BENEDICTION: DR. ELLIE BEACH

A Benedictine blessing, offered prayerfully, for President Varlotta and all who care for Hiram College.

May God bless you with a restless discomfort about easy answers, half-truths and superficial relationships, so that you may seek truth boldly and live from deep within your heart.

May God bless you with holy anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may tirelessly work for justice, freedom, and peace among all people.

May God bless you with the gift of tears to shed with those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation, or the loss of all that they cherish, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and transform their pain into joy.

May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you really CAN make a difference in this world, so that you are able, with God's grace, to do what others claim cannot be done.

If you have the courage to accept these blessings, God will bless you with happiness because you will know that you have made life better for others; with inner peace because you will have worked to secure peace for others; with laughter because your heart will be light; with faithful friends because they recognize your worth as a person.

AMEN.

Source:
Several versions and adaptations are available on the Internet. Usually cited as A Four-fold Benedictine Blessing by Sr. Ruth Marlene Fox, OSB, 1985.