

Ed. Note: Jerry Marr shared his letter and prayer of thanks during the worship service at First Lutheran on June 18. Jerry survived a motorcycle crash two years ago and has faced numerous challenges since. When asked for permission to post this letter on our church websites, Jerry characteristically replied, "Sure, if it helps and inspires someone."

Good morning brothers and sisters. I thank you for your prayers and support since my accident. I was overwhelmed that St. Peters, St. Matthew's and First Lutheran were all praying for my life and my return to a normal life.

I won't bore you with details other than it has been for the most part the worst two years of my life. It was a horrible physical and mental journey. Of not for my love and belief in God Almighty and His forgiveness and mercy, I perhaps may not have been fortunate enough to write this letter. I was close to death a few times, I was told by medical staff at Hamilton General (hospital). I was also told, however, that I have been an inspiration to people at the retirement residence and at the physio therapy clinic and also the gym at Vale Health Centre. I was not aware of any of this until people volunteered this to me.

It has been a humbling time of my life, and I firmly believe my life has been spared to inspire others. I am grateful to be alive. Prayer and faith work.. People facing all kinds of tragedies will at least be comforted in trusting in God. Our creator does not take pleasure in our suffering. There is no alternative because if you don't believe in God and Christ Jesus and live by Bible principles, Satan and his demons will control our lives.

It would be too emotional for me to tell you this in person without breaking down. I apologize for this and hope you appreciate my witness to God. There is a brighter life to come after death. The good will definitely be rewarded.

Yours in Christ,
Jerry Marr