

Beyond Stroke

by Peter Covington

I haven't shared this very widely but shortly before I came to MCCDC, I suffered a stroke. I did therapy and recuperated over time. Now, two years later, I am doing much better.

I didn't suffer any physical disability, which was a blessing, but my organizing of time and space was messed up in my head, and sometimes I just felt lost. Now I can witness my mind running along where I used to fear to tread and proceed with confidence on logistics and timetables and even MATH!



It is an awesome gift to be one's self and be able to manage one's own affairs, and a blessing to be able to know and plan for the future—with enough sense to know the parable about the best laid plans of mice and men. Indeed to know who I am as an

out, gay and free, child of God is a beautiful gift, as is being an artist, even in a confining office which values conformity and maximizes performance.

If there is a silver lining to my experiencing a stroke, it is that now more than ever I thank God for the gift God gives me every day that my hands and feet and mouth work and that my fingers can make my computer work, to share what I have inside with others. It is a gift to be able to move ideas from my head onto a page and for those ideas and words to be presented to others in an article or book or a performance. It feels like a miracle.

And so I am. I am the gift that God has given and continues to give every day, and I give God praise!