



Chaplain Message Archives

April 2008 Message

Bethany Life
Communities

From the Chaplain (April 2008)

Dear Friends,

Our eyes have been scanning the horizon, anticipating the coming of spring. We look for green grass, tulips pushing their way through the ground and the sound of robins in the trees.

We know that spring is coming – because spring always follows winter. It has been a long winter and the promise of a spring coming keeps us on our tip-toes. It will be here soon – we hope – we keep looking and anticipating.

Spring brings the promise of new life and new opportunities. The warmth of the sun beckons us outside to enjoy the freshness of the earth. The newly tilled soil makes us eager to plant gardens and put in flowers. It is wonderful to just get out and enjoy the fresh air.

Yes, we look forward to the new life that spring brings. God also brings new life to His people. The empty cross gives us the assurance that His forgiveness is stronger than our sins. The empty tomb assures us that because He lives, we too shall live. It is the promises of Easter and new life that fill our hearts with hope.

The words of a song – “The Hymn of Promise” speak of this new life.

In the bulb there is a flower
In the seed an apple tree
In cocoons a hidden promise
Butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
There's a spring that waits to be
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning.
In our time infinity
In our doubt there is believing
In our life eternity
In our death, a resurrection
At last a victory,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

I am glad we have spring to look forward to – but it thrills my heart to anticipate eternal springtime. It's a gift from a loving God to His children.

Chaplain Sandy