Giving Thanks

During this particular Thanksgiving week, I believe a lot of us have been reflecting on things we are thankful for in a different way from years past. We should all be grateful to have such meaningful positions working in health care in a time when our community and our nation need us more than ever. The UC Davis family has risen to the challenge and many have sacrificed a great deal to provide great care.

In this Thanksgiving week, thank you all for all that you do. For the excellent care you provide to our patients and also for the support you give to your grateful families and loved ones. This year the contributions of health care workers have been a central focus in our communities with many stories in the nightly news. These stories are important to inform the public about the pandemic and also highlight the amazing work you are doing every day. Our nation is so Thankful to you.

We all know that we are facing another COVID-19 surge. We know that our preparations are done and that at UC Davis Health we are well-prepared. We know that as health care workers we must try to keep ourselves fit and well. We know what public health mitigation strategies to take, and how to isolate ourselves in our social “bubbles.” We know the sacrifices we are all making on a daily basis, which are only too obvious at this time of family celebration and thanks, when we cannot meet physically together in our usual family groups. Many of us will “zoom” in and out of each other’s homes this Thanksgiving and maybe compare whose turkey browned the best. There are ways to make the most of this situation, and to be part of the solution rather than part of the problem.
This is a time when we all need some uplifting. Most of you will know the iconic duet by Andrea Bocelli and Celine Dion, “The Prayer,” first released in 1999.

May I suggest that you listen to this amazing performance. Then think about the lyrics, and discuss them with your loved ones, as they are so pertinent to our current situation. Here they are.

**The Prayer**

*I pray you’ll be our eyes,*
*And watch us where we go*
*And help us to be wise,*
*In times when we don’t know*
*Let this be our prayer,*
*When we lose our way*
*Lead us to a place,*
*Guide us with your grace*
*To a place where we’ll be safe*

Also enjoy this performance of “The Prayer”; this “father-daughter” duet by Mat and Savanna Shaw is an inspirational example of what can be done from home, and has now been watched close to 8 million times.

I truly hope that you enjoy these performances and that you find them uplifting and helpful. Share them with your families and loved ones.

May your Thanksgiving festivities be happy, meaningful, and safe. I wish you a happy Thanksgiving.

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**D3 Newborn Nursery**

“We absolutely adore UC Davis and will ALWAYS recommend it as a wonderful place to receive care! Thank you!”
T2 Surgical ICU
“All good, much better than I ever thought possible, best hospital experience ever!”

Emergency - Pavilion
“Couldn’t have asked for a better doctor or nurses. Everyone was amazing & so caring towards myself & daughter.”

UC Davis Medical Group Folsom Clinic
“Excellent all around. I feel very well taken care of by the whole team in the Folsom complex.”

Radiation Oncology Cancer Center
“This team is outstanding from the first time I saw them to now. They have seen me through some of the most terrifying times of my life.”