

Nov 18th, 2020

## Fall Blessings



“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.” Jeremiah 29: 11 – 13 (NIV)

Dear friends:

It is Fall! It is too cold for Ken and me to sit at our little table for an afternoon break, as we did in the Summer. We have been meeting instead in the field as I deliver lunch or dinner. The good news is that the harvest is completed! Ken is plowing and disc ripping to prepare the ground for winter and an easy transition to planting in the spring. Ken says the best place to self-isolate is in the tractor.

I believe dealing with Covid is simpler on the farm. We are blessed with lots of room outside for social distancing on the odd occasion that someone finds their way to Greenway.

God says His plan is to prosper us and not to harm us. He gives us Hope for the future. A future where we call on Him in prayer and where He will listen. Where if we seek Him with all our heart, we will find Him. It is comforting to know we are in His care.

Today I was placing greenery in planters in preparation for Christmas. I can't help but wonder what Christmas will look like this year. Covid cases are rising, so this is definitely a time to stay safe. Wear masks ... social distance ... wash your hands ... hug from six feet away ... call on God ... feel Hope for the future.

I have been told that God is never more than one step away regardless of how far one has stepped away from Him. The picture in my mind is where one has distanced themselves from God, turns back, to find Him right beside them waiting for their return. What a blessing to know that He is there beside us as we face the uncertainties of our times. It is amazing that all we need do is call on Him and He will listen, and He will be with us to comfort, bless and carry us.

“I know the Lord is always with me. I will not be shaken, for he is right beside me. Psalm 16:8 (NLT)

My thoughts are drawn once again to the inspirational poem, Footprints, where God says, “The times when you have seen only one set of footprints, is when I carried you.”

God is carrying us. God is carrying us through Covid. We see less of others, even our beloved grandchildren, but our lives remain good! The harvest is off. It went well, if we don't count machinery breakdowns. We have been blessed with the fruits of the harvest.

God will give us the winter to rest. Winter rest will be in Greenway this year. We will continue the new pattern of our lives ... few outings off the farm ... Zooming to church ... lots of time together, which means crib games to play, books to read and movies to watch. I anticipate joys and blessings from our Lord that we have not yet imagined, for He walks beside us and carries us in our need.

Take care and stay safe!

Count your blessings!

Don't put too much emphasis on 'machinery breakdowns'!

Let the Lord your God carry you!

God Bless,  
Ruth Ann

*"Our relationship with God and each other strengthens us, and helps make the world a better place.  
We welcome and include **everyone** into congregational life."*