

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

Honesty is spiritual power. Dishonesty is human weakness, which forfeits divine help. S&H (453:16-17)

A QUOTE FROM THE PAST

Edward Young

The course of nature is the art of God.

JIM'S CORNER

What is the most frequently used woman's name in the Bible?

Sarah – 60 times

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Daylight Savings Time is often attributed to Ben Franklin. It begins March 12, 2017. Some states fail to utilize this method of forcing one to get up an hour earlier, Arizona, for example. Rather, the workers who labor in the heat of the day merely begin their day at sun rise and when “old sol” beats down “with vengeance” these

workers have already put in their day so they go home to the comforts of air conditioning.

HOLIDAYS IN FEBRUARY

We have a major holiday in February— Presidents' Day. This should provide ample time to devote an extra study period to our “Watches.” Mrs. Eddy placed emphasis on Watches in her home. We, too, should follow her lead and do the same. Consider devoting just a portion of the holiday to the reading of our most dear Constitution. I promise to be doing just that.

JACOB'S MESSAGE

I found a few statements by Martha Wilcox in her address from 1941 that we can and should apply to our world today. Democracy, or freedom, seems always threatened, both in the west and in the east. Politics is often played out under a sheepskin of wonderful promises, morality, religiosity, nationalism, etc. Underneath can often be the wolf of egotism, selfishness, greed, lust for power, and the entire etcetera's of mortal mind. Martha Wilcox writes:

“Day by day, we should know that nothing unlike good is taking place. When we read or cognize that our liberty is being threatened by the dominating powers of autocracy, we can even take care of that, ... as we establish our thought on the side of Principle, this Principle is the law that governs and cares for the universe.” “In every Christian Science treatment the only adequate denial is the absolute nothingness of any phase of evil.” “The desire to wipe a certain nation (race, religion) off the map, or to feel great disapproval of any person or group of people, is not the correct attitude for any Christian Scientists to take. To make any error, however great, a personal error, is not the way to prove its nothingness. Our work as Christian Scientists is to prove the powerlessness and nothingness of erroneous thought, wherever it is seen or whatever its form, through our own correct mental position of God’s allness.”

from Jacob in Costa Rica

JUST A REMINDER

As the winter season moves forward, it would appear as if some have forgotten that the Newsletter is constantly moving forward. “OUR” Newsletter is always in need of items for publication. If you have an item for a particular future newsletter, do send it in. I already have templates set up for the June 2017 edition. Just e-mail your document to either Carol or myself.

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MY DAILY WORK

God is the source of all there is. God's creation reflects His love and compassion. The Plainfield Christian Science Church is a part of God's creation. Hence the Plainfield Church reflects God. Since the Plainfield Church reflects God, the church provides love and compassion for the Plainfield com-

munity, and this love and compassion extends to embrace the whole world.

God is in control and leads the church in all ways to be an expression of God in the Plainfield community, and this radiates out to the whole world. Nothing can interfere with this church, this idea of God.

J. Elbid

THE GOSPEL

A great many learned men are defending the gospel; no doubt it is a very proper and right thing to do, yet I always notice that, when there are most books of that kind, it is because the gospel itself is not being preached. Suppose a number of persons were to take it into their heads that they had to defend a lion, a full-grown king of beasts! There he is in the cage, and here come all the soldiers of the army to fight for him. Well, I should suggest to them, if they would not object, and feel that it was humbling to them, that they should kindly stand back, and open the door, and let the lion out! I believe that would be the best way of defending him, for he would take care of himself; and the best “apology” for the gospel is to let the gospel out.

Charles Spurgeon

GOD IS HERE

I love this church. Other churches I’ve been to teach that God is up in heaven. This church teaches God is right here. I like that.

Walt Malinowski
Plainfield

OBEDIENCE

The Bible rings with one long demand for obedience. The keyword of the book of Deuteronomy is, “Observe and do.” The burden of our Lord’s farewell discourse is, “If ye love me, keep my commandments.” We must not question or reply or excuse ourselves. We must not pick and choose our

way. We must not think that obedience in one direction will compensate for disobedience in some other particular. God gives one command at a time; if we obey this, He will flood our soul with blessing and lead us forward into new paths and pastures. But if we refuse, we shall remain stagnant and waterlogged, make no progress in Christian experience, and lack both power and joy.

Rev. F. B. Meyer

NO FALLING PREY TO ANIMAL MAGNETISM

The evening prior to the Bible Study which I was to moderate, I received a call to rescue my friend from the bitter chastisement of drunken family members. It would have required eight hours of driving, and it was already late. My first thought was that I would not be home in time to moderate, or I would be so tired from travel that I could not give my complete attention to it. Still, I was getting ready to go.

