

HEALING OF HAND DEFORMITY AND DYSFUNCTION BY THE TRUE CROSS OF CHRIST

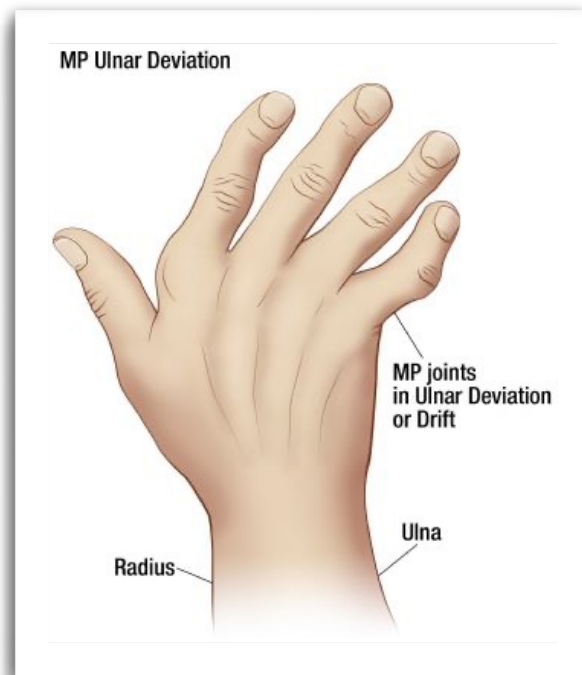
—The testimony of Eleni Karaiskos—

My name is Eleni Karaiskos and I am 62 years old. For over a year, I have not been able to use my right hand. On the side and top of my index finger, it felt and looked like a bone was bulging out. My four fingers (all except my thumb) were crooked going to the right. No matter how hard I tried I could not straighten out my fingers. I could not bend my fingers into my palm. I could not make a fist. My two fingers, the index and the middle finger, could not separate. My ring finger and pinky were being pushed by my index and middle finger so much to the right that I was unable to use them or move them. I could not pick up objects with that hand, open water bottles, cans, or jars. I could not put on shoes or clothes using that hand. I could not use that hand to wash my hair or even clap. Tasks such as baking, cooking, and cleaning became a challenge using my left hand.

Two weeks ago, my husband was not feeling well so we went to NY Presbyterian hospital. After the emergency room physician (Dr. Zinc) examined my husband, my daughter showed the physician my hand. She asked him why my hand was like this, and if there was any therapy for it. The doctor told me (in front of my daughter, son, and husband who were there) that there is no therapy for my hand, and that it could worsen with time. I asked her does this have to do with arthritis and she nodded her head yes. She also said, like a bunion on a foot, you can have surgery but it is not a guarantee that it would not come back or worsen in time again.

On Sunday May 22, 2011, I went to Saint Nektarios to be blessed by and venerate the True Cross of Christ. Before the Father crossed my hand, I told him of the problem I had with my hand. The Father took my hand and began to bless and cross it using the True Cross. I asked him if he could do it again and indeed he did. When I left the church I went to the bookstore where I purchased a few items. I was speaking with Father Michael and I told him briefly about my hand. He put his hand over my hand. I then continued to walk through the bookstore and I began to feel a strange sensation in my hand—I have never felt anything

like that before. A few minutes later as we sat in the car to begin our trip home I began to feel the strange sensation grow even stronger. Moments after being in the car my index finger for the first time in over a year began to move and part from my middle finger. Before we got home all my fingers were separated and became straight. All my fingers were straight. My fingers were able to bend. I was able to make a fist. I was able to open my water bottle. I felt the inside of my fingers, soft and white. I kept rubbing my hand and thanking God for the miracle He had given me. I was flooded with joy and emotion. So much emotion that I couldn't speak and tell my son and daughter the miracle that had just occurred. I just kept kissing my hand and thanking God. When we got home I was finally able to speak of my miracle, and I told my family about it. I showed everyone my hand and we all thanked God for the miracle that He performed.



Ulnar deviation is a chronic, irreversible condition.