

Story of Faith: Cindy Moon

My story of faith runs deeply through the wise counsel and faith of my mother, Betty Knight. She had an amazing ability to connect with people. Throughout my childhood there were often visitors to our home seeking my Mom's counsel and requesting her prayers. She taught me early in life to have a "listening ear" to be ready for God's direction. As a student of prayer, she took seriously her duty to pray daily for her family, church and community. She was a strong woman who always encouraged her daughters and granddaughters to seek new adventures, love God and make time for family.

2020 has challenged my story of faith. This journey began in December when my Mom broke her foot and then hip during the holiday season. We spent Christmas and New Year's in the hospital finding ways to celebrate holiday traditions while in/out of the ICU. But the journey really began years ago when my Mom began to show signs of dementia. It was the small steps we all hear about – lost keys, repeated questions, and confusion.

I lost my Mom on January 7, 2020. As we sat with her in her final hours we sang her favorite hymns and read her favorite Bible verse about gratitude. From I Thessalonians 5:18: In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

As I reflect back over the first months of 2020 I am grateful to have this verse to hold onto. I am thankful that she did not experience this heartbreaking Covid-19 virus. I am thankful for the healthcare workers who cared so lovingly for her and I pray for those on the frontlines now who are caring for all of us. As we celebrate Mother's Day I appreciate all of the women who teach their families to experience God's love in the small moments. I am especially thankful for the gift of gratitude imprinted on me by my mother – a gift which fuels hope and lights the way during the darkest of hours.