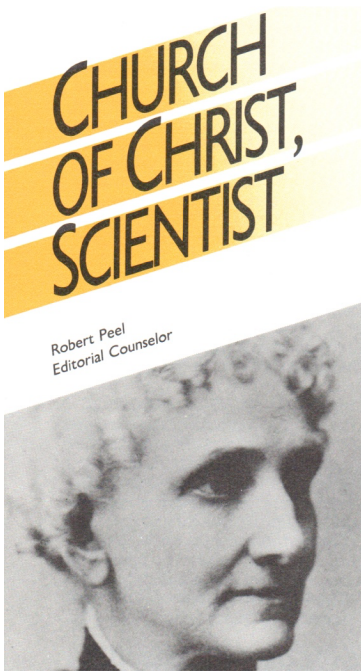


Dear Friends in Christ,



A Christian Scientist is apt to speak of himself or herself as a student of Christian Science. Related to the disciple this term implies that Christianity is a study, discipline as well as a way of life. It is not simply an intellectual study or theory but devotion of the heart and soul and mind to the God who is the source of one's being.

Christian Scientists may also be a practitioner of Christian Science. Likened to the term "minister" this expression of faith is practical in nature and serves humanity especially in the arena of healing. While the Practitioner is reserved to those devoting full-time ministry to healing it is expected that every student of Christian Science gives a measure of time to being a practitioner of the faith he or she professes.

The Church of Christ, Scientist was founded in England in 1879 by Mary Baker Eddy who is also the author of its textbook, "Science and Health, with Keys to the Scriptures". Together with the Bible this book is studied daily. Eddy's book does not replace the Bible just makes it more understandable to modern thinkers. Because she formed this belief following her own healing the Church of Christ, Scientist focuses primarily on healing.

As healing and wholeness played an important role in the New Testament so for the Scientist it is one aspect of Christian Salvation. Such healing is neither miraculous nor a matter of blind faith, rather it comes about as a natural result of a greater understanding of communion with God.

Healing of disease is but one small part of the total ministry. All the sorrow, poverty, crime, injustice, fear, pride, and materialism of human life demands healing. The primary task of the individual, as Christian Science sees it, is to "yield to the Christ-spirit which heals all that is unlike God and increasingly to bring this spirit to bear on the ills of the world."

Somewhat strange to traditional Christian understanding, Christian Science is rooted in the Bible but presented in abstract terms where God is not only an infinite and eternal being but as Mind, Spirit, Truth, Life, Soul, Principal and Love. As such Christian Science is more a philosophical expression of faith where evil and suffering are distorted views of reality, and matter, that which is concrete, is a false mode of thinking.

Thus, we need a Savior and Christ is the true idea of God who in his divine nature was made manifest in the humanity of Jesus. It is his perfect example that makes Jesus the way of salvation, the supreme model for all humanity. The true idea of God includes a right understanding of humanity, which Christian Scientists believe comes through the Spirit. One gains the Spirit by prayer, study, grace, and practice.

The Church of Christ, Scientist is a community of laypersons. There are no clergy, no seminaries, and no professional theologians. A typical Sunday service consists of hymns, prayer and selected passages from the Bible and Eddy's textbook. The lesson-sermon is prepared by two "readers" and shared with the gathered community with the goal of putting it into practice that week. A Wednesday service is reserved for spontaneous testimonies of healing.

Neighbors in Faith,

Pastor Hal

CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor Hal: 715-828-1112
Email: harkihear@gmail.com

If you are hospitalized, know someone who is, need pastoral assistance, a prayer request, home visit, private communion, or other pastoral service contact Pastor Hal at any of the above.



Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 06, 2023
Matthew 14: 13-21
"No Rest for Jesus"

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 13, 2023
Matthew 14: 22-33
"He Comes in our Troubles and Sustains Us"

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 20, 2023
Matthew 15: 10-28
"Where True Purity is Found"

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 27, 2023
Matthew 16: 13-20
"Built on the Rock"



ORIENTATION MEETING

August 30, 2012

6.30 p.m.

Big Elk Creek Lutheran

Mark this meeting for confirmands and parents or significant adult(s). It is required of all 7th and 8th Grade students planning to attend Confirmation instruction. This year we are studying the Old and New Testaments and there are some changes. See you there!



REMINDER TO ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

The August meeting for Joint and Individual Parish meetings is at **7:30 pm** at Barum on **Wednesday August 09, 2023**. This was changed voted on in June. Going forward the meeting will all be held at **7:30 pm** at **Big Elk Creek** this year on the Second Wednesday in the months of October, December, February, April, June, and August.

We want to see greater participation in these important meetings. **Remember** if you offered your service on any committee, we expect you to be faithful in attending. Thanks!

