

Living your purpose

As we approach the end of one liturgical year and the beginning of another it is fitting to reflect and give thanks for the many blessings of Teams and also look forward with hope and anticipation.

This year has been very different and sometimes difficult for many of us due to the pandemic. It is easy to take our focus off of our Lord's desire for us if we

follow the world's distractions. Like a grape vine may be concerned about too little or too much sunlight, fertilizer or rain. These are real and impact the vine. But the vine's purpose doesn't change, it is still designed, raised and pruned to produce fruit, regardless of the conditions. The Vinegrower is responsible for the other conditions such as sun, water, and fertilizer.

It is similar for us Team members. We are designed to know God and serve him by loving him and loving our neighbor. It is easy for us to be worried about the environment we don't control rather than trying to do our best with the portion we do. We, like the vine, must count on our heavenly Vinegrower to provide the rest. Our purpose as loving Christians, loving Team Members and loving Spouses does not change even though conditions are difficult.

We have seen much love and care for the movement in brand new ways -- some via electronic communication and prayer -- others via new ways to stay in touch. How blessed are we to be part of such a wonderful kind community!

As we enter the Advent season, may the excitement of the anticipation of the Christ child and his overflowing love be shared not only with our spouse, but with our family, our Team and our community. Saint Mother Teresa once said "Love begins at home, and it is not how much we do, but how much love we put in the action that we do." Teams and our search for holiness is no different.

We look forward to seeing many more of you in 2021. Thanks for your prayers. You continue to be in ours.

Your Servants in Christ,

Ellen and T.J. Holt

