

April 9, 2020

All Atlantic:

As Easter weekend approaches, I'd like to take a moment to speak to you, not as the Wes Carter, president of Atlantic, but as a fellow human being navigating these challenging times. This experience has brought me some perspective that I'd like to share. And even amid the chaos, I hope you have had some moments for quiet reflection over the last few weeks, as well.

Regardless of your religious convictions or your concept of spirituality, we all witness the cycle of life every day. Death and rebirth happen around us in nature in every moment of our existence, it is fundamental to our human experience. While I don't pretend to have any answers, I do find solace in witnessing the balance of all life, ever-present in the natural world. That seems to be a constant. This Easter weekend, it's my hope that you find time to enjoy some time outside in nature and a well-deserved break from these difficult days.

Even during these trying times, there is much to be grateful for, and maybe, difficult times like these occur so we remember how fortunate we truly are. Fortunate to live in a free country, have good jobs, access to food, water and roofs over our heads. A lot of those things we take for granted in this modern world that so many before us, and still today, struggle to sustain.

For me, Easter always brings back childhood memories of warm days, azaleas blooming, kids playing in backyards, family meals and the thrill of easy summer days ahead. To me, Easter is about Trust. Easter is about gratitude and the promise of a new tomorrow. This is quite possibly going to be the most significant Easter of all of our lives, and I hope we can all take time to rest in the knowing that there are new, better days ahead. The promise of rebirth is upon us.

This Easter, I am going to choose to trust in new beginnings, appreciate the gift of lessons learned in difficult times and the promise of grace. Spring is blooming all around us, reminding us of the vitality and ever-present regeneration of life. I hope you can take time to enjoy and appreciate those simple reminders every time you step outside.

The last few weeks have been the most intense of my life, and I know the same is true for all of you. This struggle is a reality that we all are living, but that does not mean it is a time for despair. We have much to be grateful for, and I'm trying to remind myself of that on a daily basis.

I am so very grateful for each of you and for this amazing organization that you create every day. I'm grateful for your friendship. I'm grateful for your commitment to integrity and excellence in all that we do together. Atlantic Packaging continues to be a reflection of the amazing character of its employees. Your commitment to each other, our customers and the greater supply chain is a remarkable thing to witness. You are making an incredible contribution to your fellow citizens and your nation. Thank you. Your efforts and great attitude are sincerely appreciated and honored.

The safety and security of each of you has, and continues to be, the number one priority of your leadership team. Your health and well-being matters to us more than any other single thing. The protocols we have in place have allowed us to continue operate at exceptional levels. Thank you for being so committed to these practices.

This Easter weekend, I wish you all peace and good health. As my favorite poet Bob Dylan would say, let's find a little "shelter from the storm." Stay safe and continue be vigilant in your wellness practices. Also, find time to celebrate and enjoy family. Please spend time outside, even if it is only on your front porch. Fresh air and nature have been a real gift to me during these times, and I hope they are for you as well. Be well.

Best wishes this Easter.

Wes Carter