

Kay Solomon was every pastor's dream. She moved into the neighborhood, joined the church, never missed a Sunday – and when she was unable to come she wanted to be there. In those last months, when she was a bit confused, she'd ask every day, "Are we going to church today?"

**If only we had more members who wanted to go to church every day! Kay knew the celebration of the Psalmist: *"I was glad when they said unto me, 'Let us go into the house of the Lord.'"***

**We were not Kay's pastors long. She had a lifetime of church experience and valued her relationship with Covenant Baptist. She was excited to tell us about her church, even when she moved to Merrywood and joined Park Road 18 months ago. Kay's life speaks to us of the value of Church in a culture that continues to de-value the congregational experience. Throughout her life, Church had meant worship and discipleship and fellowship, and her experience in the last chapter of her life speaks to what may be the most important value of the Church to a culture that continues to fragment and polarize and detach.**

Church was community for Kay Solomon. She knew the value of getting out of herself and connecting with a larger web of God's children. Kay knew the importance of the comfort of community, but also of the challenge of community life, and she was determined to be a part – even when it stretched her. Most people her age would not strike out on a new venture, but Kay was not deterred by a new building, a sea of unfamiliar faces, a style of worship that might have been a bit different. She understood the intrinsic value of a spiritual community, and to the very end, she was a part of our community of faith.

**Even when Kay probably did not recognize us, specifically, there was a kind of soul-deep connection when we walked in to visit. Church had come to her, and you could see in the smile on her face that she was at home. And with that smile, church had also come to us.**

**In the short time that we had together, as she did with so many, Kay Solomon touched us, changed us. Through her experiences of life that we came to know, in the friends we encountered, because of her family that we have come to love, we have been made better pastors and people. Kay's life was a beautiful testimony to God's presence in this world.**

One of our mentors taught us that aging generally makes people “more so” (that is, more of whatever it is that is at their core) – so our guess is that the peaceful spirit, the joyful attitude, the beautiful smile, the consistent faith that we saw in Kay’s life has always characterized her. It is a testimony to the power of faith, a confidence that says – all will be well.

When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrow’s like sea billows roll,  
Whatever my lot, thou has taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.  
It is well (it is well) with my soul (with my soul), it is well, it is well with my soul.

For Kay Solomon, it is well. Thanks be to God.