

County-Wide Chaplaincy

Thanks you!

2500 NE 78th St. Vancouver, WA 98665 ~ (360) 573-7127

October 2017

Good morning.

It is 2:14 a.m., Tuesday, October 10, 2017, and I am sitting down to write this monthly appreciation report.

Now 2:17 a.m. – Time just keeps moving.

Now 2:21 a.m. – What do you value? What is important to you?

October 9, 2017, is over and never to return. We can't relive it. Surely there are days we would like to relive – great days – happy days. But time continues to move on in increments. Then, before you realize how quickly time flies, one year, five years, ten, fifteen, twenty, a silver twenty-five, a golden fifty, have passed behind us.

My dad's oldest brother, a World War II veteran with six invasions, on his 75th birthday told me that he wished he had spent more time with his wife and children. He was and is in my heart and mind, and always will be remembered as an amazing, wonderful, great, good, decent, loving, caring, generous, and giving man – a real “man's man.” You see, we may lose our loved ones physically, but it is up to us to remember who they were in our hearts and minds.

I recall a Christmas morning many years back. It was on that Christmas day when my uncle's beautiful, precious, caring, wonderful wife, my Aunt Vida, gave up her fight with cancer and moved to “the new neighborhood” called Heaven. My aunt and uncle had both made their peace with God years back. They had accepted life's good days and sad days. I witnessed their lives first hand. I had watched them live, moving forward with love and determination, kindness and forgiveness in their spirits... Smiles on their faces some days, tears in their eyes on others.

Now 3:07 a.m. – Time is moving – soon to be morning – then afternoon – then evening. I remember that Christmas morning as my parents gently and lovingly shared the news about my special Aunt Vida leaving this earth and moving on into life eternal and everlasting. I remember asking my folks where my uncle was right then... it must have been around 9 or 10 a.m. Christmas day. What they told me impacted my life. “He is at church for the Christmas service.” Never again and never before has there been a Christmas morning like that one. From then on, letters and cards my family received were signed with love from Uncle Guy – no longer Aunt Vida. We remain living here on earth, but she lives in the beautiful, amazing new home called Heaven. “I Can Only Imagine” what it will be like – my human mind has difficulty grasping how wonderful it will be!

3:37 a.m. – How do you value your time? Time spent with those in your “inner circle” of family, friends, loved ones? I once heard a minister of the Gospel say, “Let's not miss today planning for tomorrow.” Let's not miss this moment, this sunrise, this sunset, this 24-hour segment of time. He was not saying we shouldn't plan or think ahead about tomorrow – it's important to be a deep thinker and a good planner. He was simply reminding us to value what is really important, and to evaluate what is temporal and what is eternal; to consider where true peace and joy comes from. We need to be reminded of how important it is to forgive and move forward, to change our plans and be flexible, adapting to what the day may bring. We all need to be encouraged and challenged to value all that is truly valuable...

Tuesday, October 10, 2017, 4:07 a.m. Value today – this moment – from sunrise to sunset. It is a good day.

Thank you for your prayers. Trying hard to do a good job for our Great God, and the community he loves so much,
-Sam LaPore

[Do you shop on Amazon.com?](#) They will donate a portion of your purchase to County-Wide Chaplaincy if you designate us as your preferred non-profit. It doesn't cost you anything extra and you send some support our way. We have a posted a link to the smile.amazon.com portal on the donations page of our website and as long as you order through that initial page it will send us some proceeds. Or you can type that link in and designate us as your preferred charity. Thank you, and thank you Amazon.com!!

The screenshot shows the homepage of County-Wide Chaplaincy. At the top left is the logo with a cross and the text "COUNTY-WIDE CHAPLAINCY CLARK COUNTY • WASHINGTON". To the right is a map of Clark County, WA, with the quote "THERE TO HELP, WHEN IT HURTS." above it. Below the logo is a navigation menu with links for HOME, ABOUT, SERVICES, CHAPLAINS, CONTACT, and DONATIONS, along with a phone number: Call: 360-573-7127. The main content area features a large image of a lighthouse on a rocky shore. Below the image is a "Welcome to County-Wide Chaplaincy" section with a brief description of the organization and a link to the "About" page. To the right of the image is a "CLARK COUNTY, WA" section and a "SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER" form with an email address field and a "SIGN UP" button. At the bottom of the page is a footer with sections for "OUR PURPOSE", "WANT TO BECOME A CHAPLAIN?", "RESOURCES", and contact information for the organization.

If you haven't done it yet, check out our website, www.911chaplain.org. You can find out more information about the ministry, give online, and now also sign up to receive your monthly newsletter by email.

You can give online or by mail.

Your donations can be given by mail using the enclosed envelope, or online. To give online and/or set up recurring billing there is a link to give on the donations page of our website: www.911chaplain.org.

Or you can go straight to it with the following web address:

<https://911chaplain.churchcenteronline.com/>
