

**First Church of Christ,  
Scientist, San Juan Capistrano**

**HAPPY FEBRUARY**

**Founding Purpose**

*Our purpose is to promote  
unconditional Love, spiritual growth and healing  
based on the Bible and the writings of Mary Baker Eddy.*



EBlast of February 7, 2018

**February Tithing**

***Rainbow Valley Resource Network***

Our tithing of 10% of collections received in February is going towards:



***Rainbow Valley Resource Network***

RVRN is a nationwide community of volunteers, caregivers and ambassadors dedicated to delivering spiritually enriching activities, practical resources, and financial support to Christian Science families and their loved ones with special needs.

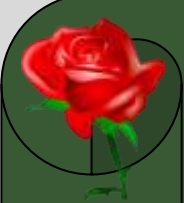
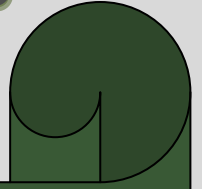
***Your prayers are invited...***

- to witness Divine Mind's direction in our outreach efforts to serve even more families caring for special needs children and adults.
- to pray to witness Soul's infinite resources as we work to expand our services to better support these dear families.
- to see our Family Support Network connect families throughout the country and to bring assurance, encouragement and healing to meet each family's needs.
- to witness progress and healing for every family choosing Christian Science in caring for their children with special needs.



# Growing Church Workshop and Open Forum

***After Church, Sunday, February 11th***



Dear Members and Friends,

Our church has decided to hold the February Growing Church Workshop (GCW) and Open Forum (OF) this coming Sunday afternoon, February 11<sup>th</sup>, following the church service, instead of on Monday evening, February 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m., when it would be usually scheduled. Many were hoping that this change of time would encourage those who do not normally participate to do so since our church faces some major decisions.

The Pledge Letter that was sent out at the end of the last year has yielded about half the response it did last year. Last year, out of 104 members, we received 53 responses and pledges amounting to about \$6,300. This year out of 98 members, we received 38 responses and pledges of \$4,828.

Currently, our offsite members now equal half of our membership for the first time. We have 49 offsite and 49 local members of whom only 22 locally have agreed, thus far, to serve in some way during the coming year.

The challenge is to keep our services going, our reading room open during the hours we agreed upon 2 years ago, as well as other local activities. There is a need for people to step up and read at Sunday and Wednesday services, work in the Reading Room, help print the programs and serve as Hosts at our services. There is a crucial need for people to step up or alternate as Head Host. The Head Host opens and closes the church each Sunday morning. This has been faithfully done by one dear member for the last several years but she has indicated she's not able to continue doing so after this month.

We need to discuss the 2018 Budget and how comfortable we are with dipping into our savings each year. Last year, we used \$53,000. Based on our current pledges, this next year - to maintain the same budget - we would need to use about \$72,000 of our current \$180,000 savings in a CD. Our monthly expenses run between \$11,000 -12,000 of which \$5,163 is rent.

So as you can see, there are several pressing issues we need to face as a church family and we sincerely hope the change of meeting time will allow more members the opportunity to participate whether in the room, on the phone or via the internet. For those who wish to participate on the phone, please call 805-309-2350 and put in the access code of: 12111#

\*\*\* Attached please find an Agenda for this Sunday, a Quarterly Treasurer's Report, the Minutes from the January GCW-OF as well as a February Master Calendar and the February WatchWords. \*\*\*





In the spirit of good communication among church family, a friendly reminder: that we all agreed to use our teleconference line for ongoing meetings approved by our membership and for Team meetings only. If a Team wishes to meet on teleconference, please be sure to contact T Langlois (tienlanglois.com), who maintains our schedule to avoid any overlapping of meetings. Should anyone like to meet with a group of our church for any other reason, please use a personal connection, such as

[www.freeconferencecall.com](http://www.freeconferencecall.com)

Thanks everyone!



## Updated Website with PayPal option

Our church's website is new, updated, and officially running! With a fresh look, it's easier to use to find what you want — the Sunday Program, a PayPal button to make contributions, the Calendar of Events, and more. For newcomers curious about our church, it has information about who we are, what we believe, our activities, and an easy-to-use map to find us. This is our Church's front door to the internet and the world. There are many possibilities for features that we can add as the need arises. We've created a team to keep it updated regularly; if you are interested and have ideas, please let us know!

