

MEDITATIONS FROM APRIL 2017 SUNDAY BULLETINS

IN HIM WE LIVE AND MOVE

April 2, 2017

Rev. Donna Gatewood

The poet said, "In God we live and move and have our being." This is true for those of us who are open to the inflow of the radiant power of the kingdom of God.

The kingdom of God within us is untouched by the uncertainties and weaknesses of human affairs in the outer world. But within this inner kingdom is the provision for every need. And so it is that we are able to learn, live and love in accordance with the divine will.

The prophet Isaiah long ago affirmed "In quietness and in trust shall be your strength." We find our sanctuary, our inner renewal, when we enter the silence where our Father waits for our recognition. By turning within and letting go of negative, nagging thoughts and listening patiently as we wait on the Lord we receive divine guidance to meet our every need.

Turning within, we learn how to live a spiritually enriched life and overcome the world. We truly touch the whole garment of God and realize our unity not only with God but with ourselves and with others.

Truly, "In Him we live, move and have our being;" for without Him we do not exist.

PALM SUNDAY

April 9, 2017

Dr. Al G. Salazar

Due to special Holiday bulletin, there was not back page meditation.

EASTER

April 16, 2017

Rev. Janet Friedline

Due to special Holiday bulletin, there was not back page meditation.

THE EVER-PRESENT PRESENCE

April 23, 2017

from Dial-a-Prayer, March 4, 1998

Dr. Al G. Salazar, Minister Emeritus

To contemplate on the things of Truth is not a matter of thinking good thoughts over bad thoughts, or of health over disease, but on the Purity of God Himself. Our Bible tells us that God is too pure to behold the human condition; that in God there is no evil. Of course, not. That which is perfect knows

no imperfection. Which means that evil is not of God – but of man. It is written, “God is the health of His people.” Therefore, disease is not of God.

Our challenge, as followers of Truth, is to eliminate what we no longer want by turning to what we want. It is not a matter of fighting or trying to overcome negatives, it is a matter of simply becoming still and opening ourselves to God. The Presence of God in the mind of man is like a light that dispels darkness, it doesn't fight anything nor does it overcome anything, it simply reveals that in its presence there is no darkness.

To turn to God isn't a matter of projecting our thought to someone or something, but of assuming a receptive attitude, as if to say, “Speak Lord, thy servant is listening.” And “God utters His Voice and the world melts.” And whatever the need, it is met! “Not by power nor by might, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord.”

For this blessing of Understanding, O Most Gracious God, we give you thanks. Amen.

THE POWER OF NOW

April 30, 2017

Rev. Donna Gatewood

So much of our human suffering is the result of our attitudes towards what has taken place in the past and what we plan for and look forward to in the future. We are consumed with sorrow and regret about the mistakes and missed opportunities of the past and we worry and fret over what the future holds for us individually and the world as a whole. What a waste of time and energy it is to dwell on the past and what is yet to come.

Everything that is happening in your household, everything that is happening in your community, everything that is happening in the world, everything that is happening in the universe, and everything that is happening in the cosmos is happening right now, this very moment. The heart of every individual on this plane is beating together in this single instant. Everything that happens, happens right now in this moment. Happenings don't occur in future moments and they do not occur in the past. They occur only in the present.

Your life is this way. Although you plan on a future and entertain memories of the past, you are only alive in this moment. And what you do, in and with this moment, determines what life is to you.

In God there is no anticipation of the future and there is no memory of the past. The fullness of God is in us, with us, around us and active in the cosmos right now. Each new moment is a new beginning and an opportunity for new growth and limitless possibilities.

“Remember not the former things; neither consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.” Isaiah 43:18-19