

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

January, 2018

Expressions

A Publication of the

CLAREMONT CENTER FOR SPIRITUAL LIVING

509 S. College Ave, Claremont, CA 91711 / 909-624-3549



A Note From The Rev

by Rev. Tracy

A Time of Beginnings

In his introduction to inspirational messages for January in "365: Science of Mind," Dr. Holmes writes:

"New arts, new sciences, new philosophies, better government and a higher civilization wait on our thoughts. The infinite energy of Life, and the possibility of our future evolution, work through our imagination and will. The time is ready, the place is where we are now, and it is done unto all as they really believe and act."

For each day of the year, this book offers insights and inspiration from Dr. Holmes. In the introduction, Kathy Juline says, "Holmes saw beyond the veil of outer appearances, and he challenged us to do the same." She believes, as Holmes did, that "we can be lights unto the world."

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Ed Graff, Interim Editor



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As Johann Wolfgang von Goethe wrote:

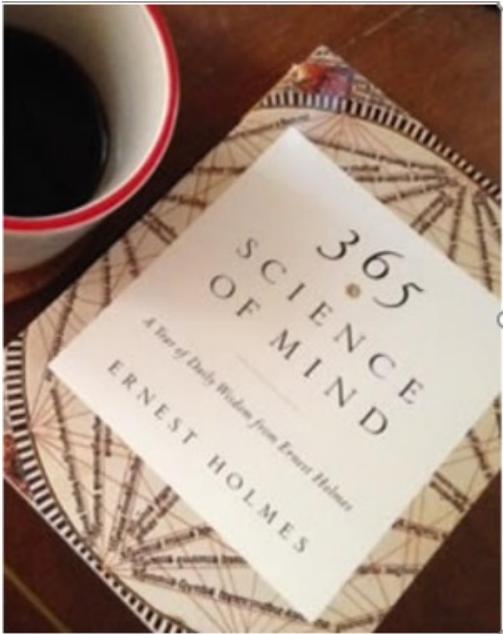
Are you in earnest? Then seize this very minute.

What you can do, or dream you can, begin it;

Boldness has genius, power and magic in it;

Only engage then the mind grows heated; Begin, and then the work will be completed.

Wishing each of you a new year resplendent with new beginnings, with boldness, with imagination and will.



“365: Science of Mind” is available at bookstores and online retailers. You can read excerpts every day on Twitter by following @ErnestHolmesSOM.

Classes are coming up... Why should I take one?

We all know that spiritual growth is a process, not a final destination. It is a personal path in which we grow closer and closer to Divine Wisdom, Love, Peace, Harmony....

The important thing, like all paths, is to keep moving along. It is fine to stop every once in a while to take in the views, but a path is meant to be walked.

Spiritual health is like physical health - you got to work it. And yes, you can go to the gym alone. But, going with someone else makes it more fun and challenges us just a little more. We learn more about different "methods" of exercising and can share our progress. It also makes us show up when we don't feel like it or are tempted to let "life" get in the way.

Taking spiritual classes gives a richness to our daily lives and propels us into deeper joy and peace in all our future days.

"You may not remember what you had for dinner last night, but it is a good thing that you *had* dinner."

– Marianne Breen, RScP



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My Peace Candle

As I light my peace candle, I think of it as the serene beacon of a new journey.

The journey may be filled with surprises and adventure, but I will maintain the light.

At my journey's end, I exhale, and peace overwhelms me for a moment as the candle goes out.

Then another task appears before me, so I breathe and seek to light it once again.

The peace candle is eternal within me. My job is to find it in the darkness and bring it to life.

– Brad Wethern,

Delivered at the Candlelight Service, 12/20/2017



“Offerings” by Paula Bailey, 2004.

Originally part of an installation of 200 small paintings, “200 Offerings for Peace.”

See this painting in the Claremont CSL Library.

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Is there a happiness that does not depend upon having one's favorite foods available, or friends and loved ones within arm's reach, or good books to read, or something to look forward to on the weekend? Is it possible to be happy *before* anything happens, before one's desires are gratified, in spite of life's difficulties, in the very midst of physical pain, old age, disease, and death?

We are all, in some sense, living our answer to this question - and most of us are living as though the answer were “no.”

– From *Waking Up: A Guide to Spirituality Without Religion*, by Sam Harris

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"A Great Turning"

An excerpt from the book *Christianity After Religion*, by church historian Diana Butler Bass

Strange as it may seem in this time of cultural anxiety, economic near collapse, terrorist fear, political violence, environmental crisis, and partisan anger, I believe that the United States (and not only the United States) is caught up in the throes of a spiritual awakening, a period of sustained religious and political transformation during which our ways of seeing the world, understanding ourselves, and expressing faith are being, to borrow a phrase, "born again." Indeed, the shifts around religion contribute to the anxiety, even as anxiety gives rise to new sorts of understandings of God and the spiritual life. Fear and confusion signal change. This transformation is what some hope will be a "Great Turning" toward a global community based on shared human connection, dedicated to the care of our planet, committed to justice and equality, that seeks to raise hundreds of millions from poverty, violence, and oppression. . . .

