

Dear Lillian UMC family,

I am composing this letter as I sit with my wife in another neurosurgeon's waiting room. We've been doing this for almost two years. We've prayed and believed for healing. Untold others have prayed and believe. We have faith, not perfect faith, but certainly faith the size of a mustard seed. We have been through doctors and surgeries and are on the brink of even more. So why is Elaine not healed? I am not certain.

One thing is certain. God is still there. He has not forgotten us. He is also teaching me valuable lessons: His providential will sometimes does not coincide with my wishes; His ways are still higher than mine, and my main concern in prayer should not be to get my own way, but that God be glorified.

Scripture records Jesus praying three times in the garden, that He does not have to endure the cross. Yet, He also three times prayed "not My will, but Thine." In the upper room, Jesus promised His disciples to do anything they asked in His name. That promise was made with the understanding that the ultimate good would-be God being glorified, not us getting our way. We are still praying for healing. But our overriding prayer is "Thy will be done." Please pray the same.

Finally, I am happy to remind everyone that this is Pastor Appreciation month. In your own way, let Pastor Daniel and Tay know how much they mean to you. "... that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love..."

See you Sunday,

Perry Cunningham
Lay Leader