

# The Plainfield Independent

## Newsletter

Number 175

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### OUR THOUGHT FOR EACH DAY

By Mary Baker Eddy

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

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### THINK UPON THIS

Mind is the grand creator, and there can be no power except that which is derived from Mind. S&H (143:26-27)

### A QUOTE FROM THE PAST

Thomas Tusser

The stone that is rolling can gather no moss.

### JIM'S CORNER

Which candle burns longer – the candle hidden under a bushel or the candle set on a hill?

Neither, for they burn shorter.

### CHRISTMAS EVE

Once while traveling in a foreign country I was told, “You will sometime have a tradition in America.” This was said to me in a jewelry store which had been in the same location and the same family for over 300 years.

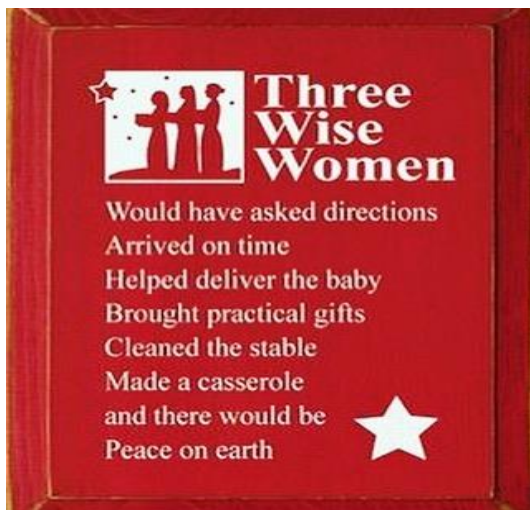
We in Plainfield do have traditions and just one unique tradition is the Christmas Eve Program held on Christmas Eve at 8:00 p.m. of each year. My first visit to this event was from a phone booth and I have never missed a Christmas Eve Service since.

What a joy to hear the lovely music and readings! A much greater thrill would be to actually be at the service and see the beautifully decorated auditorium and participate “in person” with the church family.

If you have not participated in a former event, do so this year and become a loyal supporter of the tradition.

### THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

The Christmas Season is fast approaching. Just what is the Christmas Season? A retailer thinks of it as a time for added sales and attempts to set the mood by playing Christmas music over



the PA system, or possibly decorating with decorations of a Christmas nature. This is done well before Christmas Eve, usually as early as October.

When we attempt to classify the Christmas Season in such a way, we miss the point. The Christmas Season consists of much more than the mere gain of silver and gold. For the Christmas Season was born in a stable well over two thousand years ago. As we work to keep this message alive, the Christmas Season dwells within our hearts, and we then celebrate the true Christmas Season. Let's review what Mrs. Eddy has to say about Christmas and help bring this about in our hearts.

Do consider reading *A Christmas Sermon* (Misc. p.161) just once again.

## 2018

The Christmas Season is barely over and we are bombarded with other holidays, those being New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Office parties abound and sports events can well fill most of our time, yet is there not time in this joyous season to consider what 2018 really means?

Although history is not too accurate, in theory this is to represent 2,018 years since the birth of our Living Christ, **the Prince of Peace**. May we spend at least a bit of these festive days in consecrated prayer that this season be filled with True Peace for all of God's children?

## GRATEFUL MESSAGES

Thank you for posting a Case of Healing by Martha Wilcox on the carousel. I have read this article in the past, but it wasn't until this rereading that the power of the Truth sunk in. We can't be made to believe that some

imperfect appearance is true when wholeness and completeness are always right there for us to "see." And the woman in the article went away from the practitioner's office restored to normalcy.

Chardelle Hull

Thank you for the Roundtable on September 17, 2017. During this discussion we were guided to page 183 in *Watches Prayers and Arguments*, given by Mrs. Eddy. I was struck on how clearly it is written that, "to believe a lie, is sin. You know those suggestions are all lies. Then it is a sin to believe them. Heal the sin . . . you are a child of God." This is so wonderful to work with in my daily prayer. Mrs. Eddy is telling us to wake up and trust God alone.

Chardelle Hull

## THE BANNER

I recently received a copy of *The Banner*. This publication is published quarterly throughout the year by Andrew W. Hartsook. The publication attempts to keep one up to date on the happenings at TMC, not necessarily the message The Board would convey to you, but it attempts to reveal a practical evaluation of Boston's progress or lack thereof. I must admit that all too often, I am saddened by the messages and am very disappointed with the terrible state, the downward spiral, into which TMC has evolved since Mrs. Eddy is no longer at the helm.

