

The Plainfield Independent Newsletter

Number 199

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OUR THOUGHT FOR EACH DAY

By Mary Baker Eddy

“Every day, every hour, our work increases in effectiveness and power.”

THANK YOU, JIM!!!

Our church treasure, and national treasure, Jim Dible, has decided to retire from writing our church newsletter. Jim has produced our newsletters for about 7 or 8 years. His booming voice, his love, and his sweet sense of humor have touched hearts everywhere. Many people have enjoyed his stories about his beloved Arizona. Someone said that reading the newsletter is like walking beside him through his neighborhood.

Jim is a World War II veteran who served in Germany during that war. He has a great love for his country, for God and Christian Science, and for nature as God’s beautiful gift. Jim and his wife had planned to move to Arizona, but before they made the move, his wife passed on. But Jim continued with their plans, and is having a wonderful life there, making many friends.

Quite a while ago, Jim became ill and went to the hospital. He was given just a very short time to live and was put into hospice care. He asked for help from a Plainfield practitioner. She told him he had a lot more work to do for God, and it wasn’t his time. He took the practitioner’s words to heart, radiating love and cheer, and talking about Christian Science to everyone who

visited him—medical people, clergymen, etc.—giving them each a copy of *Science and Health!*

His practitioner continued to pray for him, and he kept in close contact. He made a rapid recovery, and soon he was told to go home; he was healed! They couldn’t find a trace of the old malady.

Several years ago, after we had been publishing for quite a while and our church website was up and running, we decided to discontinue the church newsletter, due to time constraints. Jim missed reading it, so he stepped up and offered to do the newsletter himself, which we gladly accepted!

Jim didn’t know much about computers when he took on this task, but he kept at it and mastered “the beast,” as he called it. A couple of years ago, he proudly announced he had learned how to insert pictures into the newsletter! He took pictures on his daily rounds; and through his newsletters, we’ve “met” children in his neighborhood, the little hummingbird that built a nest near his home, watched the new home construction in the area, and countless other sights he has shared with us. Jim is now in assisted living, and rides his electric “scooter” all around the area, taking more pictures and finding plenty to write

about in appreciation of God's beauty and love.

His love, patriotism, overflowing joy and humor come through each issue of the Newsletter, and we will miss him. Happy Retirement, Jim—you sure have earned it!! And thank you for your service “to God, to [our] Leader, and to all mankind”—and to Plainfield Church!



THINK UPON THIS

The habitual struggle to be always good is unceasing prayer.

Mary Baker Eddy

A QUOTE FROM THE PAST

Every day make the effort to open your thought and let God talk to you.

Gilbert C. Carpenter

QUOTES FROM PETER V. ROSS

Leaves of Healing

God is life, and life is everywhere, and you are life expressed. Tell yourself, and do so frequently, that you are the temple of the living God, the place of health, strength, freedom, buoyancy, and confidence.

GEMS FROM OUR HERITAGE

by Doris White Evans

Put God at the center of everything you do.

JIM'S CORNER

I have a vegetable joke, but it's corny!!

from “The Chosen”

FROM MISCELLANY

By Mary Baker Eddy

“Christmas 1900”

Again loved Christmas is here, full of divine benedictions and crowned with the dearest memories in human history — the earthly advent and nativity of our Lord and Master. At this happy season the veil of time springs aside at the touch of Love. We count our blessings and see whence they came and whither they tend.

JOY

Joy is remembering that Christ is the basis of Christmas.

EARLY BEGINNINGS FROM OUR PAST

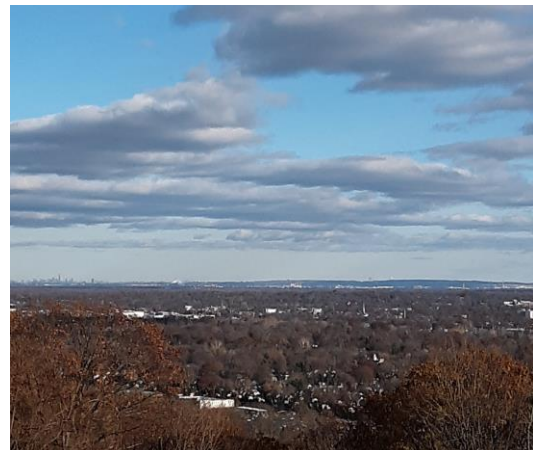
Science and Health, First Edition

by Mary Baker Glover, page 39

God is the Soul of man and the only Intelligence, Life or Substance: and man is the reflex shadow of God.

