

Executive Board Report
September 11, 2023

The Board has adopted as its theme “journeying on together” as we see ourselves not as a group with a destination or a static existence but rather on a journey together. Mrs. Eddy says, in Miscellaneous Writings:

Growth is governed by intelligence; by the active, all-wise, law-creating, law-disciplining, lawabiding Principle, God.

Beloved students, you have entered the path. Press patiently on; God is good, and good is the reward of all who diligently seek God.

As you journey, and betimes sigh for rest “beside the still waters,” ponder this lesson of love. Learn its purpose; and in hope and faith, where heart meets heart reciprocally blest, 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.

MIS 206

Of note over the last quarter:

Gordon has stepped down as chairman of the metaphysical committee; we thank him for his years as chairman of the metaphysical committee. He has given selflessly and thoughtfully and we appreciate all his work for the church.

Thank you to Franceska for reserving the Sherwood Center for the 2024 Student Peace Awards – this is part of our parking lot sharing and allows us to contribute to this worthy cause without monetary expense. Keep the awards in mind so you can attend next year, they are inspiring and thought provoking!

Thanks to Nancy Wethe for pointing out that our front door needed painting, it now has a lovely fresh coat of paint. The Board was able to contact Paul Meeks (who has painted for the church and several members before) and he did a great job. We are also keeping our eye on the rest of the church trim which will need painting soon.

You’ll notice the new pew rack cards are out, huge thanks to Steve and John for handling the details, to Cathy Cole for her artistic input and to all of you for the unified approval!

Our church-sponsored Fellowship Sundays have resumed, and we're delighted to see most people stay. If you'd like to participate in the hosting and help out, please speak up! Goodies are always welcome! Our "Back to School Pizza Lunch" was a big success and we look forward to more time getting to know each other better at future fellowship events.

You'll hear from Jan tonight about the next few steps for the planning committee and what to expect over the next couple of months. A lot of thought has gone into the activities for the next couple of months and I hope you'll be supportive and participate. And no, it won't take a lot of your time, but we invite your prayerful consideration.

John will give us an update on the new google analytics and what they tell us about our website. Speaking of which, we're hoping each of you will spend a bit more time on the website so perhaps we can eventually use it as a method of communicating our zoom info rather than needing a lengthy email twice a week. Both Sunday and Wednesday links are already on the site in case you should not have email access. If you need hymnals and aren't able to purchase them, please let us know.

Steve will be telling you all about an exciting RR idea – to open the RR right after Sunday Services for about 15 minutes to "Continue the Conversation" and allow people to ask questions, make comments and get feedback. The thought is to promote conversation about the lessons, specifically for newcomers but for anyone. This could have big impact with an easy gift of time from several who are not already serving on the committee but are already at church and I hope you'll consider jumping in to this "outside the box" idea. It won't take much time or require a special trip but could really make a difference!

Continuing our church means each of us must help as much as we are able. And so many of you are helping in little ways that help the church – many are unseen but are so appreciated! I recently sat down and started gratefully thinking about how much everyone does for our church, and how much love is expressed, sometimes quietly and anonymously. Here are a few examples, in no particular order and apologies for anyone or any tasks missed – there are many that go into our success! Note here I'm not listing the big jobs, but more the often unseen things I appreciate.

* Franceska's always doing many small things, for example printing out full texts for upstairs and putting one on the soloist's desk every single week and always keeping the treat container full of treats!

* Steve keeps watch on the lawns, the flowers, and so much more, and with Jan (in addition to all HER huge tasks) helps to create the gracious setting for our Fellowship

events and keep the focus on loving our community. I think they are both on a first-name basis with the Dunkin Donuts staff! Jan also has been really kind in reaching out by writing letters and sending cards to the members we don't see much.

- * Charles for counting every week unless he's away, including the weekly trip to the bank
- * Sue heading up the solo choices each Sunday
- * Our wonderful readers, Phil, Dave, and all the Wednesday team – giving so much between services and praying so much for the church
- * Nancy who monitors the headsets and keeps them in batteries and cares so much about our church
- * Wally who has started helping to host zoom and jumps in to help with the collection each week
- * Eric, who lovingly behind the scenes keeps up with all our accounting, bill and staff paying and the budget
- * All of our loving SS teachers and subs for the little and big things they do with and for their students – most of them are busy between Sundays supporting their students
- * Our members who are not local but still show up for services and meetings online, sharing their inspiration and letting us know we matter to them
- * Kathleen who quietly but steadfastly supports the SS each Sunday
- * Carole, who shares delightful, thoughtful comments from the perspective of a new studier, which at least in my case, remind me to be so much more grateful for what we share and marvel at a new point of view
- * John – jumps in wherever and whenever needed, from building ops to SS to plumbing, cheerfully and competently and always gets the job done (like the no-notice running of this meeting!)
- * Clare – who lovingly shares inspiration and prayer for the church
- * Gordon – presiding over these meetings can be like herding cats, and he's doing a great job

The concept of unity does not mean we all give in the same way. We all give differently and I am so very grateful for each of our members.
Just fyi, Alex Novak has withdrawn his membership.

“Arise, arise and shine, Uplift thee from the sod, And let thy living light show forth
Man's unity with God.” Hymn 14

Respectfully Submitted,
Kim Williams
For The Board