MEDITATIONS FROM AUGUST 2020 SUNDAY BULLETINS

Dying Daily

September 6, 2020 Rev. Janet Friedline

We speak of "dying" as an end to something; something is over, and we let it go. We think in terms of the human body when the life force leaves it, and we say it "died." We notice the activity of the changing seasons; one seemingly vanishes to allow the new one to come forth and express. Each is brought forward in its own way. The autumn leaves fall, allowing the wintertime to rest in its dormant state. The winter thaw gives way to the spring flowers, awaking new growth and expansion.

On a personal basis, we die to our way of thinking, our attitudes and beliefs. And just as the leaves fall from the trees, so too do our thoughts fall from our consciousness, allowing the fresh ideas and revelations to take root and spring forth in new ways of understanding. Each day is an opportunity to come up a little higher in our acceptance and practice of Truth. However, it does require something of us. Each day we are asked to give up some erroneous belief, or idea, that we hold about us, or about life. Paul called it "dying daily." This is our challenge, let us get busy and do it.

<u>Greetings Faith – Goodbye Fear – Hello Peace</u>

September 13, 2020 Rev. Wayne M. Gatewood, Jr.

How many times have each of us here while at our Church, or when we are out and about, exclaimed to others or to ourselves that "yes, we are one with God, and like Him we are good, complete, health, abundance, love, and eternal spirit? Conversely, how many of us when faced with a seeming challenge, whether it be of health, finances, relationship, or whatever, have become confused, angry, sad, or fearful, and have failed to go within for our Truth and have looked without for our peace? But how can that be? How can we say we know who and what we are, eternal and perfect Beings, One in and of Our Father, yet demonstrate worry, doubt, or anything else not of His Image and Likeness, not of our Truth? Well, let us know without a doubt that faith without works is indeed dead. In other words, although we may know God and know our Truth, unless we have the faith sufficient so that the Spirit goes before us, we shall be subject to the whims of people, places, and things...the world of the flesh. It is by and through faith and the action accompanying it that all things good, joyful, complete, abundant, loving, and pure, are made manifest. "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. ~ Romans 15:13"

A Secret No More

September 20, 2020 Rev. Donna Gatewood

Life to each of us is in accordance with our individual state of consciousness. The Master, Jesus, is our example that man's inherent divinity can be quickened into new activities of consciousness and thus new and better conditions can follow. He knew that as He thought rightly and loved gently He would draw unto His life people and conditions that were good.

As we dedicate our thinking and feeling to the Mind and Law of God, we too, shall draw only that which is good, lovely, and true into our experience, because our consciousness has nothing in it with which to draw the opposite. Only good can exist in the mind of anyone who loves Good and thinks rightly.

Let that Mind that was in Jesus also be in you. Let us be steadfast in thought, purpose and accomplishment. "Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report...think on these things." Philippians 4:8

Building the House

September 27, 2020 Rev. Janet Friedline

In the Hebrew testament we read, "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it." We all know that a house is where we live. We want our house to be pleasant, and comfortable, a place where we can entertain friends, or perhaps just spend some quiet time by ourselves. We spend a great deal of time deciding what to do with our house. We choose the fabric and colors compatible with our idea of decoration.

We select furniture, art, and accessories reflecting our concept of beauty and sensitivity.

While we spend time with our house of brick and mortar, we understand that we also live in a house called "consciousness." This place houses our ideas and opinions, our views and attitudes about life. Much attention is given to this house, because out of it comes the issues of life. Consciousness is the builder, and when lifted on high, the foundation is firm and certain. We step aside and the Lord does the work. The house of spiritual consciousness is our true home, let us go there and be at peace.