

# FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

JANUARY 2020

## Founding Purpose

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

## TEAM REPORTS



### LECTURE TEAM

Our lecture, ***Time is Not a Factor in Your Life***, on December 22 at the San Juan Hills Golf Course was well attended and very well received by both those in the room and on zoom!

All remarked that Marlene Bridges Winegar and her lecture team had done an excellent job in organizing a very inspiring

day. Lecturer Dave Hohle, CSB gave an excellent presentation with PowerPoint visuals that emphasized his points. Prior to the lecture, soloists Richard Bermudez and Rachel McLaughlan shared a beautiful holiday concert accompanied by Candi Daggett on the keyboard, Andrew Rodman on trumpet and Mahfrin Santoke on the flute. Thanks to all for their support of this event, especially Lecture Team members: Marlene and Rich Winegar, Roger and Penny Strelow, Bonnie MacDonald

### READING ROOM TEAM

The Reading Room team is grateful for the many avenues of reaching out to our larger community.

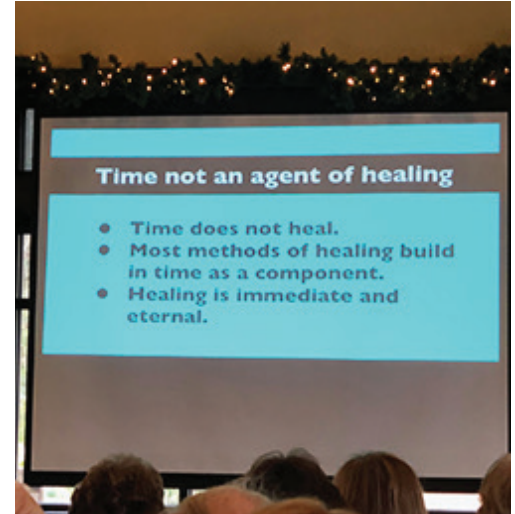
Although the actual room in the building is open on Tuesdays from 10 AM to 1 PM, Thursdays 1 to 4 PM and after Church services, the virtual Reading Room hours make it accessible every day of the week!

You may call in during virtual Reading Room hours on the teleconference line (805) 309-2350, access code 12111# and a team member will be happy to read to you, look up articles, answer questions and help in anyway they can. The online hours are Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from noon until 1 PM and Wednesdays from 1 to 3 PM.

The entire Reading Room team hopes you will join us in expressing our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to Diana Colarossi who has given selflessly of her time as one of the team leads and staff member for the last 13+ years. Her devotion to the Reading Room activity and love in sharing Christian Science with visitors has been an inspiration and role model for us all. She has led the team with a strong metaphysical basis, and for this we are immensely grateful.

She feels it's now time to step aside and let someone else have the opportunity for this cherished part of church.

**THANK YOU DIANA**



### METAPHYSICAL TEAM

Our MET for this month will focus on the topic of fatalism. **Be sure to call in on Monday evening January 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM** on the teleconference line for a lively discussion on this topic led by the metaphysical team.

A special thank you to Bev Ledweth for embracing this topic in her recent Wednesday evening readings. Your participation in our monthly metaphysical meetings and work is always needed and appreciated.

Team Members: Deborah Huebsch, Sharon Lignier, Linda Vara



*Enjoying fellowship after church, Bob Feldtz, Glenna Lovett, Lenore Garman, Sherry Feldtz. In background Alan Hess talking to Dorene Ford*



## ABOUT OUR MUSICIANS



*Richard & Rachel*

**Richard Bermudez**, although not a Christian Scientist, has been singing for our church services since 2005 as well as for memorial celebrations and weddings for members of our congregation. He holds a degree in Finance from Fordham University in New York and by day works as a fiduciary actuary while performing in numerous Broadway shows throughout the year. His next project is the musical **"Passion"** by Stephen Sondheim at Boston Court Theater in Pasadena, followed by **"Treasure Island"** at Musical Theater West in Long Beach. He lives in Moreno Valley with his wife Carly which means an hour and a half commute to come and sing for us (without traffic).

