



**The Grand Council of the Independent United Order of Mechanics, Friendly Society**  
**of North, Central and South America, Islands of the Seas, and the entire Western Hemisphere Incorporated**

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**2018 MECHANIC'S  
DAY  
MESSAGE**

Rt. Hon. Walter L. Benjamin  
 Most Worshipful Grand Master

My Brothers and Sisters of the Order, Family and Friends, in the name of the Great Geometrician of the Universe, I bring you greetings from the Executive Committee of Grand Council of the Independent United Order of Mechanics, Friendly Society of North, Central and South America, Islands of the Seas and the entire Western Hemisphere, Inc.

Once again, we have come together as a worldwide fraternity, to celebrate another milestone, and to give thanks for the preservation of this Noble Order since 1757.

First let me express thanks and appreciation for all faith-based religious leaders who will serve in hosting our anniversary service. I pray God's continued blessings on you and your congregation and prosperity in all that you do. Hearty welcome to all family and friends who also made it possible to join in this celebration and the various planning Committees for this great celebration. On behalf of all our members worldwide, I extend a warm welcome and thanks to all of you.

As I reflect on another Mechanics Day Message amidst the cares and turmoil of a troubled world, and our Order's theme of "Members Matter Most," I am comforted by the following two passages as written in the Holy Scriptures:

Matthew 11:28 – "Come unto me all ye that labor, and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

1 John 1:9 – "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us... and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

As citizens of the world and as members of this Grand and Noble Order, we must take comfort with faith and hope in the Great Geometrician that "all things are possible."

Cont'd....

Last year in my Mechanic's Day message I referred to the "*metamorphic cycle of change*" relative to becoming better Mechanics. This year, I will take one step further in my message by referring to the "*Spiritual Principles of Change*" and the elevating influences, PEACE OF MIND, INTEGRITY and KARMA they produce.

Dr. Howard Samuels, who is a well-known Clinical Psychologist, alludes to the following "12 Spiritual Principles to Live By" as:

**Acceptance** – We must embrace acceptance as reflected in the Serenity Prayer.

**Live Your Truth** - When we speak our own truth we give those around us the opportunity to truly know who we are.

**Remain Grateful** – We must demonstrate daily gratitude for the gift of life.

**Have Faith in your Relationships** – We must learn and practice TRUST in our relationships.

**Be of Service** – "Give and it shall be given unto you – full measure pressed down, and shaken together and running over..."

**Laugh at Yourself** – We never get a second chance at first impression.

**Live in the Moment** – Remember - Your past is inescapable; Your future is unavoidable; but Your present is forever unrestrained.

**Practice Restraint of Pen and Tongue** – There are some things including "words" that can never be retrieved.

**Learn to Forgive** – Spiritual growth begins when we start "learning" to forgive.

**Remain Teachable** – We must try to "see" everything instead of "seeing through" everything.

**Everything you came here looking for, you came here looking with** – Inner peace comes from accepting our Truth – let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

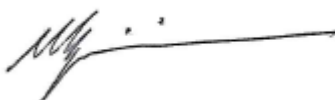
**Be Courageous in Life** – Courage is the most important of all the virtues because, without it, one cannot practice any of the others consistently. It takes courage to love; it takes courage to be honest and to speak our own truth; it takes courage to forgive, and it takes courage to reach out and help others.

With the constant changes and challenges in the world and in life, each of us as individuals and members in our respective Lodges, Chapters, Conclaves, Encampments, and District Grand Lodges can relate and find comfort in these principles; and when applied, they can make a great difference in our own lives, in the Order and the world at large.

Let me also take this opportunity to invite all of you to **SAVE THE DATE** for our upcoming 26<sup>th</sup> International Triennial Convention which will be held in Panama City, Republic of Panama from October 18 – 27, 2019. The Convention Committee is meticulously planning a memorable Convention, which will be remembered for years to come. Reservations are currently being accepted by District Grand Lodges or by contacting the Secretariat of our Order. To accommodate registrations, we are accepting all major credit cards from our membership.

On this Mechanic's Day, be joyful, be friendly, be peaceful, reach across the aisle and greet each other in the spirit of one-ness and truth, and be rejuvenated with a resolve to make one of the 12 **Spiritual Principles** our standard bearer for the future, and thereby becoming agents of Peace which demonstrates words of the Psalmist: "*Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.*"

Peace and Fraternal Blessings!



Rt. Hon. Walter L. Benjamin  
Most Worshipful Grand Master