My second and most important thought was to call my practitioner. I sent her an e-mail to which she immediately responded, stating, "This would be animal magnetism to take you from your rightful place." From the second I read this, and strongly resolved that I was not going to give in to it, I received a call from my friend that carried no manner of emergency. The situation had been exposed for what it was. My practitioner then called me, and gave me further insight into animal magnetism and how it operates, which was much appreciated and brought the situation to an end. I have never experienced anything so humbling in all my life.

I learned how animal magnetism would try to steal, or interfere with, my commitment to God, if I allow it to. It had come in the form of my personal sense of obligation. I would have driven right back into the very propensity that this Bible Study was helping me to understand. If I had not

requested the help from my practitioner, who pointed out the error that was trying to interfere with this valuable insight, I would have once again fallen prey to animal magnetism.

I am so grateful for everything that Christian Science is teaching me and for the continuous and immediate help I receive from my practitioner. Her perfect discernment and devotion to Truth has brought many merciful blessings to me. I am forever grateful for all she has taught me, and for the many healings I have received. Our God is a merciful and loving God!

Luanne Tucker, NY

DROPPING THE ANCHORS

I am so grateful for what was said at the January 7th Bible Study about the need to forgive ourselves. Specifically, the instruction was given to take the words of Christ Jesus, "Son, thy sins be forgiven thee," say them to ourselves, and really take that message to our "inward parts."

Since then, I keep finding things in my past that I was holding myself accountable for, and I've been praying about each one and letting them go. Apparently, I've been holding on to quite a bit. There are things like getting divorced, not being there for my kids enough, a lot of times where I treated people poorly, and all kinds of other stuff! Christian Science is helping me learn how to be the man God created me to be, and letting go of each of these anchors allows me to progress that much more.

It has been such a blessing. My daughter even mentioned that I look taller, and I have to think that is from not being weighed down by so much of the past. This is a process I will gladly continue.

I am so grateful for all the ways that Christian Science — through this church and practitioner support — is making my life so much better.

Jeremy Palmer

**COMMITTEE REPORTS FROM
ANNUAL MEETING**

Website Report

Thanks to everyone for all the help and feedback over the past year. Getting the new website going last January was a collective effort, and I am so grateful to my practitioner for daily support, and our members for all their work. Our website is actually a collection of 14 websites; but without all the articles, forum posts, services, discussions, testimonies, and readings, PlainfieldCS.com wouldn't be anything. It is because of how our church members constantly answer God's call that we have this wonderful church. It is such a blessing to be a part of this mission.

Here are some analytics for 2016: PlainfieldCS.com was visited 259,692 times by 16,256 different users. There were:

- 96,199 visits to the main page
- 4,074 visits to the weekly lesson page
- 6,644 visits to our live services page
- 4,280 visits to our Daily Watch page
- 3,894 visits to our Bible Study page
- 2,980 visits to our Wednesday Testimony Meetings page
- 2,451 visits to the Forum
- 2,193 visits to our Daily Duties page
- 1,447 visits to our Translations page
- 1,161 visits to our "Love is the Liberator."

YouTube videos were viewed 99,930 times, for a total of 548,342 minutes watched.

Over the last year we have added 787 videos, giving us a total of 2,007. We also gained 169 subscribers for a current total of 294.

SoundCloud has 22,500 plays from over 50 different countries.

The iTunes Podcast was viewed 148,582 times.

We now have an agreement with music publishing associations so that all the songs that our musicians perform will be legal to use anywhere online, without the danger of copyright infringement.

I am so grateful to everyone who volunteers to read or moderate. Also, I am grateful to those who are happy to step up when I ask them to fill a space.

Jeremy Palmer

"GENESIS 1 OR GENESIS 2"

I came across an article on the website called, "Genesis 1 or Genesis 2?" This helped me to put into words what I am most grateful for. It reads in part,

There they both stand.
Which one is you?
Immortal man one?
Or mortal man two?
If you're immortal man
You know what you're worth.
For according to law
You'll inherit the earth.
But if you're just a mortal
And made out of dust
Is there anything to you
That's worthy of trust?
No, the thing they call man
In Genesis 2
Is the dream of the dreamer,
It never was you.
So know what you are,
Take your place in the sun.
You're the immortal man
Of Genesis 1!

Written by J. Woodruff Smith

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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.