**Rachel McLaughlan** has been singing with us for three or four years. Also not a Christian Scientist,

she sings for us on the third Sunday of each month and is also the regular soloist on the second and fourth Sunday at Laguna Niguel church, and on the first and fifth Sunday at the Tustin church. Previously she substituted at the Ontario church as well as several others, has appeared at Musical Theater West as well as the Candlelight Dinner Pavilion in Claremont, and was on tour with **"Sesame Street"**. She lives in Rancho Cucamonga which is about an hour long drive for her on Sunday morning and works for a catering company to supplement her income.

## CATCHING UP WITH THE SUNDAY SCHOOL BUNCH



*SS Students Kaily and Tate Johnson.*



*The Victor Voisard Family: Nicole, Karina, Sebastian and Victor. Nicole & Sebastian attend Sunday School via ZOOM from their home in L.A.*



*Former SS Student Kyle Lovett with girlfriend Maddy and SS Team Leader Shana Johnson.*



*Former SS students Melody Colliate and Devon Baggs congratulate soloist Christopher Wolf.*



*Former Member Melanie Fisher Duffy with husband Ryan and Dominic, Desmond and new baby, Coura. Desi and Domi were in our Sunday School before they moved to St. Louis.*



*Candi with Bonnie MacDonald*

Our marvelous pianist **Candi Daggett** has been with us for over 20 years, beginning when we were in our old location by the railroad track. She is a member of our church and a class taught Christian Scientist. She attended Principia College. Graduated with a BA in Music and then got her Masters in music (MM) with a major in accompanying from USC. She started the holiday music programs of having a live grand piano in the lobby at all of the Nordstrom stores at the request of Mr. Nordstrom himself, playing in the West L.A. store and then moving to South Coast Plaza in Orange County. She continued with this program from 1985-1993 and was manager of the pianists at South Coast Plaza Nordstrom. She lives in Laguna Beach with her husband Bob.

*(More musicians featured next month)*



*Judy Stump and Patty Smith*



*Sisters Joan, Ronnie and Mary visit us each winter from their homes in the Pacific North West and St. Louis, along with their husbands. (Joan's husband Dan pictured at left.)*





**Roger and Penny Strelow** were both born into and raised in CS families. They met their sophomore year at Principia Upper School and they dated steadily from then until their marriage after college in 1964. Penny has been a soloist in several branch churches and both she and Roger have been church Readers and Board members on several occasions. Penny has held positions as a performing musician, a real estate agent and a stock broker. Roger, a lawyer, served as the Presidentially-appointed head of the US air pollution control office at the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and then practiced environmental law and headed the environmental programs for several global corporations. Their homes have included the San Francisco Bay Area, Washington DC, Weston, CT, Birmingham, Michigan, Estero (Gulf Coast) Florida, and now Corona Del Mar, CA. They have three children, all of whom are Scientists and raising their seven grandchildren in Science. Penny and Roger have always turned successfully to Science to meet challenges. They are delighted to be active members of the SJC church because of its progressivism, innovation and warmth.



*Fred Yeakel and Kathy MacCuish pictured with great dane, Murphy Brown*



*Barbara and Richard Bauer with Cricket*



*Chris dei Santi with Erwin Cornelius joins SS student Alex Montalvo and dog Sarah.*



*SS Student Kate Talili with Bella*



*Hamilton Garman*



*Marshall Reddick with his dog Sunny (who sadly passed away this month).*



**Martha Nyatawa** is a loved regular participant of our SJC church teleconference community. She currently lives in Terra Haute, Indiana where she continues to be deeply involved in the music community as a concert violinist, teacher and frequent guest violin soloist at various area churches and local venues. She started playing the violin as a young child accompanied by her mother who was a concert pianist, and her two sisters who played the flute and cello. She trained at the University of Indiana, New England Conservatory of Music, in Nuremberg, Germany, and Ball State University. She has been involved as concert mistress in several symphonies since she was in high school and currently in the Terra Haute Symphonetta. She has served as music minister for the Salvation Army and many other venues, recitals and also as a certified teacher in local middle schools.

