perspective. In the latter category I especially liked Priscilla's short tale about seeing a mother mallard with a dozen offspring crossing a busy road in traffic where Priscilla lived and Priscilla's efforts to get them all safely to a creek a few blocks away.

Albert Einstein is quoted as saying this: "There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle. The other is as though everything is a miracle."

Priscilla and Kaze tend to be in the latter camp, and this book is their testimony to what they've have seen.

Read more here: http://billtammeus.typepad.com/my\_weblog/2014/05/5-27-14.html#storylink=cpy