



February 24, 2019

Dear Bennies,

I was delighted to be invited to write “A Letter from Home” to you 568 wonderful women of the class of 2018! The smile on my face grew happier and happier as I read each of your names and realized how many of you I knew and cherished.

You may become a little jealous when you learn that this year’s CSB/SJU students have had 3 ½ snow and/or frigid weather free days! If you had been in Margretta Hall two weeks ago around 9 p.m. you would have experienced what joyful pandemonium sounds like. Simultaneously, everyone’s phone received the message that no classes would be held on Tuesday or Wednesday! Students came flying out of their rooms literally jumping for joy. NOT just ONE DAY but TWO FREE DAYS! (In addition, it even stretched to include Thursday morning because the frigid temperatures.

Those who know me will understand that my biggest concern about the humongous snow banks around campus is the answer to my question: *Will we have a spring sports season this year?* Last year, golf had to cancel its season because a field of ice doesn’t make a great golf course. And dear Bennie softball players, I worried that you might not have a chance to play on the new softball field. Robin reminded me that track & field squeezed in the meets necessary to compete and sent CSB’s Athlete of the Year, Megan Sundstrom, to NCAA Nationals! Tennis must have been indoors.

I’m already bemoaning the fact that because Ash Wednesday falls during spring break, the students won’t be joining us Sisters and others for the beginning of Lent Eucharist. In a note I sent the sophomores sharing that I’d be happy to water their plants and feed their fish during break, I added this suggestion that you dear alums also might like to choose for one of your Lenten resolutions this year:

March 6 is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the grace-filled season of Lent. Imagine the impact we Bennies could make if each of us chose to live out even one of the Benedictine values in a special caring way during this Lent. The Benedictine value I am choosing for one of my resolutions is to “Listen with ear of my heart.” Which value might you want to choose?” (I’d love to hear which value you are choosing!)

Each morning, I send out the “Word for the Day” from a Gratitude source to hundreds of people. Today’s inspiring message was “Whoever believes in the good in people, draws forth the good in people.” A photo of a person with tattooed arms gently snuggling his cat was pictured with the quote.

If you’d like to receive a copy of the “Word for the Day” each morning, just send your email address to lwedl@csbsju.edu. Also, if you or someone else ever needs the sisters’ prayers, please let me know. I’d love to hear from you!

Blessings and treasured memories,

S. Lois Wedl