## A NEW TOPIC

Jim Dible

While thinking of something new for the Newsletter, it occurred to me that there are a number of members who are not acquainted with Mrs. Evans. Others

are well acquainted with her messages, and would be joyous in hearing them again.

Our Newsletter is constantly evolving and, I hope, improving. And this is a cordial invitation for all to submit their favorite quote by Mrs. Evans for submission in future Newsletters. A new heading for this new topic follows:

## **GEMS FROM OUR HERITAGE**

By Doris White Evans

I am ageless.  
I am diseaseless.  
I am debtless.  
I am deathless.

## **LEAVES OF HEALING**

*Leaves of Healing* by Peter Ross is being read for the second time. This is a wonderful publication. It is written as a series of letters written to students of Christian Science, each with at least one healing message. Repeatedly throughout the book one reads the quote, “**Perfect God and perfect man.**” Most assuredly, one will find a message of healing that applies directly to him.

This is a publication that each Christian Scientist should find on his bookshelf.

Leaves of Healing is lovingly read and can be found on our website.

## **TIME**

This nation has reverted to Standard Time so the entire nation has joined Arizona in a uniform style of keeping time.

Have you noticed how the days are becoming shorter? What a glorious season this is. All nature has joined in

making this world a more perfect residence for all in providing seasonal changes. Can we not all praise God for His wondrous works?

## **FROM THE CHURCH BULLETIN BOARD**

With all the political strife, Watching Point 173 seemed like a good remedy:

“WATCH lest you call your brother a fool, and thus be in danger of hell fire. To hold anyone as being a channel for error, or animal magnetism, without rebuking such a picture and making nothing of it, is to call your brother a fool, since you are holding him as cut off from Mind, the only source of wisdom, and making error real.

“Since the entire purpose of all error is to cause you to acknowledge the reality of that which is not real, whatever tempts you to admit the existence of a power or person apart from God, becomes the immediate error to be destroyed, whether it appears in yourself or another. . . .”

The Watching Point is quite lengthy, but well worth the read. Thanks for making the Carpenter book *500 Watching Points* available.

Rae Hauck, Florida

“Earthquakes, as they are now interpreted, could not appear if it were understood that, ‘The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.’ Earth can no more quake in a fearful sense than can the multiplication table. Earth is the substance of Mind and is as stable and as eternal as Mind. Mind makes its own adjustments of all pressure and substances harmoniously and perfectly. What Jesus did with the waves of the sea must be done with the earth’s formations.

They must be seen as always under Mind's control." (*Christian Science, Its Clear Correct Teaching*, by Herbert Eustace)

The Unity prayer the other night was filled with powerful ideas. Thank you to those who put it together. I will continue working with the entire prayer. The particular part of the quote listed above gave me a clear understanding that the earth is an indestructible idea as much as is the multiplication table, that it is not in harm's way, but is eternally at peace. The entire prayer is wonderful!

Colleen Mostika, Massachusetts

## **STRENGTH IN UNITY**

By Mary Beth Singleterry

I was grateful for a reminder from a letter I read the other day of what transpired here at Plainfield and how we managed to survive the attacks from Boston and went forward to thrive. There is one major reason why this church did survive, and it was because of Mrs. Evans and her husband.

Their love for Mary Baker Eddy and dedication to this Cause was something to behold. They both were healers. Mrs. Evans certainly healed quite a number of cases that were considered amazing and that attracted many people to the area.

People began to move to Plainfield. Houses were refurbished and fixed up, so people could live in what we called church houses. We would have what we called work parties where we worked together in unity.

The Watches began. Twenty-four hours a day, someone would be doing a

Watch. Of course, we were under attack by the Boston Board, but we persevered and we worked through all of that. I refer to that time as a boot camp for Christian Scientists. It was intensive; we had classes every week. There was tremendous growth. We were not just reading about it, we had to live it. If you didn't live it, you weren't going to be around long.

In living it that way, tremendous growth resulted. We are not really sure if Mrs. Evans always knew exactly what was going to happen to this church, but she did have a core of workers who survived it all and continued it. Now we are passing it on. It is the true Christian Science; it is how it heals and transforms lives. It is not about waving a magic wand and getting your instantaneous healing. It is much deeper than that. I am very grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Evans for what they did and for what they sacrificed.

This did not just take a year or two; it took many years of being under the gun in that respect. I often think of the preface in *Miscellaneous Writings*, where Mrs. Eddy writes, "To preserve a long course of years still and uniform, amid the uniform darkness of storm and cloud and tempest, requires strength from above, — deep draughts from the fount of divine Love." That is how we survived, by drinking, "...deep drafts of divine Love," by maintaining our unity, and by keeping our focus, by our Watches. Thank God for it!

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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.