<http://www.csinsanjuanapistrano.com>



## Inspirational Study

Our church family is continuing the study of our textbook, Science & Health, with Key to the Scriptures, by Mary Baker Eddy. In the next month, we will be studying the chapter entitled *The Apocalypse*. We will share inspiration gained from this study on Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. This meeting will take place solely on our teleconference line.



## Member Articles and Testimonies

January Journal Article - pg. 26  
*The Promise of the Seed*  
by Deborah Huebsch, C.S.B.

February Journal, Testimony – pg. 11  
*Full Recovery after a Fall*  
by Heather Bauer, C.S.

February 5<sup>th</sup> Sentinel Article - pg. 3  
*You Matter to God*  
by Deborah Huebsch, C.S.B.

February 26<sup>th</sup> Sentinel Article - pg. 7  
*Shake Off the Dust*  
by Heather Bauer, C.S.

## Member Update



### Cassidy Busch Nolander

...much loved member of our Sunday School alumni, is the daughter and granddaughter of former members, Debb Oliver and Nan Hopfer. Cassidy who recently married, now lives in D.C. She was formerly working with the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon but as *Intelligent Specialist Second Class*, is now working for the Counter Terrorism group of the FBI. Because she is not local and can no longer support us in the way she would prefer, she has decided to withdraw her membership. To the right are two great pictures of her. We wish you all the best, Cassidy --- please stay in touch!



# Update from Petals of Africa School in Kenya

## *A New Girls Dormitory!*

Dear Friends of Petals,

The new school year has started, and there are some good things happening at Petals. Because of last year's excellent test scores and the new girls' dormitory, interest in the school is high. Enrollment now stands at 289 students with 24 orphans and 45 partial orphans.

**New Girls Dormitory.** The beautiful new girls dormitory is almost complete (see photos), and the school has purchased 10 new bunk beds to accommodate more girls. The dorm was made possible by a generous gift from the former Visalia, California Christian Science church, along with the support of another donor. The leadership at Petals has been very satisfied with the builder, and they are planning to use the same one for the waste disposal system. I'd like to add a note here about how vigilant the Chairman of the Petals Board has been in overseeing the finances and operations at Petals. Having a partner with integrity and vision and an understanding both of the local culture and Western expectations/norms has been essential and a huge blessing.

**Advancing Students.** Thank you so much to those of you who responded to our call for contributions to the Advancing Students fund. Because of you, all of the students were able to start secondary school. The Advancing Students committee at the school decided to split the available funds among the students who did not have sponsors. This meant that the students could start school on time, though it seemed very likely that many of them would eventually be sent home for not paying school fees. With a lot of gratitude, I can share that a donor has just recently pledged an amount that will enable the students to stay in school, with parents paying just a little bit to make up the difference. The orphans, of course, have been taken care of.

**Teachers.** Most of the teachers have returned, though there is a new Deputy Head Teacher, Okinyi Dishon. Okinyi has been at the school for many years and has become almost indispensable. He is an excellent teacher and administrator and a big support to Emily Akirapa, the Head Teacher. (Mr. Okinyi is the teacher largely responsible for the high math scores on the KCPE.) He is a faithful member of the CS Society and hopes to have class instruction this summer. Another big thank you to those of you who contribute regularly to help pay teacher salaries. This is still an important need. Paying the teachers on time has perhaps been the biggest factor in the success of Petals over the last few years. If you are interested in making a recurring donation for that purpose, there is a way to do that on our web site. [www.e3schools.org/donate](http://www.e3schools.org/donate).

**Computers and soccer balls.** We were able to ship 11 used laptops to Petals so computer instruction will begin soon. A friend of the school also sent funds specifically for new soccer balls (see photo). Representatives from Principia visited in December and brought gifts of pencils, pens, balls, and t-shirts.

Barbara Brown, President, [bbrown@e3schools.org](mailto:bbrown@e3schools.org)  
E3: Elevating Education Everywhere, [www.e3schools.org](http://www.e3schools.org)



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