

Tuesday - April 8

What is faith? It is the confident assurance that something we want is going to happen. It is the certainty that what we hope for is waiting for us, even though we cannot see it up ahead. Hebrews 11:1 TLB

I confess, I can lose sight of God's faithfulness in my life and there are days my faith lacks confident assurance in hope. Like most humans, I have endured hardships, the pain of loss, the uncertainty of serious illnesses, the anxiety of financial insecurity. During those situations, my reactions were not always grounded in my Christian beliefs and sometimes my reactions made my circumstances worse.

During a demoralizing personal crisis, I reached a turning point and called PUMC seeking prayers. Our children had been participating in programs at PUMC; however, we had not become members. That did not preclude us from being lifted in prayer by the pastors and staff. As the result of many prayers, my family's lives improved, and my heart was aware of God's faithfulness in my life.

Two hundred years ago, pioneers in Powell demonstrated steadfast faith and certainty in hope to form a church they could not yet see. Their hope provided me hope, and grounded me in the certainty of God's faithfulness that I now see more clearly through any difficulties I face. I pray to remain mindful that nurturing my faith and hope within a church family is crucial, not only for my relationship with God and service to others, but it is also crucial for that person in the future who seeks God's everlasting love.

Kristina MacKenzie

Prayer: Lord, help me remember that I am part of your plans versus you being a part of my plans. Strengthen my faith and the faith of those around me so that we stay confident in hope for what we cannot see. Inspire my actions to bring hope to the hopeless and shine your light to the world. Amen