

THE HISTORY OF THE PLAINFIELD CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH



The present Plainfield Christian Science church began as a group of three interested persons, gathering in a boarding house living room to read the Christian Science service in 1904. As the group grew steadily, it moved to the Babcock Building on West Front Street and was incorporated in 1909 as the First Church of Christ Scientist, Plainfield, a branch church of the First Church of Christ Scientist, Boston.

After 13 years in the Babcock Building, the group moved to its present location at Prospect Avenue and East Ninth Street, buying the property and remodeling, for temporary use, the house located there. The plan was to eventually remove the house and build a church edifice.

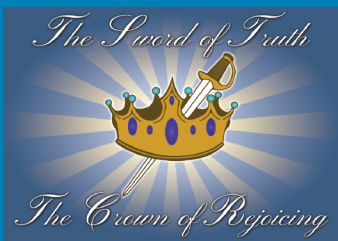
Ground was broken Apr. 20, 1925, by the Charter Construction Company Inc. of New York, and the cornerstone laid on June 9. The church was designed by S.S. Beman, Chicago architect. It was of a simple and dignified type of colonial design throughout, with stucco exterior and windows of opalescent glass, the auditorium having a seating capacity of 340. In May of 1931 a Hook & Hastings 2-manual organ was installed. The church was dedicated in 1934, free of debt.

The existing brick façade was added in the 1940s.

The pipe organ went through a major renovation in 1978, by Austin Organs out of Hartford, CT. A magnificent unenclosed Great Organ was added, and the existing enclosed Swell Organ and Pedal were significantly enhanced.

In 1977, the church was dropped from the Boston headquarters branch church listing, and was informed that it could no longer use “Christian Science” in its name. Not the least bit discouraged, the church relished its new-found independence, and eventually it was ruled that “Christian Science” is a generic term and not a trademark, in a landmark decision by the New Jersey Supreme Court in 1987. It was then that its present name, Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent was established.

Today—as the only independent Christian Science church in the world—we share the inspired word of the Bible and the writings of Mary Baker Eddy in weekly lessons, teleconferences and services. With the help and support of an active membership from all over the world, we prepare and publish several periodicals, including a bi-monthly 60-page magazine, the “Cornerstone.” Our website, plainfIELDCS.com, is a wealth of information on which 150 visitors a day find articles, a lively forum, and recorded music and services. In addition to this we have videos on YouTube, a podcast on iTunes, and an outreach on social media channels such as FaceBook, Twitter and SoundCloud.



Plainfield Christian Science Church, *Independent*

PlainfieldCS.com

Sunday: 10:00 am Roundtable / 11:00 am Service / Sunday School

Wednesday: 8:15 pm Testimony Meeting

What you may not know about our church:

1. We have been independent for over 35 years and are the only independent Christian Science church in the world.
2. Our services are webcast, but we also have participants from throughout the US and abroad via teleconference, reading scripture and testifying to the power of prayer.
3. Cancer, chronic depression, stroke, and many other serious problems have been healed through our practitioners.
4. Our own weekly Bible Lesson is offered in six different languages on our website.
5. Our services feature vocal selections composed and performed by our own musical director, and hymns sung by the congregation that are accompanied by our beautiful Hook & Hastings 2-manual pipe organ.
6. For over 30 years we have published inspired and instructive Christian Science literature, and now offer a variety of exceptional books and a bimonthly 60-page magazine, all of which is available in print or by digital download.
7. Participants from 20 states in the US gather on teleconference three evenings a week to pray in unity for the world.
8. You can find us on Facebook, iTunes, Twitter, and SoundCloud.
9. Our pastor is the Bible and Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures by Mary Baker Eddy.

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Mary Baker Eddy revolutionized the world by discovering the Science of Christian healing in the late 1800's. The purpose of the Wellspring Foundation is to present her God-inspired writings which explain how we can follow in Jesus' footsteps and obey his command to heal the sick and cast out demons.

Lifting the Veil

from the most important book ever written.

A veil over the Bible and Christian Science? Yes. We believe that the attempt to institutionalize this great revelation has marginalized it from the world, and led to a self-destructive culture that is in no way aligned with the original textbook of Christian Science nor with the Bible. It is the purpose of this website to lift the veil, and present Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures by Mary Baker Eddy in such a way that it speaks for itself.

The audio of the textbook presents a revelation that cannot help but stir the heart, for it contradicts so much of what the world accepts as "the way things are."

The sincere seeker for Truth will be thrilled with the clarity of thought presented. It challenges the premise of traditional theology, and correlates to the Bible in a fresh, consistent way. It opens the door of possibilities, and heals!

Our deepest desire is to let the book speak for itself, and its author:

"In the spirit of Christ's charity, as one who 'hopeth all things, endureth all things,' and is joyful to bear consolation to the sorrowing and healing to the sick, she commits these pages to honest seekers for Truth."

- Mary Baker Eddy

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