

Dear LSC Campus Community:

Another trip around the sun and here we are in January of 2025.

“January” is derived from the name of the Roman god Janus who is the god of beginnings, endings, and openings like doors and gateways. Considering new beginnings and opening barricades and obstacles, it is fitting that Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is celebrated in January (Jan 20, 2025). This is the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of this federal holiday, which is the only federal holiday commemorating an African-American. What many people forget is that the full name of this holiday is “Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service,” meant to honor his memory by serving others through volunteering, organizing, and improving our communities. This is not meant to be a day off, so let’s get out there and make a difference in honor of Dr. King.

January is also National Blood Donor Month, National Human Trafficking Prevention Month, National Braille Literacy Month, National Radon Action Month, and National Poverty Awareness Month. A very busy month indeed.

As we look to the new year, I see new beginnings and openings to a brighter future. Yes, there are challenges and obstacles to move past, and at the same time we can see the sunshiny way forward. Storm clouds will threaten, but the rains will cleanse us and bring bright flowers.

Our work together is all about the future and the fulfillment of potential. We clear the clouds away and reveal the brightness of success for our students and each other. Together, we offer hope and clear skies.

I can see clearly now the rain is gone  
I can see all obstacles in my way  
Gone are the dark clouds that had me blind

It's gonna be a bright (bright)  
Bright (bright) sunshiny day  
It's gonna be a bright (bright)  
Bright (bright) sunshiny day

Oh, yes I can make it now the pain is gone  
All of the bad feelings have disappeared  
Here is that rainbow I've been praying for

It's gonna be a bright (bright)  
Bright (bright) sunshiny day

Look all around, there's nothing but blue skies  
Look straight ahead, there's nothing but blue skies

I can see clearly now the rain is gone  
I can see all obstacles in my way  
Here is that rainbow I've been praying for

It's gonna be a bright (bright)  
Bright (bright) sunshiny day  
It's gonna be a bright (bright)  
Bright (bright) sunshiny day\*

Be safe, be well, and Happy New Year.

Patricia L. Rogers, Ph.D.  
President, Lake Superior College

\*I can See Clearly Now, song by Jimmy Cliff

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