



Heartbeats along the way: The Consoled Heart

Psalm 94:19. When the cares of my heart are many, your consolations cheer my soul.

This has been quite a time for me. I've been dealing with serious medical issues, and am grateful that God continues to see me through. And I have no doubt that God will restore me to health. So, as the psalmist wrote, "When the cares of my heart are many, Your consolations cheer my soul." Each of us has passed, or is in the middle of, a season of uncertainty, facing illness or loss of a loved one, worries about work or one's future. We all need God's consolations to cheer our souls. But we can find it hard to pray for ourselves, or for anything while we're ill or in some dark corner. That's when the prayers of others bring consolation to our hearts. In my case, I've been blessed with the steady prayers of so many, and those prayers have been answered in so many ways, helping me overcome the cares of my heart.

We offer prayers of consolation as an ongoing ministry of CUMC for those listed in our weekly bulletin wrap, announced from the pulpit, or passed through the Prayer Chain. Even as we move to the SGC, our church family will continue to encounter low points where the cares of our hearts will need the healing balm of consolation. We must continue to be part of God's consolation wherever we go, offering prayers and consolation, and accepting it ourselves.

Consolation restores our trust, cheers our souls, and carries us through the dark times. As Jesus said, "What you do it for the least of these, you do it for me." Always offer prayers of consolation.

"O Holy Spirit of consolation, be among those whose hearts are filled with care and fear. Lead your servants to be the embodiment of Your consolation to all in need that their souls may find comfort and cheer in the face of all adversity. May this be a true sign of our love for You and for all in need of consolation. Amen"

~ cl reynolds