

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 time for the reappearing of the divine healing is throughout all time; and whosoever layeth his earthly all on the altar of divine Science, drinketh of Christ's cup now, and is endued with the spirit and power of Christian healing.

S&H (55:22-26)

A QUOTE FROM THE PAST

Ralph Waldo Emerson

For what are they all, in their high conceit,
When man in the bush with God
may meet?

JUNE

“And what is so rare as a day in June?

Then, if ever, come perfect days;”
These are the first two lines of a poem written by James Russell Lowell, and what could express better a day in June, for we do “hear life murmur, or see it glisten”? Better yet, might we not again quote, “Joy comes, grief goes, we know not how?” I have the full copy of this famous poem should you be interested.

JIM'S CORNER

How many can occupy a sport Honda?

ALL! The proof is found in Acts 2:1
“...they were all with one accord in
one place”!

PRODUCTIVE READING

If you have not tackled the reading of the single volume of Matthew Henry's Bible Commentary, do consider such a reading. His work was written originally in multiple volumes, but later condensed into a 2,000-page single volume. Rev. Henry did his work in the early 1700s, yet he had a spiritual insight that was most outstanding. Although the volume is usually considered a reference volume, it may well be utilized as a text to read from cover to cover.

A PEARL OF GREAT PRICE

We have something of great value available each and every week. Just think what two hours in every 168 hours could mean to you. This tiny segment of time, devoted to the Plainfield Bible Study each Saturday morn, and another hour to the Roundtable just before our Sunday Church Service, constitute truly “a pearl of great price.” There has never been a session in which I have not learned some new Truth in the trip from “sense to Soul.” I must express my humble gratitude for this opportunity provided by our church.

WATCHES

Did you know our church provides another great learning program each

week? Every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday evening is a “Watch,” similar to those initiated by Mrs. Eddy for her home. They are held at 8:55 PM and 9:55 PM (Eastern Time). Those gathered together for the Watch handle a multitude of topics that are in need of mental work. Topics cover such items as our church, our continuing activities, the government, drug abuse, the need of ever-present Love, and many current events, to name a few. Should we not find every member helping with this essential work? Identical sessions are held at 8:55 and 9:55.

UNITY IN LOVE FOR GOD

Gary Singleterry

I'm so grateful for the power of unity at work in this church. We do a lot together, and accomplish much. Our love for God is the basis of this unity, and there is not a thing that can't be done with that kind of unity. I was thinking recently of an experience we had a few years ago that I think is worth repeating.

Very early one Sunday morning it was discovered that radiators in the church were overflowing and leaking. There was flooding in some of the rooms, and water spraying on some of the electronic equipment used in this church. A few calls went out, and within a few minutes the church was full of members with shop vacs, towels, and pails, cleaning up what was a pretty bad mess. By the time we were supposed to have the service that morning, we had pretty well cleaned most of it up.

We had a rousing service that day! That afternoon a few people stayed to finish cleaning. Virtually nothing was damaged, although we were not able to broadcast the service because the broadcast computer was wet. When we described the situation to our insurance

agent, he was aghast that there was virtually no damage as a result of this incident. He said if all his customers were as diligent and hardworking as we were, he would not have a job. It was a clear indication of the love that the members have for this church and the cause of Christianity.

The whole experience was a great wake-up call for us, as it was a good reminder that the devil does not like what we are doing. We have to be very alert to that fact and protect what God has given us. We learned a very good lesson that Sunday morning. We also demanded the blessing, which we got, because at the end of the day this church never looked cleaner or tidier than it did as a result. I'm so grateful to see the power of unity and what it can accomplish, when the unity is based on love for, and obeying, God.

A NEW INSIGHT

Elizabeth Spaid

“Truly my soul waiteth upon God: from him cometh my salvation.” (Ps. 62:1)

Much is written in the Bible commentaries about this verse, and I thought these paragraphs from MacLaren's Expositions, about listening silently to God and waiting on Him with all our energy, expressed it beautifully:

“As the flowers follow the sun, and silently hold up their petals to be tinted and enlarged by his shining, so must we, if we would know the joy of God, hold our souls, wills, hearts, and minds still before Him, whose voice commands, whose love warms, whose truth makes fair, our whole being. God speaks for the most part in such silence only. If the soul be full of tumult and jangling noises, His voice is little likely to be heard. ... The silence of the soul before God is no mere passiveness. It requires the intensest

energy of all our being to keep all our being still and waiting upon Him. So put all your strength into the task, and be sure that your soul is never so intensely alive as when in deepest abnegation it waits hushed before God.”

