

Minister's Article for April, 2026

What if a hundred rose-breasted grosbeaks flew in circles around your head?

What if the mockingbird came into the house with you and became your advisor?

What if the bees filled your walls with honey and all you needed to do was ask them and they would fill the bowl?

*What if the brook slid downhill just past your bedroom window so you could listen to its slow prayers as you fell asleep? ... – Excerpt from *Blue Iris* by Mary Oliver.*

A few years ago, I spent a night at a resort in Arizona. When I climbed out of bed the next morning, I was very cranky. I hadn't slept well. "That stupid air conditioner was running all night," I complained. "It was so loud that I couldn't sleep a wink." My spouse, the recipient of my monstrous bad mood said, "The air conditioner was not on last night. Look. The window is open. What you heard and what we are both hearing right now is the water running in that creek just outside this room." I was so shocked.

Instead of focusing on my assumption that the air conditioner was running, I wish I had explored to see if I was correct. I bet my experience would have been totally different if, in those dark sleepless hours, I had told myself, "I am so lucky. I get to listen to the creek just outside the window. It's like camping under a vast blanket of stars without all the bugs."

April's theme is "Embracing Possibility." What would it mean to test an assumption and to change a thought pattern? How might our lives be enriched if we questioned more and paused to consider a different perspective?

This month, I wish you countless moments of assumption-busting beauty.

- Reverend Amy Kindred