

The Plainfield Independent

Newsletter

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OUR THOUGHT FOR EACH DAY

By Mary Baker Eddy

“Every day, every hour, our work increases in effectiveness and power.”

THINK UPON THIS

The way to extract error from mortal mind is to pour in truth through flood-tides of Love. Christian perfection is won on no other basis.

S&H (201:17-19)

library across the street from the church are in full bloom, and they look magnificent! And the many azalea bushes will be coming out shortly. If you'd like to visit, now is a lovely time to come. Hope to see you soon!

A QUOTE FROM THE PAST

Matthew Henry

Here is bread which strengthens man's heart.

A WATCH

The Watches are very important in our church. I've included the following prayer, "Morning Prayer in Mrs. Eddy's Household" from *Watches, Prayers, Arguments*, in my daily Watch for my home, community, our nation, the world:

“This is God's spiritual household. Nothing can enter to annoy or destroy. Nothing can enter to manifest sin, sickness or discouragement, for God, good, keeps this household in perfect peace. There is no will-power, obstinacy, or animal magnetism that can darken the atmosphere of my home, for God does in very deed dwell on earth with men and governs every event. There is no evil condition of thought that can argue or suggest or make any law to dominate or control me, intimidate me, or crush me, bring any evil to pass upon me, or shut out of my consciousness any good. There is no law of failure, want, poverty, lack or limitation. There is no law but the divine law, which is plenty,

JIM'S CORNER

What is the last word used in the Bible?
Amen

HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

Lincoln's Birthday was celebrated by working on our Newsletter and also by reading our wonderful document, the Constitution.

Just a brief sidelight to those who might be interested: Hillsdale College in Michigan offers a free correspondence course, titled Constitution 101.

VISIT PLAINFIELD

This is such a beautiful time of year here in Plainfield. The cherry trees at the

abundance, harmony and dominion. No mortal mind or minds or mediumship can touch me, or anyone within the radius of my thought this day, for God, good, governs every member of this household in perfect peace and love.”

Submitted by Dale Wallis

A BIOGRAPHY

I have just completed reading a 113-page biography titled, *Christian Science and Its Discoverer* by E. Mary Ramsay. This is an outstanding work and depicts the many hardships Mrs. Eddy encountered and overcame. A quote sums up this work quite well: “To establish this teaching, Mary Baker Eddy devoted to it forty years of unremitting toil, and, whenever assailed or opposed, she consistently returned good for evil and always retained her dignity and serenity as well as her love for God and man.”

J Dible

LET THERE BE LIGHT

Christian Science Journal June 1894

A man who looks toward the light sees no shadow; a man who walks toward the light leaves darkness behind him. People get in darkness by turning away from the light. They hide in obscure corners; they bury themselves in nooks; where the Sun of righteousness cannot reach them; they close their blinds and shutters, and wonder that they have no light. A house may be dark, but it is not the fault of the sun. A soul may be dark, but it is not because the Light of the World does not shed beams abroad. — Armory

Submitted by Lynda Spencer

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

It was a real treat to be able to attend the Annual Membership Meeting from this church by teleconference. I enjoyed the special opening to the

meeting — we all sang a much-loved hymn of mine, Hymn 10, accompanied by Jeffrey from New Jersey, who played the guitar. Next came the various committee reports. I was impressed and amazed by the report that thousands of “clicks” were being made to our website and various accessible videos that are available. How wonderful to hear how far-reaching our prayerful work is! God knows no boundaries.

I am most grateful to be a member of this independent church, and look forward to attending future meetings.

Heidi Gwinn, Maryland

NEWS FROM OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

We’ve been reading and discussing the Lord’s Prayer, together with Mrs. Eddy’s spiritual interpretation from Science and Health. Some of the little children have started to learn the Twenty-third Psalm.

Each week we share our gratitude to God for all that He does for us, and here are a few examples:

God is the center of our lives and keeps us alive.

I am grateful for God who gives us the intelligence to do things like bringing Apollo 11 back home safely.

God gives us all the time we need to do everything we need to do.

When Love is with you, it will be a good day. Hymn 139: “I walk with Love along the way. And O, it is a holy day.”

Chardelle Hull

AN HOURLY AFFIRMATION

Recently a practitioner told us to say often during the day, besides the first thing in the morning, “God is Mind, God is my Mind, God is the only pure and perfect Mind.” I have been doing this hourly and it is keeping me focused on

God, reflecting Him, and not on what the human mind is trying to tell me.

I am very grateful for all I'm learning in the Plainfield Church.

