

Joyful in Hope – 40 – May 1, 2020
(thoughts and ideas to encourage and challenge)

“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.”
Romans 12:12

Happy May Day! Have you stepped outside yet? It is simply gorgeous. Of course, I am particularly thankful for this day because it is Janine’s birthday, and she loves it that, even though she’s having to work this morning from home, God has smiled on her and given her a bright, sunny day on which to celebrate.

I hope you’re have a good day. I hope that you are able to enjoy and appreciate the sunshine and the grass turning green and the trees budding and the flowers blooming and the birds singing . . .

There’s not a lot that I need to share with you today, but I do want to make sure you all are on task with a couple of assignments.

1. Send a Birthday Card to Bobbie Hayden. Her birthday is Monday so you need to get that card in the mail today, if you haven’t already taken care of that. Let’s flood her mailbox with love and warm thoughts. Here’s her address again, just in case you missed it the first time, or you misplaced your directory.

2. Think of one or two other people who could use some encouragement, and write them a note.

That’s it for today. Sorry it’s so short. I have to go plan a virtual birthday party!

Here are the verses from Romans 12, which lead in to our theme verse at the top of this “Joyful in Hope” email.

⁴ For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵ so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶ We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; ⁷ if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; ⁸ if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully. ⁹ Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. ¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. ¹¹ Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.