

Wednesday - March 10

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

Romans 8:35 (KJV)

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:35, 38-39 (NASB)

For a force to change direction, it must encounter something in its path. For me, that was the pandemic. It struck like a lightning bolt. In a matter of days my whole world changed. It shrunk. Because of health problems, I had to restrict myself to my condo. No trips to the grocery store, no going out for haircuts, no contact with friends or neighbors, no hugs from my daughter. Feeling alone, disconnected, and isolated. I wasn't attending any church on a regular basis and was floating through my life. But the sudden changes in my life prompted me to start having morning devotions again and regular daily prayer. My prayers began with remembering those with covid. Then, I added the first responders, my friends and relatives, for their safety and health. As I was praying, I could feel God's presence working in my heart. These verses from Romans came to mind how NOTHING can separate us from God's love. Even in our most alone and dark places, God is with us. I started missing church and discovered PUMC had services online. I started counting the days from Sunday to Sunday. I began to drink in the Word and be fed by the sermons and worship. All this led me to taking a new members class by zoom. I can do that! God was leading me in a new direction, a better path than I was on.

The pandemic is still going on, but I am not alone. I am walking and growing each day with God.

Nancy

Prayer: Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty. Thank you for the lives you have given us to celebrate your creation. Thank you for loving us in dark days as well as sunny days. Help us to mirror your love to those who so desperately need it. Show us how to live lives that honor you as we journey together on our path through Lent. Amen.