

## **MEDITATIONS FROM MAY 2018 SUNDAY BULLETINS**

### **REGAINING YOUR LIFE**

May 6, 2017

Rev. Donna Gatewood

At times, it can feel like one's life is spinning out of control. When this happens, we begin to believe we are completely powerless over the circumstances, situations and the people in our lives that dictate and shape our lives. There is no question our lives can feel overwhelming and seem chaotic from time to time.

The good news is that we have the power to reclaim and create the life we want if we so choose. Every choice you make will affect the course of the rest of your life. The first choice you can make from this moment on is to choose to experience happiness in your life. Not just once in a while, or when the "big" things happen, but every single day.

It is possible and natural to wake up each morning filled with the joy of knowing that you have another unique and wonderful day filled with endless possibilities and potentialities and to go to sleep at night being thankful for another day well lived. If you don't believe this then you continue to believe in the inevitability of pain, suffering, and unhappiness and you are making a choice to accept these things in your life. You have given your power away to people, places, and things outside of yourself. You have rendered yourself powerless. Let go of the past and move forward reclaiming the glorious power within you.

Begin now to make different choices. Acknowledge that you already have all the wonderful things life has to offer. Acknowledge that you deserve to have them. Choose happiness! Choose Joy! Choose Peace! Choose Love!

### **MOTHER'S LOVE**

May 13, 2017

Rev. Donna Gatewood

The realization of the love of God is an experience so overwhelming that once known, all else pales in comparison. Never again are we content without it. It becomes our primal goal, for out of it comes our every blessing. Love is all inclusive. Every attempt on our part to let the love of God express through us brings us closer to the ultimate experience of Perfect, Infinite Love.

Love is the divine cure for every human ill. Love never fails; Love never falters; Love embraces all; Love forgives all; Love swallows up all our failures and gives us back its Grace. Love is freely given and when we are willing to take the first step, Love does it all for us. Love asks only that we turn in Its direction and that we be willing to allow Its wonder and Its Grace to take place in us.

Each and every one of us has been loved with the greatest Love from the beginning of time. "Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love, therefore, with loving kindness have I drawn thee...And their soul shall be as a watered garden and they shall not sorrow anymore." Jer.31:3,12. Let us dwell in Love that God may dwell in us.

## **WHAT IS TRUE?**

May 20, 2017

Rev. Janet Friedline

Life brings us things to ponder and consider. They may appear as an idea, or a suggestion, and we are asked to make decisions and determinations. We may be invited to give our opinion, contributing to the information available at the time. The human thought can invent many responses, adding clarity or confusion to the matter at hand. And this is the point. We all come from a place in understanding that bears witness to our background and experience. Sometimes this is helpful, other times, not so much.

There are times when we are asked to consider our religious beliefs. What is true and certain? We do not wish to be deceived by misguided thought and uncertain reflection. The need is to look beyond our background and experience, beyond our words and thoughts. When we look in an inward direction, we listen beyond human comprehension. Clarity is given to the soul of man. And now we may say, "I have heard it with my ears, but now I see." Let this be our realization.

## **THE WAY TO VICTORY**

May 27, 2017

Rev. Janet Friedline

All of us like to be victorious in some way. As human beings, we are very competitive people and we judge the feeling of victory to be better than the one of defeat. We also think that "winning" validates what we have accomplished, proving that we were correct in what we had done. But what if we were wrong? What if our intent was to simply promote ourselves over everyone else? What if our only consideration was to "win," not really caring about the outcome or how it would affect others?

We may ask the question, "What is the true victory?" Nations go to war, and families have their disagreements, each wishing to be triumphant in their own way. We have heard the phrase "a win-win situation," meaning that all who are involved would benefit in some way. When we consult the wisdom of inner being before we act, we no longer think in terms of victory or defeat. God is in charge and that is all we need to know. Be at peace, the battle is not ours.