

I'm not sure when I started doing it. Perhaps twenty years ago, but now it's automatic. Each pay check I receive from FCCJ..

As I endorse it...

Just above my signature I wrote the words "Thank you."

To see that for which I am most thankful you have only to look beyond this room. Look at that which surrounds us. Then turn back and look at each other.

As I walk away from this place, this time and each of you..

I see what I am leaving, and I shall be very sad.

II heard it on NPR the other day. Garrison Keiler said, "We should wish for what we already have".

I don't know how I learned it, perhaps from my mother where we all learn. But I learned that happiness resides in the moment as well as remembrance of the moment. So I have tried to live in the present and treasure each moment as it happens. Some of my colleagues smile at me when I tell them that on each paycheck I receive from our college... As I endorse it... Right above my signature I write, "Thank you.

And I am thankful. It is said we make a living from what we get, but we make a life from what we give.

And I have been given much.

To see what I am most thankful from you have only to turn and look beyond this room. Look at that which surrounds us. Then turn back and and look at each other.

As I walk way from this place, this time, and each of..

As I see what I am leaving I shall be very sad.

Part of our family prayer at Christmas and Thanksgiving is to ask may that which we have continue.

Even as we speak those words or make that request, we know we request the unattainable.

For we know that time nibble away at the edge of our lives

I heard it on NPR the other day...

Garrison Keiler said, "We should wish for what we already have."

Strangely, that has been a tradition at Christmas when my family is gathered. We say, "May we be grateful for we have. May our family continue."

Even as we say those words we are aware we seek the unattainable.

For time nibbles away the corners of our lives, and often we are blind to its beauty—the beauty of that which we already have.

From the matriarch of our family we learned that for too many, that which they call happiness resided not in the moments it happened, but in the remembrance of the moment.

Not I. I consider myself one of the lucky ones. For I have found the treasure in this place, in these years of moments.

Each of you has given me that life, that happiness, those years.

For that treasure, for those years, for each of you I am grateful.

Thus, I thank each of you.