November 2021



NEWSLETTER divine science church of the healing christ

2025 35TH STREET N.W. WASHINGTON D.C.20007 Office: (202)333-7630 Dial-a-prayer: (202)338-1240

www.divinescience.org dschurchdc@aol.com

LESSON TOPICS FOR NOVEMBER 2021

NOVEMBER 7 "THE TRUE DEMONSTRATION"

Rev. Janet Friedline

Many of us desire an outward display of what we consider the "necessary things." Things come, and things go, leaving us fearful and anxious. Let us not seek the "lasting," in the "passing." Dig a little deeper - life is much more than what appears to be.

> NOVEMBER 14 "LIVE AS A WITNESS" Rev. Janet Friedline

Rev. Janet Friedline

Each of us bears witness to something. Looking out on the world, we observe according to experience, or the five senses. When we lift our view of life, we bear witness to a higher realm of reality, going beyond what the human being can imagine or invent **NOVEMBER 21** "BOUNTIFUL LIFE"

Rev. Donna Gatewood

The greatest Truth ever spoken by man was voiced by Jesus when he said: "The Kingdom of God is within you." Which means that all of the Love, Wisdom, and Power of God is right where you are. Who could ask for more?

NOVEMBER 28 "TURN THE OTHER CHEEK"

Rev. Donna Gatewood

What is the secret of releasing and letting go of those individuals who have hurt you so deeply that it becomes a human impossibility to forgive? It's a good question and it does have an answer.



"GIVING THANKS"

REV. PAT BEACH

We may think of just the Winter holidays as times of giving -- giving thanks and gift giving. Yet, when we reflect on this, we recognize that every holiday is really about giving. Holidays are times set aside for giving praise, thanks, forgiveness, focused attention, remembrance, or recognition and honor. So regardless of the form that these special events take in the world, the underlying essence is about giving -- of ourselves. In taking this action we acknowledge how very much we have received and the abundance we have to offer. In the Book of Acts (20:35) we are told, "Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive." St.Francis of Assisi tells us why this is so, "For it is *in the giving* that we receive,"

The occasions to do this giving, called holidays, are actually Holy Days or days set aside that we may know Holiness as the reality of Wholeness. Having these times on a regular basis encourages us to practice giving as a way of life. This abundance is not of us but through us. This is in harmony with the flow of God's creation, from inner to the outer realm. We recognize that it is our privilege to bear witness as the Christ within us holds communion with the Divine and Wholeness is realized.

It is this out streaming Goodwill, God's expression of Grace flowing throughout all of creation



Tuesdays 6:30 pm

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

<u>605-472-5203</u> Access Code 662944#. that gives of Itself. It is our privilege to cooperate with it. Rather than giving of our possessions, we are privileged to recognize that we "own" nothing and that we are but channels for His Grace and tender mercy as we stand down from the mistaken belief in a human identity.

For the blessing of this awareness, we give eternal praise and thanks, Amen.



1. Recent commentaries alluding to the leasing situation between the National Park Service and our church have become more urgent in that we may have to make some serious decisions very soon. As you well know our building and land belong to the National Park Service (NPS) and while we have put hundreds of thousands into the maintenance and repair of the church structure over a period of years, without any help from NPS, the time has come whereby they may want to renegotiate a leasing agreement with us. That being said, what can we do no matter how affordable the leasing agreement may be, (and we do hope for one that is affordable), the upkeep of the church depends on the monetary support from you, the members of the congregation. NPS has said that they would offer us a noncompetitive, sole source 40-year lease whereby they will be responsible for all repairs, but no credit will be given us for past monies spent on the building. On Sunday, October 10, 2021, the ministers met with the Board to voice opinions concerning the present NPS situation and the prospects of remaining at the present location. The following topics were addressed:

- What is the most we can afford with a new lease from NPS. Our investment accounts which we have depended on in the past will not sustain us ad infinitum.
- Given that we are a small congregation, what is the feasibility of continued occupancy, paying monthly bills and unexpected repairs.
- In the event that we are not able to remain at this location, consider the expense of storage and moving church items, particularly if we

found a new space smaller than our present location.

• Attendance – should we, if NPS offers a reasonable lease, give it a trial of 6 months.

In consideration of all of this, the Board decided that we should have a church town hall meeting so that members can offer their opinions. The congregation will be notified well in advance of such a meeting. However, with that in mind we must decide whether to go ahead on our own and find another place of worship, continue Sunday services on zoom or both. The Tuesday night prayer and study group would continue via phone conference line regardless. As of this writing, we are awaiting word from NPS.



2. We were blessed to receive an unsolicited check in the amount of \$2,820 from the Quimby church in Secaucus, New Jersey. A thank you note was sent to acknowledge and give thanks for this gift. This is not the first time that our sister Divine Science church has awarded us a gift. For this blessing we are thankful.



Shirley Taylor Moore, President Board of Trustees

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen...Hebrews 11:1

WELCOMING A NEW PRACTITIONER

It is with a great deal of pleasure that I write this article to announce that Mr. Eugene (Gene) Policastri has successfully completed the 22-week Practitioner's Course. He has been awarded a certificate and a license from the Divine Science School.

Gene has been a member of the church family for a number of years. During those years he has taken and excelled at all of the Divine Science Classes for personal spiritual growth. Early on in his class work all of his teachers and

ministers saw something very special in Gene. He exhibited an extraordinary understanding of Truth. This is the Truth he lives in his life every day.

After successfully completing all of the six basic classes, Gene was asked to become a teacher. He was a student taught Bible Meaning and Mystery Old and New Testament by Ms. Sylvia Anderson. He is a licensed Divine Science Teacher; he taught his first Old Testament class earlier this year.

Gene is also a sitting member and officer of the Church's Board of Trustees. Gene will begin being included in the speaking rotation beginning in January of 2022. Congratulations, Gene!

Rev. Donna Gatewood

Divine Science Ministers

 Rev. Janet Friedline
 202-362-5044

 Rev. Donna Gatewood
 703-641-9141

 Rev. Wayne M. Gatewood, Jr.
 703-641-9141

Office Coverage

The Church Office will remain closed until further notice.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Shirley Taylor-Moore, President Regina Bratton, Vice President Rosalie Werback, Treasurer, Gene Policastri, Secretary, Charmaine Hawkins, Member, Rev. Wayne Gatewood, Ex-Officio

