

MEDITATIONS FROM AUGUST 2016 SUNDAY BULLETINS

SPIRITUAL PROGRESS

August 7, 2016

Rev. Janet Friedline

Mankind measures himself according to his achievements and accomplishments. We look at what others have done, judging ourselves as either more successful or less successful than our fellowman. We set goals for ourselves, and then we look for evidence that they have been met. As we travel through life, we expect to progress in particular ways, and the anticipation is that we will be satisfied with our progression. And so we watch ourselves closely, accounting for what we have done.

When it comes to our spiritual study, we also wish to see a degree of progress. We want to have evidence that we are on the spiritual path. But we aren't quite sure how to evaluate us in this way. When we measured us according to material standards, we looked to the outer display for validation. But how does one account for the fruit of the Spirit? What is revealed inwardly, are qualities of life – love, joy, harmony and peace. They cannot be measured or contained. Let us allow them to come forth and express.

AMAZING GRACE

August 14, 2016

Rev. Maria Borrero

At the moment, most of us are living under the belief that God is not a part of us and we are trying to bring him to us. As we continue our daily meditations, we slowly become aware of God's law of oneness until the time comes when the Christ within lives our life. We then have the conscious realization of God's heaven right here on earth. For as it says in Corinthians, "Now the Lord is that spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty."

God's grace is always with us, for we are his beloved in whom he is most pleased. Let us do the spiritual work of being still and silent so that we may abide with our Divine Father. It is then that we will know and experience our Father's Presence leading and guiding us.

So let us not seek what God can give us, instead let us be grateful for God's grace, love, joy, and our steadfast mind. Let us turn to our heavenly Father not to get something but to give. Let us prepare ourselves to serve God's children. Amen

WHAT IS IT YOU WANT FROM GOD?

August 21, 2016

Rev. Maria Borrero

Many people believe that if they are good human beings God will accept them in His Kingdom. But it doesn't work that way. We must do the spiritual work so that the Christ within can prepare us, guide us and teach us to know who God really is and what is our role when we return to his Kingdom, our Kingdom. A key thing that must happen is that we must love our neighbor as we love ourselves, Most importantly we must be clear what is our purpose when we turn to God, is it to get things or have him

take care of our problems? Let us turn to God to know him and do his will and his will only. And so it is. Amen.

The Hour Cometh

August 28, 2016

Rev. Janet Friedline

The Bible tells us there is a season for everything, a time for expression and experience. And we see this in all of life. Seasons come, and seasons go. There is a time for joy, and a time for sorrow. There is a time to sow, and a time to reap. We notice the ebb and flow of life, and we anticipate the hour that brings each into manifestation. The individual expects that life will unfold in an orderly way, according to a law that has already been set in motion.

While it is true that we may have certain expectations, we don't know when and if they will come about. The Bible advises us to be alert, for we do not know when the hour cometh for us. We experience in a personal way. What is true for one is not necessarily the path for another. It is every man's and every woman's destiny to know themselves according to their divine nature. But none of us knows when this will happen. Be alert, pray and meditate. When the call comes, the response is "speak Lord, I am listening."