

Grateful

By Dorothy Salkin

I hope you are all staying well, staying safe and staying in. I am coping by being grateful for many things that I have taken for granted every day. Perhaps this will be helpful to other members of the Village.

My husband Avram and I are fine, as is our family. We are glad to have Zoom so that we can see and talk with family and friends. Last month, we had a wonderful and unique virtual Seder led by our son Ken, daughter-in-law Michal, and twin grandchildren Daniel and Margalit. The morning after the Seder, I woke up and began thinking about how grateful I am and about all of the things I am grateful for at this horrific time.

I am grateful for our daughter Valerie's recovery from cancer, looking so happy and lovely as her hair grows out. I am grateful for Jim, her wonderful fiancé who has been at her side with TLC through her difficult past 8 months. I am grateful for our son Ken and daughter-in-law Michal helping me in many ways and living close to us. I am grateful for our precious, gifted grandchildren Margalit and Daniel, who text or call daily with fun conversation and good cheer. I am grateful for my Cincinnati Schneider, Fidler, and Aberman families and knowing they are OK. I am grateful for my grandniece Leigh in New York, hoping she stays safe and well. I am grateful for my Cincinnati nephew who sends me a daily vintage picture of my Aberman family taken long ago, when I was Dorothy Aberman.

I am grateful for The Rabbi's Daughter (my butcher) for delivering our meat and chicken. I am grateful to Gelson's for delivering our groceries once a week so we do not need to ever go to the store.

I am grateful for warm, sunny days when Avram and I can walk in our neighborhood and up to the UCLA campus. I am grateful for Netflix being able to see many films (thanks to Valerie and Jim). I am grateful for my specially designed kitchen where daily I cook and bake to my hearts delight (Avram is overjoyed). I am grateful that I finally found yeast online so I can make challah and other goodies.

I am grateful for my shul, Temple Emanuel of Beverly Hills, for the TLC, caring and inspiration of my Rabbi Aaron, Rabbi Bassin, Cantor Lizzie and Rabbi Lutz. I am grateful for JewItAtHome, ChaiVillageLA, and especially Rabbi Laura Geller who has reached out to me with much kindness and sensitivity. I now consider her a good friend.

I am grateful for the rain and the sun enabling the gardens, trees and blooming rose bushes around our home to be green, fruitful and flourishing. I am grateful to be alive and safe in our home with my husband Avram...my best friend, my lover and my soulmate. I am grateful for the morning prayers of Elohai and Nishmat that I love so much. I am grateful to God and I am grateful to be alive.

From the bottom of my heart, these words express my feelings of gratitude.

Love,
Dorothy Salkin

If you would like to write to Dorothy, she can be reached at dorothysalkin@danmar.vc.

How are you coping under COVID-19? What is life like for you? Your friends in ChaiVillageLA want to hear from you too. Send a paragraph or two to IdelleDavidson@gmail.com.