

The Long Haul

I find myself asking the same three questions over and over again as I screen the employees on Sunday afternoons. “Do you have a new cough, or any change in your cough?” “Shortness of breath?” “Sore throat?” This last week I jokingly added a fourth question: “Are you tired of these questions?” I think the employees smiled (I couldn’t tell for sure because of the mask), some let out a little laugh, and others simply but nicely said: “Yes.” And yet we continue to take temperatures, and ask these questions, as long as is needed to protect our dear residents. Because of our senior population we know that we will be the last to have all restrictions removed. This is definitely not a sprint; it is a marathon! It takes planning, patience, and perseverance. We know that we have more distance yet to travel, and some of you may be feeling weary. But that is okay because God is our Source of **peace** for our minds, and **strength** for our bodies. God is calling us onward, and the victory is in Him.

Isaiah 26:3-4 describes God Who gives peace and strength for the “long haul.” *“Thou will keep him”* (“him” from the Hebrew word which means mankind—including men and women, boys and girls). *“In **perfect peace**”* (literally: “*peace, peace*” in Hebrew—a powerful, double emphasis). *“Whose mind is stayed on Thee”* (God is the giver of peace, and He keeps us in that wonderful peace as our focus remains on Him). *“Because he (he or she), trusts in Thee.”* God’s peace never runs out.

“Trust in the Lord forever:” (faith placed in Christ is never misplaced). *“For in the Lord Jehovah is **everlasting strength.**”* God’s strength never runs out. God is with us at Living Care for the “long haul.” In Him we will find all that we need. In Him we will have the victory! You are all in my daily prayers. Love in Christ,

Chaplain Todd

