

FIRST CHURCH OF
CHRIST, SCIENTIST

COLORADO SPRINGS,
COLORADO

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

- Executive Board Summary
- Maintenance Matters
- ACOM not ACOP
- Sunday School Extras

BOARD MEMBERS

Melissa Foster, Pres.
Susan Butler, V. Pres.
Susan Larsen, Treas.
Lynn Wilson, Secy.
Walt Hieronymus

FIRST READERS

Katherine Hieronymus
Betsy Mueller
Diane Rose

SECOND READERS

Leslie Campbell
Marney Mallon
Sue Wilson

CLERK

Carol Horen

ASSISTANT CLERK

Charolyn Edwards

**READING ROOM
LIBRARIAN**

Doug Barrett

III Chronicles, July 2023

Membership Meeting Summary Newsletter

Executive Board Summary

- The Board worked with 3 topics the past 3 months: **“Step by step with patience,” “Opening doors of thought,” and “God is blessing our structure of Truth and Love.”**
- There has been an increase in visitors at the Reading Room, church services and Sunday School!
- The Second Town Hall meeting was held Saturday, May 6. A follow-up meeting is scheduled for **August 17 in the Sunday School at 7:00 p.m.** Motions will be considered at that time. A pertinent binder of articles for study is at the Reading Room.
- In Standing Rule 1, Section 2, C1, First Ballot: The Board moved to substitute the word “four” with the word “three” in the second sentence to read, “There must be at least three names.” The motion passed.
- The Board expressed appreciation for the new committee chairs and their timely organizational meetings; the work of clerks, **Carol Horen** and **Charolyn Hudson**; the Treasurer along with the Financial Advisory Committee with their budget proposal; and each member of the church.
- Two new computers were acquired to replace the old outdated computers for the bookkeeper and clerk. A member donated one of them for the clerk!

God requires wisdom, economy, and brotherly love to characterize all the proceedings of the members of The Mother Church, The First Church of Christ, Scientist.

Church Manual p. 77.

Metaphysical Committee Report, *Diane Rose, Chair*

Spirit, God, gathers unformed thoughts into their proper channels, and unfolds these thoughts, even as He opens the petals of a holy purpose in order that the purpose may appear.

Science and Health p. 506:18

through “proof of its utility, elevating the race, and rousing the dormant understanding.” Here is an example of our work....*continued on page 4*

The Metaphysical Committee gives daily prayerful treatment in support of all church activities and its embrace of the community, and when requested, gives treatment for specific church activities. The committee is proactive in their work by adhering to the three dailies found in the Manual, and will include demonstrating the definition of church

Maintenance Matters, *Tad Foster, Chair*

At the end of November 2022, Doug Watkins, our custodian, was let go. We have shifted from seeking an employee to using contractors to do specific tasks including:

- Rod Martinez of Excel Cleaners cleans the church twice per month;
- A contractor to shovel snow;
- An electrician to change light bulbs;
- A company for window washing once per year;
- Mike's Lawn Service to mow weekly and aerate, fertilize and apply herbicide. The lawn is improving!
- Vibrant Gardens to weed and maintain the gardens;
- Dignity Fire Protection Company to:
 - A. Monitor the Fire Alarm System
 - B. Annually inspect the alarm system, the wet sprinkler system, the 4 anti-backflow devices in the church and Reading Room, the fire extinguishers in both places.



We are seeking:

- **A qualified plumber** to do the summer boiler and steam heating system maintenance.
- A bid from a sole concrete contractor who previously repaired the Sunday School steps where they spaul and chip off. We may need a special meeting to approve the bid.
- A volunteer on Sunday morning before the service to use an electric blower to clear debris from S.S. porch and steps, then sidewalks and front entrance.
- Seeking bids to repair a failed anti-backflow device in the church.
- The heating system in the foyer's south tower has been repaired and the blower in the north tower will need replacement. We are thinking about using a maintenance management company. That is about \$800/month (as a good deal) or \$9,600 a year which is on top of the costs of the contractors.
- Someone to oversee the plumbing repairs and maintenance.
- More members on this committee.

We do not know if this approach is cheaper than what it would cost to have a custodian as an employee, but we feel we are getting things done and done well! Thanks to **Charles Hotchkiss** for managing Dignity Fire's inspections and Vibrant Garden's work; thanks to **Susan Larsen** for overseeing the cleaning service; thanks to **Ken Rubel** for diligently draining the boilers nearly every week; thanks to **Walt Hieronymus** for finding contractors, picking up things omitted, and assisting in many ways.

Monitor Gifts Report, *Susan Butler, Chair*

The Monitor Gifts committee renewed subscriptions for 5 public libraries that were discontinued during COVID restrictions. New subscriptions began April, 2023. Subscriptions for 2 high schools as well as the El Paso County jail were not renewed due to lack of usage and receptivity. We continue outreach to our community by distributing literature to various laundromats and retirement communities. A special thanks to **Lori Doutrich** for leading this endeavor. We welcome suggestions for additional locations. We are once again able to receive literature that you would like to contribute. There is a basket in the foyer for your contributions. Thanks to **Lori and Lynn's outreach**, we were able to send some literature to the Boulder church for distribution to their local jail system. Spreading the word and reaching out to our community remains the focus of the Monitor Gifts committee.

