

## From My Window

Years ago, when I was a student at The University of Texas Austin, I saw on each class day the inspiring sculpture outside the College of Business Administration created by Charles Umlauf. This magnificent bronze reinforced by conviction that we should all work, whatever our speciality, for family health and happiness. Charles Umlauf, who died in 1994, joined the UT faculty in 1941 and taught for 40 years.



Today the Austin Chronicle published this photo of a sculpture now on display in the Umlauf Sculpture Garden. Entitled "Slippery Clump," and created by Shanie Tomassini, this sculpture won the 2018 Umlauf Prize-winning show (<https://>

[www.austinchronicle.com/arts/2018-10-26/shanie-tommasini-slippery-clump-at-the-umlauf/?mc\\_cid=bdedee7b6c&mc\\_eid=e60dc5e432](http://www.austinchronicle.com/arts/2018-10-26/shanie-tommasini-slippery-clump-at-the-umlauf/?mc_cid=bdedee7b6c&mc_eid=e60dc5e432)



Our Christian tradition continues to be enriched by the visions of those we call “seers” (or “prophets”). Enabled by the gift of the Spirit, these women and men see what is happening in our country, our world, our lives.

From my window I see that artists today are seeing trouble for our culture and country. As Christians, we are called to uphold and nurture the family and to care for the planet. We are called to do what we can to stop global warming and to nurture loving family relationships.

Here is a prayer for artists:

God of life, you filled the world with beauty.  
Thank you for artists who see clearly,  
who with trained skill can paint, shape, or sing your truth to us.  
Keep them attentive and ready to applaud the wonder of your works,  
finding in the world signs of the love revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

(Source: Presbyterian Church. *Book of Common Worship* (p. 524). Presbyterian Publishing. Kindle Edition.)