



February 2025

# NEWSLETTER

DIVINE SCIENCE CHURCH OF THE HEALING CHRIST

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## LESSON TOPICS FOR FEBRUARY 2025 SUNDAYS AT 11AM

### **FEBRUARY 2** “GOD’S PRECIOUS LOVE”

Rev. Gene Policastri

For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son. The creative energy of Love is what binds our perceived manifestation with the omnipresence of God. It is the creative energy part of our trinity in Divine Science – Creator, Creative Activity and Creation. Love – Universal Love – is a creative force that is essential to living a full, enriched life.

### **FEBRUARY 9** “LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR”

Rev. Gene Policastri

There are only two commandments Jesus emphasized: love God with all your heart, all your soul and with all your mind; and love your neighbor as yourself. Your neighbor is any idea in consciousness or any soul that dwells upon the earth. When you care for another as you do yourself, then you are a good neighbor. When you take to heart these two commandments, you cannot help but lose any false sense of separation.

### **FEBRUARY 16** “LOVE HEALS”

Rev. Gene Policastri

When you express Love, Love as Divine Energy, it removes all sense of separation. No longer do you see the other as something or someone to be judged. Rather you begin to discern the inner Christ that resides within and recognize your unity with the other as they are created and animated by the exact same life force. This unification destroys separation and heals all notions of discord, disagreement and disease. Divine Love meets your every need; your need to recognize your own divinity and unity. It brings you in tune with the Universe. Divine Love heals all.

### **FEBRUARY 23** “MERCY AND COMPASSION”

Rev. Gene Policastri

“In the name of God, I ask you to have mercy.” These were the words spoken recently to a leader of nations. Mercy and compassion are expressions that come from an unflinching belief in the Love of God. God does not hate; God does not criticize. God is Love. And as Paul wrote, “Love is patient, Love is kind. Love does not envy nor boast. It is not proud. It does not dishonor others. It is not self-seeking. It is not easily angered. It holds no resentments, and it rejoices in Truth. Love never fails. Therefore, have mercy and compassion. When you do, you then express the hallmarks of your Divinity.



#### Directions To Join Our Virtual Service

##### Join via Telephone

Call the toll-free number: 669-265-1582; and press#. You will be joined and be automatically muted.

##### Join via Tablet/Computer

Enter our meeting ID: 7216723017. There will be no password required. You will automatically be muted. Please remain muted during the service

## A TIME FOR EVERY PURPOSE

Rev. Pat Beach

The author of Ecclesiastes tells us that there is a time for everything, including a time to keep silence. As we grow in an understanding of our true spiritual identity, we will devote more and more time to keeping Silence and listening for Divine Guidance for all that we do.

We give thanks everyday for the blessings of God's Grace and tender Mercy. Amen.

### President's Message

After a very mild fall season, the Washington metropolitan area is getting a real taste of winter weather with snow, ice and frigid temperatures. Fortunately for those unable to come to church in person for whatever reason, there is zoom. We even had to rely on zoom recently when we had to close the church due to the promise of inclement weather so that those who ordinarily come in person would not have to deal with unsafe travels.

The Board of Trustees had its annual budget review meeting which takes place during the first meeting of the new year. Below are the items which were discussed.

1. We received Profit and Loss Statements from Rev. Donna Gatewood. They showed a projected deficit in excess of \$4,000 a month in 2025. At this time the Board voted not to withdraw a lump sum of \$50,000 to meet monthly bills, but to withdraw on an as needed basis. This will help keep a better balance in the account for accumulating interest. The remaining budget items will remain in place since there is no real change in the church usage. However, it should be noted that tithes and offerings were down considerably during the period last fall when we did not have in-person services while waiting for our insurance to be re-instated.
2. Our insurance issues were resolved due to the diligence of Rev. Policastri. However, the cost is a few thousand dollars above previous years. With the insurance policies in place, we were able to welcome people back to in person services as of Christmas Eve.
3. We are actively looking for a part-time facilities person to service the church. Presently we have one candidate to consider. Anyone who knows of preferably a retired person with some knowledge of building upkeep, please contact the church at (202) 333-7630.
4. We are presently planning to be a part of the March 2025 Natural Living Expo sponsored by Pathways Productions. It will be held at the Hilton McLean-Tysons Corner in McLean Virginia on March 30. All are welcome.
5. Regina Bratton recently informed us that for personal reasons, she would no longer be able to remain as a board member. We are grateful for the time that she did serve and should her circumstances change, we welcome her return.

***"I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I have set my heart on your laws". Psalm 119:30***

Shirley Taylor Moore, President  
Board of Trustees

## Sheila West



Our dear friend and much loved member of our community, Sheila West, made her transition in early January of 2025. Sheila was an active and vibrant member of our community. She regularly attended the book study/prayer group meetings with Rev. Friedline on Tuesday evenings; she regularly attended Sunday services both in person and over zoom; and she frequently enrolled in the Divine Science classes for enrichment and for credit. She was very supportive of my ordination process; and she was supportive of all in our community. One example is many years ago a bible teacher lost all her worldly goods in a fire - and Sheila appeared later with books, bibles and study guides in support.

Her family is making arrangements for a memorial service; and as we receive details, we will pass them along.

Sheila, we will miss your personality, and we know that you are with us now, and remain with us always.

Rev. Gene Policastri

Ongoing Prayer and Study Group  
Conference call

Tuesdays  
6:30 pm

If you would like to join, you may do so  
by using the conference call number:

**605-472-5203**  
**Access Code 662944#.**



### **Divine Science Ministers**

Rev. Janet Friedline	202-362-5044
Rev. Donna Gatewood	703-641-9141
Rev. Wayne M. Gatewood, Jr.	703-641-9141
Rev. Gene Policastri	301-957-0147

### **THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Shirley Taylor-Moore, *President*,  
Charmaine Hawkins, *Member*,  
Rev. Gene Policastri, *Ex-Officio*,

