



A Message From our Minister.

By Rev. Carrie.

As we approach the Holy Days Season, I can't help but wonder what makes them holy? What is the connection between Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Winter Solstice, and Christmas?

As a metaphysician I sometimes feel indifference as we approach the Holy Days. Since we are not really considered a branch of one the seven major religions I wonder why we celebrate them at all. The good news is we get to celebrate the essence of all the major annual celebrations. So the approach I take is about the theme I see played out from the traditions?

I do have a favorite theme that I have explored over the years. It ties nicely into the winter solstice, Christmas and Hanukkah. That theme is light. It is a time in the winter solstice when the sun returns, in Hanukkah it is the Festival of Lights a symbolic celebration of growing light and as a commemoration of spiritual rebirth and Christmas is a time of the birth of the Christ within. When truly contemplated it can be very spiritually powerful concept.

The theme of light is very fitting considering the feeling of just wanting to stay inside where the warmth of my home keeps me in a sort of internal quest to just be close to the light of the fireplace or scent pine candles.

I always feel so introspective at this time of year and yet the busy-ness of the Holidays bring me out of my quiet repose so that I can visit with relatives and friends who I see all the time, but somehow this is special and different.

I think that is where Thanksgiving comes in. To recognize how very blessed I am to live in a community of loving kindness with like minded beings of light. But why do I need a Holiday to remember? Why does it take a Holy Season to reconnect to the Light, the love and the gratitude; to renew myself for another year of life?