



Diocese of Utah

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

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It sure would be marvelous if a vaccine that was safe and effective against the COVID-19 virus would get delivered next week. Then we could all get back to normal. In other words, it would be nice if we could deal with this like fixing an electrical outlet that is old and the plug won't stay in any longer. For that, you can call an electrician to change it out or go to Home Depot, buy a new outlet, and install it yourself. (Which is what I would do.)

What we are facing with COVID-19 is a challenge that requires us to shift the way we do things. It requires us to adapt. WE are a long way from "normal".

I emphasize, WE. While it would have been better if our elected officials had taken different actions, had provided more accurate information, had taken the virus seriously, while it would have been better, that is not the way it went.

What WE have is a world and a life that is drastically different than it was six months ago or one month ago. Am I angry about this? You bet I am. The question is, what do I do with that? I can yell. I can point fingers of blame. I can take it out on other people. I can...stop. I can just stop all of that.

Instead I will continue to take that energy and to work forward with others to find the best way to adapt to the swiftly moving changes that are coming our way. I will continue to stay engaged with others. I will continue to seek wisdom from others and pray for wisdom from God. I will continue to hold fast to the promise that even in the midst of this challenge that God will stay present with us.

We cannot change what has already happened. We can, we must work together to help each other meet the days, weeks, months and years ahead. God has blessed us with memory, reason and skill. Let us use those blessings together.

What are some of the ways that you are using those blessings?

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott B. Hayashi". The signature is written in a cursive style and includes a small cross at the beginning.

The Rt. Rev. Scott B. Hayashi