

Divine Science Ministers Association



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Happy Autumn

Dear Divine Science Ministers,

As we anticipate the brilliant display of fall energies and colors, we are deeply blessed as Divine Scientists to be anchored in the bedrock of the awareness of the **Presence of God Everywhere**. In constant trust, we lift our hearts and souls into the infinite light and love of Truth. 2018 has been a time of challenges: with storms, fires, floods, earthquakes, and political changes . . . with young people resorting to stepping forward to influence and lead, as new lights . . . wise, way beyond their years. Major shifts are occurring. How blessed we are to be sustained by compassion, awareness, and our precious Divine Science perspective.

We are off and running with registrations for the 2019 DSMA Retreat in beautiful Hana, Maui, Hawaii. There is still plenty of space for YOU to join us. Treat yourself to your vacation in "Paradise," before or after the May 6th thru May 10th DSMA event. There could never be a better time.

Economical "Southwest Airlines" has announced they are opening flights to Maui in 2019, so the airfares for all the airlines which fly into Maui, are expected to lower, as the price competitions begin. The time is right. Come and enjoy being with your DSMA Family, surrounded by these gorgeous deep blue waters. There is a peace here which cleanses and influences the soul, and of course is embodied by the word

Aloha.

Love & Blessings,

Reverend Roma Carlisle

P.S. After many decades of loving service leading INTA, the International New Thought Alliance, Blaine Mays has made his transition into the light. We honor and thank him for his commitment to bringing the various New Thought religions together as one family all these years.

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Vision Statement

To unify and empower ministers in holding the consciousness and realization of Oneness, Eternal Life, Unconditional Love, and Divine Substance for the Divine Science Movement.

Mission Statement

To be a resource for the ministers, that spiritually supports and nurtures communion with each other in love, in order to empower, heal and inspire us to live a Christ-centered life in our Divine Science Ministries.

Making Self Care A Priority

by Reverend Joy Fletcher-Thomas



Ministers often report they don't have time for self-care. There are sermons to finish, a last minute funeral to prepare and officiate, hospital visits, board meetings and a multitude of other deadlines to meet. However, consider what would happen to your car if you didn't change the oil, check the tire pressure, or address a weird noise? If we overlook the importance of maintenance and prevention, it surely will lead to a more costly repair. This is also true about taking care of us. Admittedly, many times, I functioned with the intention of wanting to help others, yet I didn't give myself the same care and consideration. This self-neglect only led to the cost of overwhelming stress and resentment. Some ministers attribute their own physical challenges to not caring for themselves.

In preparation for an airline flight, the safety instruction "Put the oxygen mask on yourself first" is given. While it seems to be selfish, it has a very practical purpose. This seems to run counter with a minister's purpose. "Self-care is never a selfish act - it is simply good stewardship of the only gift I have, the gift I was put on earth to offer others. Anytime we can listen to true self and give the care it requires, we do it not only for ourselves, but for the many others whose lives we touch." Parker Palmer.

How healthy is your own self-care? Is it consistent? Do you give into the temptation of neglecting personal nourishment because you think you don't have time? As in the car maintenance example, if we don't tend to self-care now, it may lead to an outcome that is more costly. A daily prayer or meditation practice is a must as well as making healthy diet choices, getting enough sleep, exercise, yoga, recreation, and being in supportive relationships. Spending time in nature, taking a break from the phone, getting massages and enjoying hobbies are some of the many ways that one can practice self-nourishment, too. As author Jean Shinoda Bolen writes "When you rediscover or discover something that nourishes your soul and brings joy, care enough to make room for it in your life." When we feel nourished, we can more effectively help others. Friends, when you make self-care a priority, everybody wins.

By-Line: "Joyfull" . . . DSMA's VP . . . is a very busy wife, mother, and grandmother. She has officiated for over 500 weddings, and does funerals, focusing on hospice, and bereavement care. She nourishes herself with family, and loves travelling from their home in Linden, Michigan.

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2018 Third Quarter (July thru September) Treasurer's Report:

Income: \$1,366.58 (Retreat, Donation, Bank Interest)

Expenses: \$1,814.00 (Retreat Deposit, Bank Service Charges)

Difference: -\$447.42 Cash Assets: \$9,589.36 General Fund: \$6,808.36

Designated Funds: Assistance Fund \$2,000; Scholarship Fund \$781

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Let us Affirm: In the stillness of pure being, we draw infinite abundance, joy, and healing into our lives. We are deeply grateful . . . And so it is.