Sharon Welsh

MRS. WILCOX AND HER LOVING COUNSELS

Recently, I read an address by Martha Wilcox, titled *Divine Metaphysics*. Mrs. Wilcox first describes divine metaphysics in detail, and then contrasts it with semi-metaphysics.

I can best describe this inspiring address by quoting a paragraph from it:

“If I were under a claim and had not received my health, I would study Science and Health through, and then if I were not healed, I would study it through again, and then if I were not healed, I would study it through again; and I would keep on studying the Truth as presented in Science and Health until my thought gave forth the concrete evidence of Truth.” Note that Mrs. Wilcox used the word *study*, not *read*.

J. Dible

“TRUST IN THE LORD”

Luanne Tucker

Sometimes I start to think, “Why do I have to work so hard just to have anything good?” Then to answer that question, I remembered just before Christmas, the kiln in my pottery shop over-fired to about 3,000 degrees, causing everyone’s projects to burn up, and destroyed the \$5,000 kiln. When I started the kiln that day, I got the thought to stay in the shop until the kiln shut off, but I dismissed it and went to bed. The next morning it was glowing red and everything was destroyed. But by the mercy of God, the shop did not burn down. I worked all the next day to rebuild it.

A couple of weeks ago, we got some rain and it started running under the door. I got the thought to get some sealer and seal it up. I dismissed it, telling myself, I would do it later. A few days later we got a heavy rain and half the shop flooded out. I worked all day to clean up the mess.

So why do I have to work so hard? It certainly is not God's fault. He was with me every moment guiding me along. But I was not trusting Him and obeying Him.

Before becoming a member of this church, events like these would have had me reeling with frustration; but through all the teaching and guidance I have received from my practitioner, I stayed calm and did the work, knowing there was a lesson and a solution to every problem. I am learning to understand that God is always with me, I need only look within. I am learning to trust Him with every aspect of my life. The Bible says to “trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.” (Prov.) It’s so much better!

HUMAN GOODNESS VERSUS DIVINE GOOD

Jeremy Palmer

I am grateful for all that this church offers that is helping me to really understand the difference between human goodness and divine good.

I never truly knew what good really was, so the best I could do was try to keep track of what didn't work — what was obviously bad! — and then do my best to avoid those consequences. Of course, while married, that only worked if my spouse avoided them as well. A false sense of goodness kept me in some pretty unhealthy situations because I

thought I was being supportive and loyal to the person I was with.

It was only after all that human goodness failed completely that I was brought to Christian Science as taught in this church. Here I learned a few really important things:

1. Loyalty to person is never good, while loyalty to God is always good.

2. Each individual has his own responsibility to take up his cross and follow Christ.

3. Divine goodness blesses all, while human goodness blesses no one.

All I've learned these past few years truly helped me when someone I had a relationship with came back into my life for a short time last year. I was able to keep my focus on my work for God, and shared all I was learning here with her. In the end, at least for the time, she was unable to see why any of this was important, and cut off contact with me. She felt I had changed, and gladly, she was right.

I have such peace with this resolution. Because of the support of the practitioner and what Christian Science has taught me, for the first time in my life I was able to be at peace with the end of a relationship. This is such a healing for me. I know I did what I could, and I know that I wasn't disloyal to God. I am so grateful to have gained this understanding of what divine goodness is.

LIVING OUR SCIENCE

By

Mary Beth Singleterry

We have such wonderful and joyful times together here — in person, and by telephone and Internet — times filled with love, and always to the glory of God. This is a faithful band who genuinely wants to be here, much like the disciples of Jesus' time — and each one so grateful for it!

I was recently telling someone that our whole week is in preparation. We read and study our Lesson every day; and then those of us who feel inspired, write on the forum on our Website to tell what we've gotten out of our Lesson.

On Wednesday nights we get together to give our gratitude to God for His blessings, which we have received all week. Then on Saturday mornings we have our Bible Study, again discussing this wonderful Lesson. On Sunday we meet to hear the Lesson being read, as well as to talk about it at the Roundtable.

And between all those times, we also have our Unity watches three times a week, and individual watches. All of these activities keep our thought stayed on God. And the Sunday service is really a crescendo of the week, as we use our Science moment by moment.

Thank God for this church and for the opportunity to serve Him!

Editors Jim Dible
and Carol Conroy

This is an informational newsletter for members of the Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent, intended to be a means for communication with each other, and is supported and provided by the efforts of the membership at large. Each member shall do his part to ensure the continuing success of Independent Christian Science as a worldwide activity. Let us begin with our Newsletter.