

## QUARTERLY UPDATE FROM THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION

*“It shall be the duty of the Committee on Publication to correct in a Christian manner impositions on the public in regard to Christian Science, injustices done Mrs. Eddy or members of this Church by the daily press, by periodicals or circulated literature of any sort.” Church Manual, Article XXXIII, Section 2*

### ***Message from the Manager of Committees on Publication***

It is humbling and so helpful to recognize that any role we play in support of the Cause of Christian Science is a collective demonstration of Church — the very structure of Truth and Love in our lives. Committees on Publication have found this to be especially the case in their work. More than an office held by a single individual, Mrs. Eddy in the Committee on Publication By-Law, calls on each member to demonstrate the vibrancy and vitality of our Church as we help the public gain a clearer view of Christian Science.

She knew the world may not readily accept all that Christian Science has to offer, and yet she loved humanity enough to establish this office so that the gift of the Comforter could be more clearly seen and understood — free of the shadows of misconception, misunderstanding, and misinformation. May we take to heart this reminder that she shared with members at the Annual Meeting of The Mother Church in 1896:

To love, and to be loved, one must do good to others. The inevitable condition whereby to become blessed, is to bless others: but here, you must so know yourself, under God’s direction, that you will do His will even though your pearls be downtrodden (Mis. 127:20–24).

It is this foundation in the security of Church that provides a basis for the work of correcting and healing impositions on public thought. This spiritual cornerstone forwards our progress and enables us to see and maintain the promise of the corrective work as one of light and healing. This affords the opportunity to demonstrate the meekness, selflessness, integrity, strength, joy, and love that in each instance helps to lift public thought to the higher and truer view of Christian Science, Mrs. Eddy, and the healing practice and selfless lives of members.

In the following example of a talk about Christian Science given to an assembly of students of a different faith, it was this demonstration of Church in the work that ensured the unfolding of an already complete idea that supported every aspect of the talk from its preparation to its delivery. Even when the demands seem larger than we may think we are ready for, this spiritual foundation beautifully supports each step of progress that allows for the ideas that Mind, God, is revealing to take root and bear fruit.

Sincerely,



Scott C. Shivers, C.S.  
Manager, Christian Science Committees on Publication

## *Fruitage*

A Muslim Boarding School in England reached out to the local Christian Science branch church inviting a speaker to come talk about Christian Science as part of the students' interfaith curriculum activities. The invitation was passed along to the Committee for the region, who saw the request as an opportunity to correct in a Christian manner impositions on the public about Christian Science and Mrs. Eddy for both the students and faculty. The Committee believed her visit could address any misconceptions the attendees might have about Christian Science, as well as help everyone "understand our neighbour better...learn what we have in common...celebrate the uniqueness of what we each have and build respect for one another." When speaking with the students she affirmed, "Though we have different religious beliefs, we share in our common humanity, and our love for our families. And as we learn together, talk together, and laugh together, in our small little group we help to make the world a better place."

The Committee started the talk by sharing a recent healing she'd experienced, giving a brief explanation of prayer in Christian Science and how she'd prayed in this particular case. The Committee then transitioned to explaining that Christian Science is based on the words and works of Christ Jesus, the ways God's spiritual laws undergird all creation and apply to all our lives, and information about Mrs. Eddy.

The Committee's reflections on the meaningful school visit included the following:

The students' quiet attention throughout was noticeable. Their thinking, demeanor and receptiveness changed as the talk progressed and the shift of their thought was obvious in the numerous and wide-ranging questions that were asked, not just from the students, but also from the teachers who were supervising...[The Q&A session] was very much appreciated.

Two very special holy moments happened. One of the younger students asked whether healing occurred by the singing of a hymn. I had shared a healing when my mum had sung a hymn to me and the problem had disappeared quite quickly. I explained that it was the truths about myself as a child of God, whether in the words of the hymn or the truths my mum was sharing with me of God's love and ever-present care for me, that had caused the healing. I also shared that I was a singer and singing teacher, and as we were leaving the Prayer Room, where the talk had been, a student asked me to sing something from one of our hymns that was precious to me, so I sang the first verse of Mrs. Eddy's hymn "Feed my sheep." One student asked if she could hear the Lord's Prayer, having never heard it before. In what felt like another holy moment, the words of the Lord's Prayer filled the room with its powerful truths and it truly felt as if "heart was meeting heart," where each would be "reciprocally blest" and where we could "impress humanity with the genuine recognition of practical, operative Christian Science" (Misc. 207:1)....

Afterwards, as I continued supporting the work that had been done, I found these words from Proverbs 22:21 very helpful: "I might make thee know the certainty of the words of truth; that thou mightest answer the words of truth to them that send unto thee."

## ***Inspiration and updates from your Committee on Publication***

*Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us. (Hebrews 12:1)*

Maybe it was the Olympics that prompted me to think of “race” as mentioned above in a new way. In prayer, I often find myself tempted to focus on the result or goal. In this popular passage, it is apparent that the quality of the race itself is essential to making spiritual progress. When studying this quote I’ve always focused on the word “patience.” Patience is usually thought of as a quiet, fairly passive virtue. But to RUN with patience... that was an idea worth exploring.

The metaphor of running helped me visualize how this can be done. I’ve seen that this means we will make progress even before we finish the race. The length of the race is unknown, but we can trust that there is indeed a finish line coming. Some stretches of the race may be difficult or solitary, but there is a reward to be gained. The definition of church tells us what the race is and what we are running for:

**CHURCH.** The structure of Truth and Love; whatever rests upon and proceeds from divine Principle. The Church is that institution, which affords proof of its utility and is found *elevating the race*, rousing the dormant understanding from material beliefs to the apprehension of spiritual ideas and the demonstration of divine Science, thereby casting out devils, or error, and healing the sick. (*Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures, Mary Baker Eddy*)

As defined above, the race is our individual and collective effort to rouse “the dormant understanding from material beliefs to the apprehension of spiritual ideas and the demonstration of divine Science, thereby casting out devils, or error, and healing the sick.” Church work is one way to participate in the race. In fact, being active in church is how each of you help elevate this race for all to benefit. The Committee work lovingly corrects and removes impositions on the public, which is another facet of elevating the race. In this race, everyone wins. Everyone will cross this finish line eventually because this vital work is done out of divine Love and can’t help but be successful.

Warmly,

**Renée McCardell**

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