



The Abundant Life

It has been my privilege and my pleasure to say the dinner prayer in the Meyer Auditorium the first three nights. It is so nice to see all your smiles as you gather around the tables for evening fellowship. I heard comments such as: “No Styrofoam!” “Real plates that I can clink my fork on!” “Real tablecloths and nice servers pouring my coffee!” “It is so much better to have friends to share dinner with!” I realize that some of you haven’t yet joined in on all the fun, but that opportunity will come. The dinners in the Meyer Auditorium are just a “taste” of what is to come. It is exciting to take a step in the right direction. This helps us to believe that the time will come, when we will be safely back in the regular dining rooms enjoying great food and wonderful friends! It’s not perfect, we are not fully there yet, but there is no reason that we can’t truly enjoy every aspect of getting back to the way things were. We can be thankful for what we have now, and look forward to even more in the future. Rarely is everything “perfect” in life. If we wait until everything is just the way we want it to be, before we really enjoy and experience life to the fullest, we miss out on so much.

Jesus said in John 10:10b *“I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.”* God didn’t say that we wouldn’t have tests and trials. He said as believers that He would walk with us through them. There is so much beauty and delight in life even if the “storm clouds” of trouble are on the horizon. Let us together enjoy each moment each day, and each step back toward life as we knew it a few months ago. But even more, let us enjoy the sweet fellowship with the Lord, and the **abundant life** He came to give us—even this side of Heaven! I pray for all of you each day. Love in Christ,

Chaplain Todd