WASHINGTON ROCK

Continuing Jim's tradition of featuring home town sights, we thought we'd start with Plainfield.



View from Washington Rock, looking over what Washington referred to as the plain fields.

Washington Rock is an area at the highest point of the Watchung Mountains where, during the Revolutionary

War, General George Washington watched the British troop movements.

It is now a New Jersey state park and has a 30-mile panoramic view of the eastern plains of New Jersey. The plains were originally farmlands and are now where Plainfield and neighboring towns are located. It's been reported that, while looking over the area, Gen. Washington referred to the area as "the plain fields," and where Plainfield got its name.

There are picnic tables and trails to hike on, and you can often find families taking walks with their dogs on the trails. On a clear day, you can see all the way to the New York skyline from Washington Rock.



View eastward from Washington Rock, with the New York skyline in the distance.



Plainfield City Hall, with the town Christmas Tree.

CHRISTMAS, 1928 ***Gilbert C. Carpenter, Jr.***

Hast thou seen His star;
Hast thou felt the radiance in thy heart
Of an immortal power;
Does love increase; does joy unfold;
Is error losing foothold hour by hour?

Hast thou seen His star;
Hast thou felt the Christ idea lifting
Up thy sense of man;
Hast thou felt the peace; hast thou
known the good
That enters human hearts as part of
God's plan?

Thou hast seen His star!
It was that radiance in thy heart
Of immortality;
It was that love; it was that joy;
It was that peace that heralds
Christ's coming to thee.

LETTERS

Just wanted to let you know that I am working on a list of good biographies [of Mary Baker Eddy], and where some may be obtained.

I am enthralled with the accounts in these books and feel that every sincere follower of Christian Science should be familiar with this information. The deep desire, persistent effort, self-sacrifice, and great compassion and love of Mrs. Eddy comes through and makes one want to pay back in some way her monumental life's effort and accomplishment! As she said at the beginning of Miscellaneous Writings:

"My world has sprung from Spirit,
In everlasting day;
Whereof, I've more to glory,
Wherefor, have much to pay."

To my mind, my debt and gratitude to her is unending, as her faithfulness has opened the way for all mankind to follow the Christ, be it “slow or fast.”

Dale from Virginia

My sincere and deepest thanks for the recent watch regarding the lockdowns in Australia and Europe. I credit this watch with the progress in Australia today, whereby a new sweeping “pandemic” law, that would grant “rule by decree” status to the Premier of my state, was successfully challenged and stayed by the state legal council, business leaders and parliament. This is still work in progress; but the quote from Mrs. Eddy in Miscellany, “No crown nor sceptre nor rulers rampant can quench the vital heritage of freedom,” is resounding in my soul today. God has done it, God, good alone, is triumphant, as “where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is Liberty”!

Mrs. Eddy’s instructions are the complete and jubilant panacea to the nameless nothing. “Faith can sing through days of sorrow,” as our hymn says.

All the work at Plainfield to preserve Christian Science as taught by dear Mrs. Eddy and our early workers, has all been a shining light in what seems to be darkness. Working with the Plainfield watch is an honour and joy, and I have found all the watches to be Absolute Truth, Infinite.

Thank you, Plainfield!

Imogene from Australia

We all need people who understand our fears, even though I know that, as a

Christian Scientist, each fear needs to be faced, identified, and destroyed. That said, it is with overflowing gratitude that I listened to the November 7, 2021, Roundtable discussion in which stories about fear of travel and driving were told. I also suffer great anxiety from driving long distances and traveling alone. One comment, that we need not fear because we are never out of God’s presence—ever—and that He is always with us, was a powerful and immediate treatment.

How grateful I am for the guidance and comfort received from every Roundtable, Bible Study, and weekly Lesson along with all the articles accessible to anyone interested in Christian Science. Study and practice indeed trump any need for travel or incessant buying that seem to be the human hallmark for any person truly “living” life to its fullest, and yet the more I study, the more I am happy to be in what many would describe as a small world. I am so grateful that I am a part of our little tribe at Plainfield that is making the largest and immediate contribution to the world today —truly you all are Davids in the face of Goliath!

Aloha,

Marlene from Hawaii

Beloved: — A word to the wise is sufficient. Mother wishes you all a *happy Christmas*, a feast of Soul and a famine of sense.

Lovingly thine,

MARY BAKER EDDY

This is an informational newsletter for members of the Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent, intended to be a means for communication with each other, and is supported and provided by the efforts of the membership at large. Each member shall do his part to ensure the continuing success of Independent Christian Science as a worldwide activity. Let us begin with our Newsletter.