



BUILDING

WEEK SIX

“At Our Savior’s Way Lutheran Church, we value Building God’s people.”

Recently, I was diagnosed with cancer. Just hearing the word cancer, can take your breathe away. The biopsy indicated that the cancer was such that surgery was required. By the grace of God and the help of my medical team, my prostate was removed and all evidence indicated that the cancer was gone. Yet, in three months, the cancer appeared again and another surgery was required. The news of another surgery was numbing. The spiritual challenges of going through a serious medical situation can be overwhelming. I was grateful for the support of my family and friends and the many people at OSWLC who let me know they were praying for me. One of the great benefits of being in a Christian community is the comfort of knowing, that in difficult times, we are not alone. The prayers and well wishes we receive are like a personal touch of God’s loving hand.

David wrote in the Psalm 23:1: “The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.” God made us an unconditional promise to be with us wherever we are in our spiritual journey. His presence sustains us and His grace provides for us. But despite God’s promises, sometimes when we are struggling, God’s words are not very clear, nor is His presence felt. To build our faith, God put His Word into human flesh. In Jesus’ suffering, death, and resurrection, we know God’s love is true. And God’s love is made more certain as we build each other up in our faith, through simple acts of caring. God touches our hearts through a hug, a word of encouragement, or by our presence, or the shedding of a tear with a friend.

In Proverbs 25:11 it says, “A word aptly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver.” A simple acts of caring from a friend can make even the most difficult day easier to face and can build our faith. In Proverbs 27:10 it says, “As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.” We sharpen each other and strengthen each other’s faith, by sharing God’s love.

At Our Savior’s Way we value sharing God’s love and building God’s people in their faith. St. Paul wrote, **“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him” (Colossians 3:16-17).**

Who do you know who needs a word of encouragement from you today?