

SEPTEMBER 2017



Lessons from the Eclipse

Dear Friends,

I was so blessed to be in the path of the totality of the solar eclipse on Monday, August 21st. We prepared by getting the special glasses, lots of sun block and lawn chairs. It was a wonderful and moving experience to witness this spectacular event. I could spend pages talking about it, but I'd like to share just two things.

Shadow and darkness may eclipse light, but cannot extinguish it. When the light of the sun was hidden, day became like evening, and the intense summertime heat from the sun lessened to a fall-like cool. I can understand how the loss of the sun—for even just a few minutes would have been terrifying to primitive peoples who didn't understand the flow of the celestial bodies. It's like that in our lives. Our light is often dimmed. Our comfort, our strength and courage seem to fade in times of danger, tragedy, stress and hurt. The sun was momentarily hidden, but in reality it was still there, shining with all of its force, warmth and light. The sun didn't change, only my perception of it changed. When our lives seem dark, we must remember that the light, the love is still there. It never changes, it never dims.

Even in darkness, hope shines. As the light of the sun faded, the stars came out! We saw the beautiful, clear light of the morning star—Venus, shining in the false darkness of mid-afternoon. Even in times of trouble hope, light and encouragement is there, we just have to look for it.

Our light is Jesus Christ. Our light is eternal and never dims. When doubt, fear, hurt or trouble seem to eclipse your light, I pray that you have the courage to keep going, looking for signs of hope, comfort and love and light eternal.

Your sister in Christ,
Mother Bonnie+