She remarks that her mother has been such an important and wonderful influence in her life in terms of her love for and expression of music, as well as her love for CS. She remembers her mother getting up every morning at 4 to pray before the children got up and then waking up to the melodies of Schumann's Toccata or a Prokofiev sonata. Then they would breakfast and read the Bible lesson together. She learned from her mother's example to always put God first. She inquired of a local church friend about different ways to listen to the truths of CS via the internet and phone. It was through her that she learned of the teleconference of our services in SJC. She called in and immediately loved what she heard and felt the love of our church family. She has become a regular of our Wednesday and Sunday services and our telephone virtual reading room.

**One of her treasured quotes is, "Whatever inspires with wisdom, Truth, or Love — be it song, sermon, or Science — blesses the human family with crumbs of comfort from Christ's table, feeding the hungry and giving living waters to the thirsty." (SH 234:4)**



## Dear Friends at San Juan...

Thank you for your recent contributions to E3 in support of **Petals of Africa School**. Your faithful support (both prayerful and financial) continues to be very important to the stability and success of the school. 2019 has been a year of wonderful progress for the school. Here are a few highlights:

- \* 17 out of 20 eighth graders have been admitted to national high schools, a big honor

- \* The teachers recently spent five days in Nairobi, joining with teachers from **Dream Education Center** and **Sunrise of Africa School** for training in the new Kenyan curriculum. This training turned out to be a huge success on many levels and certainly eye-opening for the **Petals** group, many of whom had never been to Nairobi.

- \* There have been many badly needed upgrades & improvements to the facility.

- \* Plans are in the works to replace the temporary metal classrooms with a permanent classroom block.

We recently confirmed what we suspected - that **Petals** was once again the **#1 school** in Migori County!

The graduates have just received their invitations to secondary school and 17 of the 20 students have been invited to attend national high schools. This is an extraordinary record.

Following are three of the 2019 Petals graduates SJC members and friends are sponsoring into high school. In total seven students were sponsored at \$600 each to help with their higher education.



Ruth Irine Odera lives very close to Petals. Ruth joined the school in 2015,

the year after her mother died. Her father is a peasant farmer, and with one of his daughters in college, he struggles to pay school fees. We're told Ruth is a good athlete, "an all-around girl who performs well in class and in co-curricular activities.



Pheny Anyango lives with her mother in the nearby village of Bondo. Her dad passed on when she was a toddler, and she has been at Petals since 6th grade. Her mother does small-scale subsistence farming and tried hard to contribute to Pheny's school fees at Petals. Pheny is a good soccer player, and a hard-working student.



Caleb Otieno Ngiga is a total orphan who lives in Ngochoni, very close to Petals. His father was killed by cattle rustlers in 2010, and his mother passed on in 2013. Caleb's guardian enrolled him at Petals in 2015. He was a hard-working student at Petals, one who was always ready to help the school in harvesting the corn. He served as the school's Head of Students for one of his years at Petals.

**Thank you to all who helped sponsor students!**

## TITHING TEAM

*"Tithe: contribution; tenth part; homage; gratitude."*

*Science and Health, page 595*

Our January and February tithing features organizations dealing with homelessness.

**We Are Uno**, a local nonprofit run by member Ingrid Butaya has been our focus for January. We thank Bonnie MacDonald for doing excellent readings on homelessness on a recent Wednesday night and also Ingrid for coming to talk to us about some of the issues she's facing and answering questions about her work.

A very special thank you to all of our members and friends who brought items for Ingrid to share both with the houseless population and also for her upcoming silent auction fundraiser.

February we will be supporting the work of **Our Fathers Table** here in San Juan. The foundress and Executive director Gina Seriel will be coming to talk to us about her work and ways we can be practically involved here in the local community. Our AV team member Marcia Brannon has been instrumental in serving as our liaison to this important community endeavor.

Our March and April tithing will focus on organizations promoting world peace and will include **WIN** and **R Star**.



*CW Gruenig, Erwin Cornelius, Lechi Mathis, Marshall Reddick, Ronnie Jacobson, Dee Gruenig enjoying fellowship after church.*