CommonSpirit

Sacred Stories

As CommonSpirit Health, we make the healing presence of God known in our world by improving the health of the people we serve, especially those who are vulnerable, while we advance social justice for all.

Sacred Stories convey ways our mission is being lived out by the gifted people in our ministry. We invite you to use these stories for inspiration, as a meeting reflection, or to encourage discussion with your team.

God Has This in Control

TEXT

"Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." - Philippians 4:6 NRSV

SACRED STORY

I am a community health nurse. After the doctors in our clinic see patients, I reach out to patients and their families to help them with additional needed resources – such as food, transportation, utilities, medicine or eyeglasses, to mention a few.

I made a follow up call to an older male patient after his visit with one of our doctors via telehealth, as is now quite common in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. When I called the patient, his wife answered the phone. Her voice was shaky and she sounded distraught. As we talked, she started sobbing.

She shared that a niece she and her husband helped raise had died the week before, and because of COVID-19 they had not been able to pay their respects. She was also worried about the upcoming COVID-19 test results for her husband; he was running a fever and had recently been around their grandchildren.

Having shared she was a person of faith, I offered words of encouragement. "I believe in looking for the good, even in difficult circumstances," I said. "God has this in control. Would you mind if I pray with you?"

"Yes, please do," she said.

Continued on next page...

CommonSpirit

Sacred Stories

As CommonSpirit Health, we make the healing presence of God known in our world by improving the health of the people we serve, especially those who are vulnerable, while we advance social justice for all.

God Has This in Control

Continued from previous page...

SACRED STORY CONTINUED

I prayed with her on the phone.

Afterwards, through tears, she said, "I really appreciate this; you don't know what it means to me." I told her to call if she needed me.

The next day she called me and thanked me again for praying with her. "I felt a calmness immediately after we prayed and it has stayed with me," she said. "Will you continue to pray for me and my husband and family?"

"Absolutely," I agreed.

At home I keep a prayer book and pray daily for those who have ask for my prayers. I am a firm believer in prayer; God has done many good things in my life.

Submitted by

Pam Smith

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

Has there been a situation when prayer helped you through a challenging time?

Reflect on the benefits of remaining positive in the midst of difficult circumstances.