THE FOURTH OF JULY

This National Holiday will be appearing on the scene soon. Might this be an ideal time to plan ahead for this holiday? Picnicking is a traditional method of celebration. Is it possible to squeeze just a few moments of the day into a planned study of our Constitution, that document which guarantees so many of our freedoms we often take as our standard? I will be doing just that!

OUR MAY 2017 MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Our May Membership Meeting was held on Thursday, May 25. It was announced at several services prior to the date, and many members from all over the country called in on the church phone to hear and participate in the meeting. It was a Love-filled, holy time, filled with gratitude to God for how He has blessed, and is blessing, this church, and for the opportunity to share His Word with the world.

Here are excerpts from some of the committee reports.

Forum Highlights Committee

Florence Roberts

Thanks to all who contribute to the Forum, and continue to give of their inspiration.

The Forum Highlights go out to our readers twice each month, and quarterly bound volumes are available. They can be given to anyone who is interested in understanding God more. The posts express the Truth in varied, under-

standable, and practical ways that anyone can use.

In Precepts III, Mr. Carpenter talks about how important it is to have the attitude of giving instead of receiving from our church services. This made me think how more motivated we would be and how much more sincerely and with a higher sense of love we would approach our Lesson study if we had the attitude of studying to give, instead of to receive. Then we cannot but receive many inspired blessings to share. If our main purpose in our work is to help “free the world from the bondage of mortality,” may we all feel that selfless spirit to give out our inspiration to those searching, as we all once were.

Website Committee

Jeremy Palmer

Our online outreach since our January meeting has seen amazing growth. This year our website has had over 7,500 visitors from 180 different countries, who looked at almost 109,000 pages.

Our YouTube channel has had 64,573 views, which translates into almost 650,000 minutes watched, with the average viewing lasting 10 minutes. We now have 2,223 videos posted online, with 452 subscribers worldwide. This means we have 152 more subscribers than at the January meeting, and 300 more than last May’s meeting.

Facebook now has 174 followers, and SoundCloud has 8,094 plays and 223 likes, from 136 countries.

The podcast has been viewed 63,849 times on iTunes, and is now also on the Amazon Echo.

I am so grateful to all of our readers, Lesson writers, translators, and contributors for the ceaseless work that is done here. Without the God-directed efforts of these members, this church would not be

meeting the need of so many around the world. Thank you all!

Mailing Committee

Benjamin Ndukwe

The committee is grateful to God for giving us this church where we have the freedom to love, express, inspire, and heal through our publications, teaching, and sharing of His Word. Christ Jesus said, “the gospel must first be published in all nations,” and we take this command to heart.

All publications are thoroughly proofed before they are mailed out. Every article is thoughtfully written to inspire and bless the reader. And God is sending us the hungry hearts, thirsty for the truth, from all parts of the world; and His Word is meeting their needs. The Mailing Committee is grateful to be in the middle of it all. Every order, request, and correspondence is met with love, and each is mailed in a timely manner.

Ushering Committee

Lillian Linnell

Each day we are ushering in the Christ, seeing the Light of Love in everyone, everywhere, every moment. We do this in person wherever we are, in our services, via the teleconference, and through our website. Our lives have been saved by God, and we are sharing this Truth with the community and the world.

A LIFE PURPOSE

Mary Beth Singleterry

I have been thinking how grateful I am for this church. I did not seem to have much purpose in my life. I am

almost ashamed to admit it, but at one time I used Christian Science to make my life more comfortable. I felt that Science was to help me get well, to feel happy, help my finances. It was all about me. Wow, was I ever wrong. What an awful concept of Christian Science, and it was here at this church that I learned that healings, whether physical, financial, or emotional, are really the byproducts of seeking God with your whole heart, your whole soul, your whole mind and wanting that more than anything — then wanting to humbly serve God.

When I got that straight and realized how selfish and self-centered that other way of thinking was, healings did become evident in my life. They came quietly and naturally, as I sought to know God and serve Him. I was often given, by a practitioner, an article titled, “Pond and Purpose,” in Miscellaneous Writings, by Mary Baker Eddy, which is wonderful. In the last sentence she says, “drink with me the living waters of the spirit of my life-purpose, — to impress humanity with the genuine recognition of practical, operative Christian Science.”

This is what has given meaning and purpose to my life when nothing else did. This is what gives me joy each morning, and a wonderful way to spend my day. To devote my time to this has made all the difference, and is what this church is all about.

I am very grateful to Mary Baker Eddy for her writings, and for this church.

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.