

CUMC NEWS
March 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

There are some things to remember on a daily basis that helps us focus on living for God, for loving God and others. Focusing well and setting our hearts, minds, and spirits on seeking first the kingdom of God allows for us to have more of what Christ wants us to have in life, the very things that are most important and that bless everything and everyone else in our lives.

Some of the things I remember on a daily basis because of the nature of my ministry and life include these things: That God has secured my soul today and for eternity; God has given me everything I need to live a godly life of love for God and others (though of course it's challenging to do at times); having the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ to share to all; an incredibly loving family that includes my wife, children, parents, in-laws, siblings, brothers and sisters-in-law, and nieces and nephews; our wonderful and blessed church family; great neighborhood; and wonderful teachers in our Airport schools. This is not my complete list, but they are things I do give thanks for on a regular basis.

Not only has God moved me to be more focused on what He would have me do each day, but He has also led me to have greater joy and thankfulness. It's a habit that God has cultivated in me after going through various difficult times during my life which I've kept with me as a blessing and lessons learned. Instead of remembering only the negatives and remembering only during certain times or holidays, or when things are incredible difficult or when we experience various kinds of loss, let us remember well every day! When we remember well and give thanks to God regularly, we then will appreciate more the little things that are actually some of the most important things in life and that help us connect better and closer with God and those around us.

The apostle Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 4:10, "We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body." This is not to be a depressing thing, but rather one that helps us remember with thanksgiving and live with an attitude of living well for Jesus because of all he did for us.

I share this to say that there are times as a church family when we are to remember with greater focus. And such times of greater focus include March 6th when we begin Lent with a 7 p.m. Ash Wednesday worship service. Whether you are able to attend Ash Wednesday's service or not, remember every day with greater focus and purpose Jesus Christ and his love and mission for you and your life so that you may draw closer to the One who loves you, forgives you, empowers you, is proud of you, and will welcome you one day to heaven with the words, "Well done my good and faithful servant. Well done."

In Christ's Love,

Taek