

III Chronicles

April 27, 2023

First Church of Christ, Scientist

Colorado Springs, Colorado

719-632-0051

ChristianScienceColoradoSprings.org

Membership Meeting April 27

"Say not thou, what is the cause that the former days were better than these? For thou dost not inquire wisely concerning this...Consider the work of God." Ecclesiastes 7:10, 13 (to :)

GOOD OF THE CHURCH & COMMUNITY

Gratitude was given for:
Our Lecture
Lecture Committee
Lecturer Tom McElroy
Members helping around the church
Practitioners supporting our church
For being at the meeting
Cards that were sent and are being sent to members who can't always attend church

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer reviewed the Active vs Budget YTD, and the Assets & Liabilities Reports. The Board will move additional funds from the Operations Endowment Fund and the Wakerly Endowment Fund income as needed to meet recurring expenses. Anyone who would like to learn more about the church funding and investments would be welcome on the Financial Advisory Committee (FAC).

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT

Your new board has been working with, "considering the work of God", to achieve that demonstration of "one Mind in one place". The new board consists of Melissa Foster, President; Susan Butler, Vice President; Susan Larsen, Treasurer; Lynn Wilson Recording Secretary; Walt Hieronymus, Member-at -Large.

A Town Hall meeting was held on March 4 at 9:30 in the Sunday School. The meeting began with metaphysical sharing, followed by the report of the Ad Hoc Committee, given by chairman, Peter Husak. Finally, the membership shared ideas and concepts related to church growth and "next steps".

The Board met the following week and discussed specific ideas that had been brought up at the meeting. The Ad Hoc Committee was given specific direction to look into the following four things: the current value of our property; the current value of the building adjacent to the Reading Room; the cost of hiring a property management company for our current church building; and the availability of real

estate appropriate in size for our current needs, either for purchase or lease in any area of the city. The committee is pursuing answers to these specific questions with findings to be presented at the next Town Hall meeting on May 6.

Recently the Mother Church Board of Directors wrote to all branch churches. In part it said,

“...We cannot ignore our members’ needs. This is why love and light are needed. Therefore, with love, we ask that: Branch churches offer services, testimony meetings, and activities (Sunday School and Reading Room) either in person or hybrid, but not online only. “

To read the letter in its entirety, please see the Clerk.

Committee descriptions were reviewed and updated as you probably noticed when you received the committee sign-up mailing. The Board can deactivate committees, and in reviewing the purpose of each committee, found that several committees could be combined or deactivated for now. The College Contact was no longer needed per the Mother Church. The Registrar’s job is being done by one of the Sunday School teachers. The Counting and Teller committees have been combined. The Hymnal Committee was deactivated, and each church attendee is asked to tidy their hymnal rack, and return solo words and quarterlies to the bench in the lobby. Ushers will do periodic checks for order.

For our upcoming committee year, you have been asked to sign up for one Manual-based committee and one or more of the other essential committees. The Child Care room, with future Sunday School students IS a

valuable contribution to Sunday School. Also, helping with advertising for lectures by posting flyers and mailing postcards is important to the Lecture Committee, as well as supporting the Reading Room by attending “Replay Days” or creating window displays.

Our lecture on February 25th at the Hillside Community Center was entitled, “Spiritual Discovery in Times of Upheaval”. Tom McElroy, CSB, was our speaker. His message was well-received by both visitors and church members from Colorado Springs, and the Canon City and Denver areas. One woman from Canon City came after she was given a flyer invitation at the rally for Ukraine the night before. The audio recording of our lecture was posted on the church website through the month of April. If you missed it, or want to hear another of Tom McElroy’s lectures, come to the reading Room on Thursday mornings at 11. Video replays of older lectures from the past 12 years are also available for replay.

Consideration was given as to the status of readers as “employees “or “independent contractors”. A call was made to the Colorado Department of Wage and Labor and it was explained that our readers, like our musicians, are considered “independent contractors” and they will be sent a 1099 form from the government for income tax purposes. The new readers have been notified in a letter of this change of status. If a reader does not wish to receive pay, they should send the clerk an email with this desire.

Thanks to generous and regular donations, we no longer need additional contributions to the “Youth Scholarship Fund” this year. The Board asked for membership approval to send \$2000 from this fund to the National

Campership Fund in St. Louis. Currently, this charity organization is the primary funding source for students from across the United States needing financial assistance to attend any of the 6 Christian Science Camps.

Families may want to check out the Campership Fund for further financial assistance. Brochures are in the Sunday School, or their website may be accessed.

MOTION: to send \$2000 from the Youth Scholarship Fund to the Campership Fund for this summer. After discussion, **the motion was dropped** because there was no second.

At the previous three membership meetings we have had cards for you to sign to send to members we have not seen lately. This month we have two cards for you to sign. The Board will be sending letters to members we have not heard from in more than a year, to ask about their continued interest in being members of this branch church.

Our valued long time member, Don Reynolds recently passed on.

Your support of this branch church is greatly appreciated. You are valued and loved. You may be interested in following our Executive Board's monthly metaphysical topics which have included "Letting Love Lead"; "Strengthening our Citadel"; and "God is blessing our Church, our structure of Truth and Love".

From Isaiah 41:10, *"Fear thou not, for I am with thee: be not dismayed for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Children's Room Report

We have been busy in the Children's Room with one to two children each Sunday. We see each child as a spiritual thought and representative of Life, Truth, and Love. We have recently restocked diaper wipes, cleaning wipes and batteries to allow us to serve children of all ages with clean and working toys. The laughter and pitter-patter of feet have brightened up the Children's Room each week.

History Committee

The highlight this year was the committee's work to create a display of important artifacts, letters, diaries and photos which were displayed for the members in the lobby prior to the October business meeting, and continued for several weeks after that. Many members took time to study and learn more about our impressive history as a church.

Financial Review Committee

The 2021-2022 Financial Review findings were presented in a short report. The full report is available for any member to read by contacting the clerk.

New Business

Motions to Recind Standing Rules Balloting Procedures

"From our Standing Rules, I move to rescind Rule 1 Balloting Procedure Section 1 Executive Board A 2 where it says 'There shall

always be at least two nominees for each position. If necessary, nominations shall be reopened to meet this requirement.” **Passed**

“From our Standing Rules, I move to rescind Rule 1 Balloting Procedure Section 2 First & Second Readers’ Pool A 2 where it says ‘There shall be one additional nominee than is required to fill the position. If necessary, nominations shall be reopened to meet this requirement.” **Passed**

These motions will be sent to members to keep their ByLaws and Standing Rules up to

date. They will also be available on our website through the Members’ Portal where you can download the latest versions.

CALENDAR & NOTICES

Membership Meeting: July 27th @7:00 pm in the auditorium.

The church service teleconference number is: 712-770-3697, access code: 380 442#. A new number: 725-735-9425 has been added. This number does not need the access code. It is also found on our website. Please update your records.