### **MEDITATIONS FROM FEBRUARY 2016 SUNDAY BULLETINS**

## **FRIENDSHIP**

February 7, 2016 Rev. Donna Gatewood

We have all heard the saying "A friend is a gift you give yourself," but I choose to think that a friend is a gift given to you by your Self. A friend is a gift from God. True friendship is unity in the Spirit and it is the basis for each of us to have a creative, fulfilling interpersonal relationship. It has been said, "When two mystics were friends...there arose between them a remarkable indwelling which enabled them to say to the other 'As my Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love."

We are part of one another in the unity of the Spirit of Divine Love. God loves us freely and unconditionally at all times and in every circumstance. God is our source of inspiration and support. And so it is with a real true friendship. A friend allows God to flow through them to love us freely and unconditionally at all times and in every circumstance and to be a source of inspiration and support.

In our spiritual friendships we see through the outer personality and material problems to the core of being, the essence—the Christ.

# LOVE IS THE FULFILLLMENT OF THE LAW

February 14, 2016 Rev. Maria Borrero

Divine Love lives within us always ready to express whether within or to touch the heart and soul of someone who is ready to know God. While there are people who use love as a tool or to tease someone, we must be clear love cannot be limited. Love is and always will be. Love knows nothing of anger, pain, hurt or any negative action toward another. When we love for the pure sake of Love, there is a healing, where joy uplifts our heart and soul. Divine Love will establish one in fearlessness and courage. When we live by Divine Love we will attract that which is good for us. We will be happy and see happiness everywhere. We need to love one another so that we will feel and sense God with us and God's love is perfected in us.

### THE ADDED THINGS

February 21, 2016 Rev. Janet Friedline

As human beings, we appear to be in need. We look around us and notice that things seem to be lacking. Perhaps we could use a little more money, or we wish that our relationships would be more harmonious. We would like to have more of what the world considers its "good" and we look for ways to acquire it. We are certain if this would happen, that we would be a great deal happier and life would be so much better. The desire is to be satisfied and fulfilled

It is natural for us to feel this way. We have been told we are to live the abundant life, and we wish to do so. When the Bible speaks of the abundant life, it is referring to spiritual satisfaction and fulfillment. It describes the "added things," as the result of seeking the kingdom of heaven. Jesus told us that God alone is good. So let us not be concerned about the outer demonstration. Our only desire should be to know God. What is of God is just what is needed. Let us give no thought – God is our sufficiency.

### FROM ALONE TO ONE

February 28, 2016 Rev. Donna Gatewood

Loneliness is a common human experience. Most all of us, whether married or single, deal with the feelings of loneliness for a short period of time or what seems like an eternity. Why do you think it is that we can feel lonely even among our family members and our friends? The reason is simple. The root of all loneliness is a spiritual issue not an emotional or physical one. The answer is not to have more people or activities in our lives; the answer to loneliness is to have more God in our lives.

Loneliness is living in the wilderness. It is consciousness that is separated from God. It is a consciousness separated from Life and Love. What we call loneliness is really an empty heart seeking the love of God. The loneliness you feel is God's way of inviting you to open your heart and let Him in. It is God's personal invitation to you to enter into an intimate relationship with Him.

In Truth you are never alone. God is in you and with you. He will never leave you or forsake you. He is your refuge and your strength. Be still and know that God is in the center of your being waiting for you to open your heart and let Him in.