

WatchWords

"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..." Church Manual, Article XXXIII, Section 2

WatchWords is a monthly newsletter for members of the Christian Science branch churches of Southern California. It is not for distribution beyond the members of Southern California churches.

From Southern California Committee on Publication, Anne Cooling:



This month the Committee office invites you to **join us in addressing the imposition in public thought that Christian Science is not science, but unproven pseudoscience.** With terms in public thought like “rushing the science” and the belief of a crisis with the public waiting for science to save humanity, focused prayer on the presence of Christ in consciousness to open thought to divine Science will counteract the belief of science based on observations of changing, volatile matter, aka mortal thinking. An early worker of Mary Baker Eddy records our Leader’s guidance, “Hypnotism cannot touch the minds of the world or us to stir up one element of discord. It is not in the focal distance of God, and therefore is not, for God is infinite.” (*We Knew Mary Baker Eddy*, Expanded edition, Vol. II, pg. 36)

I have been alert lately to ensure my language doesn’t reflect world thought in calling material medica science vs. understanding the art of medicine as belief. I also have done the same in not referring to Christian Science as belief or faith, but see more clearly in my practice the Science behind it as the revelation and leaven of Science for all humanity. The validity of lives changed and the healing Christ cannot be cast aside as pseudoscience because materia medica outlines for the world the basis in measuring and defining science. We can pray the hearts of God’s children will be made ready to hear the “new song” about what we are to observe, the mental nature of reality, there is no belief and we all know it, and the evidence of divine Science according to God.

I have found great comfort in Mrs. Eddy recognizing the stirring of thought that would take place as the shaky foundations of matter are uncovered under the demands of Science, and the inevitable conclusion that spiritualization will follow. The discipline of my prayers is identifying whatever is presented to thought through Truth and Love. Every prayer-based thought is a part of and healing public thought. For our Leader reveals that “Love will finally mark the hour of harmony” and all error is “swallowed up in spiritual Truth” as we side with the force of Science and peace. (SH 96:4-30) (SH 252:8)

Here are some citations I hope you find helpful: Eccl 7:29; SH 123:30 - 125:11; SH 127:30; SH 341:11 - 343:20; Mis 336:27; Heal 11:6-12; Hymn 221

Fruitage from last month's prayer topic: It has been very helpful to me to cherish the government as on God's shoulders so it must be reflected in all human governments and decisions. I increasingly see my role metaphysically and I found these additional citations helpful in thinking about this. SH 225:2-3; SH 539:14; My 276:21; My 266:1-9; Ret 72:1-10; *Mary Baker Eddy: Years of Trial* (Robert Peel) pg. 251 quote at the bottom of the page by Mrs. Eddy and pg. 256 1st paragraph; *We Knew Mary Baker Eddy*, expanded edition, volume 1, pg 469, 1st paragraph, pg 470, last paragraph to the end of page 471; volume 2, pg. 116, excerpt from July 8, 1903.

WEBSITE ADDITION: Check out new healing video on public posts under "Christian Science" tab. www.christiansciencesocal.org

News from the Committee Office

2020 Committee on Publication Annual ACOM Conference

This year, the Annual Assistant Committee (ACOM) conference, on **Saturday, September 12, 2020** will be online using Zoom.com technology, which can also be accessed by phone. The conference is now scheduled for a 3-hour timeframe, from 9am to noon. The Zoom.com technology* for our Committee account allows for up to 100 "participants" in the meeting room for this activity. The meeting will still include sharing and interaction among the participants, and we will have guest speakers and reporting just as in the past.

As in past conferences, we are inviting all ACOMs (or a representative from your church) to **register** for this event. The online registration process is now in place and [just open the link here](#) to go directly to the registration form. If you would prefer, you may also register via a telephone call to our office. The specific meeting sign-in information and Zoom.com practice session opportunities will be shared once you have registered.

Given the limited number of Zoom participants allowed for the meeting, we are not able to accommodate separate registration for church member guests of ACOMs this year, unless guests join the ACOM at his/her computer screen/speaker phone. Please let us know during registration.

The theme for this year's meeting is: **Leading the Way in Public Thought**. The keynote speaker is Wendy Manker. Her talk is entitled, "Time to Wake Up and See the Fields Already White for Harvest." Manager of Committees on Publication, Kevin Ness, will give our opening report as usual. Deb Sherwood, Special Assistant to the Manager and Eric Nelson, Northern California Committee on Publication will also be joining us with reports and for dialogue.

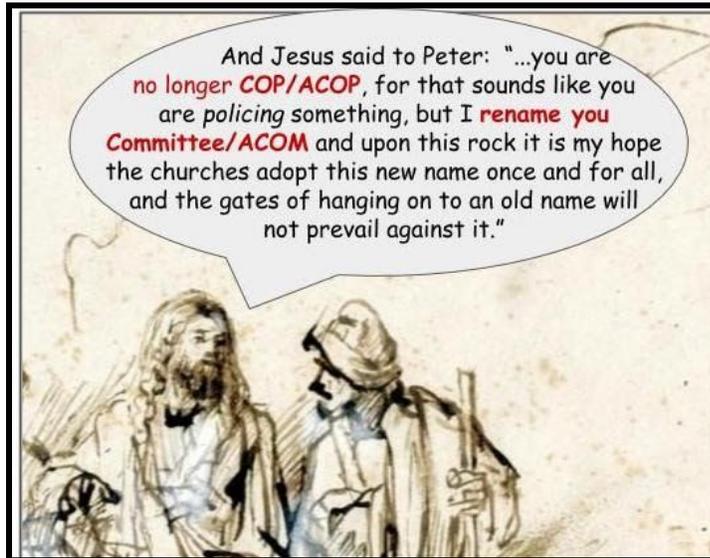
MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

- **Saturday, September 12, 2020 -- 9am - 12:00pm**

* If you are not familiar with Zoom you are invited to contact us any time before the meeting while you are accessing the internet (or on your phone) and we can take time to guide you on logging on and accessing the meeting. We will also announce/hold some practice sessions for all participants.

Field Report from Assistant Committee

Edie Young, ACOM of First Church, Glendora was invited back to do another invocation prayer via Zoom at the Glendora City Council meeting. Wonderful way to bless the community, introduce Christian Science and correct misconceptions about Christian Science too.



What's in a name? -- How many of us still abbreviate the Committee on Publication office as "COP"? For a number of years, the Committee office has been moving away from this designation. Every branch church is asked to identify an Assistant Committee on Publication for their church and community. So, like the cartoon shares, when abbreviating their long title, please use the name "ACOM" when you reference this important role in your church activities.

Excerpts from The Media

Our Leader counseled her members to "watch diligently" (See Miscellaneous Writings, 154:26). The articles below bring to light trends and openings in public thought. Staying alert to the eddies and currents in thought is an essential part of our daily work as we pray together about how we can bring healing to what is coming to the surface.

[Hundreds gather for baptism at the beach](#)

[Gatherings of Faith and Defiance](#)

The two articles linked above illustrate the public hunger for spiritual answers, the response of the church to meet today's need through love, creativity and inspiration, mixed with public fear and, in one article, anger over these gatherings that point to the need for prayer.

[In the UK, coronavirus has made 'every street a parish'](#)

Excerpt from article: The silver lining to the dark cloud of the pandemic is that church innovation and participation both are thriving, he said. "A majority of churches in the UK have gone online. COVID-19 has been the biggest change program ever inflicted on the church in our lifetime. It has propelled the majority of the church to go digital. We're also seeing churches becoming a lot less Sunday-centric...platform-centric...leader-centric."