Exponential change creates exponential fear along with exponential hope. Massive transformation creates the double-edged cultural sword of decline and renewal. Exponential change ends those things that people once assumed and trusted to be true. At the same time, upheaval opens new

pathways to the future. Change is about endings and beginnings and the necessary interrelationship between the two.

In his Letter to the Romans, Paul has a marvelous line: "where sin increased, grace abounded all the more" (Romans 5:20). In so many places, there are signs of the Holy Spirit working at all levels of society. The church might well have done its work as leaven, because much of this reform, enlightenment, compassion, and healing is outside the bounds of organized religion. Only God is going to get the credit.

The toothpaste is out of the tube. There are enough people who know the big picture of Jesus' thrilling and alluring vision of the reign of God that this Great Turning cannot be stopped. There are enough people going on solid inner journeys that it is not merely ideological or theoretical. This reformation is happening in a positive, nonviolent way. The changes are not just from the top down, but much more from the bottom up. Not from the outside in, but from the inside out. Not from clergy to laity, but from a unified field where class is of minor importance.

(*"Turning" continues on Page 5...*)



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(“Turning” - continued from Page 4...)

The big questions are being answered at a peaceful and foundational level, with no need to oppose, deny, or reject. I sense the urgency of the Holy Spirit, with over seven billion humans now on the planet. There is so much to love and embrace.

I am convinced that the only future of the church, the one Body of Christ, is ecumenical and shared. Each of our traditions have preserved and fostered one or another jewel in the huge crown that is the Cosmic Christ; only together can we make up the unity of the Spirit, as we learn to defer to one another out of love.

– This excerpt was found and shared by Marianne Breen

Do You Have...

... a favorite poem, affirmation, excerpt from a book or a magazine article?

... a work of art that sparks your imagination?

... some insights of your own that you’ve been waiting for a chance to share?

Expressions is the Claremont CSL journal, and we invite discussions and observations from a broad range of viewpoints. Please send your contributions to: eemgraffvz@gmail.com

Thank you!

An Affirmation

"And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work." - 2 Corinthians 9:8

I am a beloved child of God. Rooted in this awareness, I affirm prosperity as my divine inheritance. I believe in the sufficiency of God as my Source and supply. There is no good being withheld from me.

My life is filled with an overflowing measure of blessings. In my daily prayers, I give thanks to God as the inexhaustible source of all life. I am grateful for divine healing energy that flows through my body. I embrace the peace that washes over me when challenges appear.

I express joy-filled gratitude that my physical body needs are met. Like a magnet, this practice of gratitude draws evermore abundance to me. Every spiritual desire of my heart is fulfilled.

– From *Unity Daily Word*,
found and shared by Diane Clements



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Calendar of Events for January, 2018

Claremont CSL Events

Ongoing Events:

Sundays -

AA Meetings, 8 AM; Chapel

Meditation, 10 AM; Chapel

Sunday Service, 10:30 AM; Sanctuary

Fellowship Hour, 11:30 AM; Holmes Hall

Apostolic Church, 2:00 PM; Chapel

Living Proof Meeting, 4:30 PM; Chapel

Mondays -

ManKind Project, 7 PM; Chapel

Wednesdays -

Meditation, 6:15 PM; Practitioner Room

Wednesday Service, 7 PM; Chapel

Thursdays -

Kindly Conversations, 10 AM; Chapel

Saturdays -

Yoga Class, 9:30 AM; Chapel



Sacred and Cultural Events

- 1 Last day of Hanukkah (Jewish)
New Year's Day
- 6 Epiphany (Christian)
- 7 Christmas Day (Orthodox, Coptic)
- 13 Friday the 13th!!
- 14 Orthodox New Year
- 15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 27 International Day of Remembrance
for Victims of the Holocaust
- 28 Chinese New Year
- 29 World Leprosy Day



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Licensed Practitioners

You can email prayer requests to:

prayer@claremontcsl.org

You may also call Practitioners directly at the following numbers:

Neysa Burrous, RScP

909-948-6929

Diane Clements, RScP

909-947-5197

Marianne Cordova-Breen, RScP

909-392-3934

Ima Lee Moore, RScP

909-987-8886

Patty Powers, RScP

909-636-7690

Brad Wethern, RScP

909-994-7440

Board of Trustees

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909-624-3549

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Edward Graff, Secretary

909-938-9676

Patty Powers, RScP, Treasurer

909-636-7690

Bill West, Member

909-623-5857

Laney Roberts, Member

909-518-9557

Sacred Service Team Members

Pastoral Care -

Rev. Tracy Earlywine, 909-624-3549

Practitioner Core, 909-624-3549

Church Administrator -

Stacey Jones, 909-624-3549

Music Ministry -

Jeff Harrison, 714-928-7738

Bookstore Manager -

Glenn Jones, 951-440-3589

Director of Education -

Marianne Cordova-Breen, RScP,

909-392-3934

Youth Education and Social Media -

Karen Larson, 909-591-3243

Volunteer Team Leader -

Micki Daniels, 909-949-1152

Sunday Hospitality -

Mark Wethern, 909-502-2258

Librarian, Historian, Sound Ministry -

Ed Graff, 909-938-9676

Pet Ministry -

Diane Clements, RScP, 909-947-5197



Candlelight Service, Dec. 20, 2017