Treasurer: 2023-24 Fiscal Budget, *Susan Larsen, Treasurer*

The Treasurer reviewed the Quarterly Assets and Liabilities and Profit and Loss YTD. The average shortfall of \$2K each month is covered by income from our unrestricted investment account. We could increase our contributions so that we are not transferring from the investment accounts. Also, we may consider adjustments to our expenses. We would like our investments to earn a steady return rate.

The **Treasurer presented the Proposed Budget for October 2023 – September 2024**. Several operational increases and decreases were noted but overall, the Operations Endowment and the Wakerly Trust Endowment investment incomes will help to alleviate shortfalls. Use of the investment funds to supplement income was explained. **The Budget motion passed**. The motion passed to use up to \$17,494 in the current value of the Operations Endowment principle next year. We welcome members to learn more about our finances and provide input by joining the **Financial Advisory Committee**.

Town Hall Meeting Notes

*Truth cannot
be stereotyped;
it unfoldeth
forever.*

No and Yes,
p. 45

The AdHoc Committee reported and attendees discussed and made written comments and suggestions concerning the options presented. 1. Stay while maintaining and upgrading as necessary; 2. Stay and lease current auditorium and refigure the Sunday School; 3. Sell the present buildings and lease another property for our church services; 4. Sell and purchase another property. Discussion included the necessity of hiring a property management company for all options. Comments were recorded and sent to the members. Please attend the next **Special Membership Meeting on August 17!**

Good of the Church, *Members' Informal Comments*

A member was grateful to everyone who contributes and participates in all our activities to keep our church moving forward.

A member suggested that in our daily work for our Church, we be aware of mental illness in the homeless community. A homeless man came into our church. When he went into the lobby, the head usher spent time talking to him and sharing some of the publications with him until the end of the service.

Sunday School Extras

One of our Sunday School students, Bingitt wrote a testimony of God's protecting power which was published in the Christian Science Sentinel June 5, 2023. The title is "God was with us on our rafting trip." Bingitt is the granddaughter of members Tad and Melissa Foster and daughter of Piper Foster Wilder, who grew up in our Sunday School. You can read it or listen to it at <https://sentinel.christianscience.com>.



Recent comments from students and the grandparent of some Sunday School students:

"Good Sunday School," "We learn lots," "Teacher is fun," "...and I'd add that you all not only have made them feel welcome, you've made them feel like it is their Sunday School. And that's pretty special."

Metaphysical Report *continued from page 1*

We prayed that anyone coming onto our church property would feel the healing Principle. By the next church service, the sleeper had moved on. We trust that he is finding his better self because of his visit to our property and because of our prayers to see him with the Mind of the Christ.

We also support the unfolding progress of our church's next steps. In addition, the entire membership is expected to pray daily for the church's healing activity. See the binder of helpful articles in the Reading Room.

ACOM Report, *Melissa Foster, ACOM*

Our appointed Committee on Publication for Colorado is

David Price. David lives in Denver and is a Christian Science practitioner and teacher. I am the appointed Assistant Committee representing this church, being alert to impositions in our local area and in the press, and working with David, when needed. I appreciate your help in keeping a watchful eye on public comments about Christian Science. If something comes up in the media or on websites, you can pass it along to me, and I will alert David and work with him in correcting the imposition.

David handles state legislative issues and bills on our behalf. He works closely with the Manager's Office on all pressing issues. **The Assistant Committee theme for this year is, "Our Individual Healing Practice – Countering the Imposition of Church in Decline."** We can all join together in that prayerful work.

Finally, David urges that we **use the term COM (short for Committee), instead of COP**, used in the past, but it spells cop and this is *not* the Committee's role.

We received notice that there was a homeless sleeper on the Sunday School steps. We prayed to see the completeness of God's creation, including all mankind.

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. This Committee on Publication shall be responsible for correcting or having corrected a false newspaper article which has not been replied to by other Scientists, or which has been forwarded to this Committee for the purpose of having him reply to it.

Church Manual
Article 33, Section 2, p. 97: 15-6

Calendar Notes

- Special Membership Meeting—Thursday, August 17, 7:00 p.m. in the S.S.
- Membership Meeting—Saturday, October 28, 1:00 p.m. in the church
- Replay Days, every Thursday, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the Reading Room

Phone: 719-632-0051

Email: clerk@christiansciencecoloradosprings.com

Reading Room: 407 N. Tejon St., 719-632-5678

Christiansciencecoloradosprings.org

Church service teleconference lines: 725-735-9425 has been added. No access code needed.

712-770-3697, access code: 380 442#