

Voices of Hope

When Gretchen asked me to write about how I am finding hope, my mind was instantly flooded with examples and ways in which to share them with you. But the more I thought about it the more I thought I should dig deeper into the word “hope”. So I looked up the definition of hope. Hope is both a verb and a noun. According to Merriam-Webster hope as a verb means “to cherish a desire with anticipation”, but it was the second definition that caught my eye: “archaic: TRUST”. It looked just like that. All capitals, standing alone, underlined. Hope as a noun is defined as “a desire accompanied by expectation of or belief in fulfillment”. But again, the second definition listed was “archaic: TRUST”.

Trust feels stronger to me, more grounded, more of a statement.

So where do I find hope? Who and what do I trust?

I trust the brilliant minds across the world that are working day and night to find a treatment and a vaccine for Covid-19. I trust the doctors and nurses who are like soldiers battling an enemy with unknown weapons and strategies.

I trust our leaders to think, debate, listen, compromise, care for, and help the millions of us that need assistance. I hope they will be wise. I trust that they are trying. (See what I mean about “trust” feeling stronger?)

I have trust in the teachers and administrators around the world who are doing their best to change their strategies for educating our children.

I trust technology. Technology, which to me was ruining the world in so many ways is now a lifeline.

I trust my friends to keep sending me messages that make me laugh out loud and then eagerly send them on to the next person. (There’s that technology again.)

I trust in my family to love and support me. I see their trust in me.

Seems what I trust is the human spirit to find again and again the will to live, discover, explore, create, amuse, prosper, create, and love. Ah, but now we come to it. What is beneath all these things in which I find trust? Yes. I TRUST God. I find my hope in the Lord. I trust that God is with us, guiding us, leading us, crying with us, loving us. I hope He is with us. I trust He is with us.

Catherine Reilly