

Good News



SPRING 2020

ENCOURAGEMENT FROM DAWN



Dawn Michael

Director of Client Support

Hello Client Support family and community!

How I miss seeing you, laughing with you, and hearing about your family. Although we aren't in the same physical space, please know that I carry you in my heart and thoughts. I pray for you and your household every day. I am believing that each one of you sees and experiences the goodness of God in the land of the living!

In the absence of physical contact, I want to encourage you with a few valuable practices that have sustained me and kept me hopeful during this time.

Remembrance: I remember and reflect upon past seasons that were either difficult or beautiful. In both, growth and relationships were developed and enriched. Development and depth occur during times of resistance. This is a good thing.

Valleys have challenged my core identity, mindset, and what I believe to be true. I have grown and my confidence has increased during times of challenge. Hills of bounty and wholeness have taught me thankfulness and appreciation. And all provision and value come from our Father.

In the hills and valleys of my life, the faithfulness of God was present and anchoring. God hasn't departed from us; He is near and is faithful to see us through this season. We are invited to partner with Him by coming near to Him and allowing His faithfulness to be demonstrated.

Relationship: We value each other and the destiny God has uniquely crafted for each one of you. We celebrate you and appreciate the value of community. It is an honor to be in relationship with you and your family. I encourage you to stay connected in relationships that are healthy and vibrant. Be watchful and attentive to one another, offering words of hope and truth. Communication during this time may look different; be creative and inspired by what is available for you!

Rest: Rest, enjoy, and reset with your family. If you are working from home or working front lines right now, know that rest is healthy and important. Reset and enjoy one another as a family. Reset priorities and routines that are providing for your family's needs. May you find a new level of enjoyment and security within your family during this time!

I'm thankful for you. I affirm and validate you. I believe God is working and will finish a beautiful work He has begun in us. We are together in heart and spirit!

COVID-19 COMMUNITY RESOURCES

We're still here to support you in any way we can. Check out these resources around our community:

- HACAAP Mobile Pantry
- Cedar Rapids School District Grab N' Go Meals
- Eastern Iowa Diaper Bank
- Salvation Army
- "Cedar Rapids Iowa Community Coronavirus Quarantine Resources" Facebook group
- Dupaco Community Credit Union blog
- United Way: Call 2-1-1

GOOD NEWS is a quarterly publication of the Client Support department at Bridgehaven.

SEASONS AND FEAR



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I have been thinking about this statement: FEAR is a LIAR. Especially now during this COVID-19 crisis, I am asking myself, will things ever return to some

sort of normalcy? Will I have enough provision to make it through? You know those questions and thoughts of darkness that creep and get through far too often in our thought processes.

As I am staying inside day after day, while looking out at this hopeful view in my yard, consider this: Do we ever question that the seasons will change? No... because they come each and every year on a consistent basis. Maybe not at the time we want it to change, but it eventually comes... summer, fall, winter, and spring.

We are just beginning the spring season and these flowers now in my hard were at one time under the earth's surface covered by a blanket of snow. Although there, I could not see the promise of spring. The winter felt long and depressing until now.

The tulips have started coming up and the daffodils have already sharing their beautiful blooms. Spring is here! Did we doubt that it eventually would show up? No... it is part of life right? So now take that same fact and relate it to this dark virus trying to keep us living in fear because there is so much hidden in darkness... so much that we don't see the future.

Friends, I want to encourage you... this too shall pass!! DO NOT fear my friends... we will get through this season. It will run its course. All of the "what ifs" that come to mind... entrust them to God where they belong. He cares for us!

Miss seeing your faces... praying for each and every one.

Love in Christ!

"...do not give way to fear." -1 Peter 3:1,6

