

Tuesday - March 15

For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord. They are plans for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Jeremiah 29:11 (TLB)

I am a planner. I make lists, set goals, and always have a backup plan. My husband, Paul, and I moved to Powell from Dublin 10 years ago to our “forever” home. We planned to spend the rest of our retirement doing many things on our bucket list.

Life changed when Paul’s leukemia took his life and impacted mine. My well-constructed plans were disrupted and I needed to manage by myself; to become more independent and comfortable making decisions for my future. One day I came across this passage from Jeremiah. What a comfort it was to read and re-read the assurance that God, too, was a planner and God had plans for me. I wasn’t going to be alone but rather have God as my guide.

I have always had a strong faith, believed in God with my whole heart, and I trusted that wherever God would lead me I would gladly follow. But what did he have in mind for me? I needed to be patient while his plans unfolded. My church was my safe haven. Worship, small groups, and Bible studies became my biggest blessings as I found my grief manageable and my faith growing stronger each day.

However, managing a big house and realizing that perhaps another plan would soon be needed, I prayed for God to once again guide my decision making. I placed my name on a waiting list at Worthington Christian Village where my parents lived for many years. I patiently waited for God to assure me that this was the right decision. After a three-year wait I finally received word, on October 20, that an independent cottage was available for me. This was the anniversary of the day we met in 1959. God knew that this was a way I would be assured that Paul approved of my decision to move.

On December 23 with the help of my family and dear friends I made the move! I am now settled in comfortably and love my new home. Once again, God had plans for me...

Nancy

Prayer: Loving God, thank you for giving us patience as we wait for Your plans to be fulfilled. Please continue to give us the comfort and assurance we seek. In Your holy name we pray. Amen.