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### More In You

*"Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen"* Hebrews 11:1

Whoever would have thought that you would have passed a second Easter in this pandemic? Yet you have. There may be more in you than you think.

"More in you" is the motto of Gordonstoun school, in Moray, Scotland. Prince Phillip attended, as did Prince Charles. The dorm windows are kept open even during the Scottish winters to indicate that the school doesn't coddle its students.

You haven't been coddled either. As predicted, this winter has been a dark one. Loved ones were lost. ICU numbers skyrocketed. But people still showed up to care; front line workers were continually on the job. Perhaps you were one of them. Good on you, and much thanks.

For some of us, our biggest task was to "stay at home". That may have been a trial in itself. It's been a good time to get jobs done around the house – a touch up here and there. There wasn't anywhere to go except the grocery, and pharmacy. Pick-up at a few restaurants and the hardware. We did get our first vaccine shot – organized by really caring people.

We've learned a new vocabulary: lockdowns, shutdowns, curfews, in-person, curbside pick-ups, virtual worship, virtual coffee hour, virtual meetings, virtual just about anything. And we've participated. We've even found a few chuckles; who would have ever thought we could go into a bank wearing a mask and ask the teller for money?

Wednesdays bring Letters of Hope. Without a computer that was a challenge, but you met it. You passed these letters around like the Pony Express.

Perhaps you watched more TV than previously – do you think! But hobbies abound. The Prayer Shawlers have been busy. Over these months I have sent eight blankets to Grands and Great Grands in Saskatchewan. Not that I crocheted them; that's Grandma Trish; I'm the mailer. More are piling up.

Maybe your success through this period has been the connection with people who care about you. Phoning others helped; being phoned helped. Maybe it's a combination of many things that you have internalized. That means you have been open to those ideas: social, intellectual, spiritual. That includes your faith. There's more in you than you might think.

Spring is definitely here which means we made it through that dark time, though we are far from out of the woods. Time to prune our Weeping Mulberry, and the McFadden's too. Flowers that have lain dormant under a ton of snow are now blooming their glorious colours. Canada is a wonder this time of year with a thousand shades of green. And you're still here – awesome!

Until next time. Much love and be safe ~ [Peter Challen](#)

*"Our relationship with God and each other strengthens us, and helps make the world a better place.  
We welcome and include **everyone** into congregational life."*

