

A Sermon on Neighborly Gratitude

Sermon by Rev. Minister Angela Smith of COPE for July 7th, 2024 (and beyond)

This sermon is in hypothetical question format and is based on a true story.

HYPOTHETICAL QUESTION:

Scenario: There is a new product at the grocery store that is your new favorite. You'd never heard of it before seeing it on the shelf. Once you tried it, you decided it was a new staple for your household. That product that you love so much was a special request from one of your neighbors who asked the store to carry it. Would you appreciate your neighbors more or less if they were responsible for your new favorite? Would you appreciate the new favorite less depending on which neighbor recommended it even if it now establishes some common ground in terms of taste?

Meditate on this as long as you wish. I'm grateful to whomever asked Safeway to carry Cinnabon Swirls in the freezer section. If it was you, thank you. I thank Cinnabon for creating a frozen line and all the workers at Cinnabon and all the farmers and refineries that participate in the availability of that product. I thank other consumers who also enjoy that product making sure it remains accessible, available, and reasonably priced. For all I know, that likely includes some of my neighbors. So, I thank them too.

For those interested in starting #TaoFu Self-Defense Exercises, please see <https://www.cope.church/taofu.htm> and begin at any time.

There are opportunities to send messages, receive mystery bonus blessings, and more with or without donating available now on our "Pass the Basket" page at <https://www.cope.church/basket.htm> . Thank You.

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32 KJV Willful blindness is an abomination.

COPE accepts Feedback, critical and complimentary. Learn more at <https://www.cope.church/feedback.htm> . For the sake of keeping myself and others humble, a sense of humor is welcome on all sides.