

February 2024

Dear Class-taught Students of Christian Science,

We feel great joy in realizing that Christian Science associations will be gathering at different times and in various locations all over the world throughout the year. If we were to construct a mental map of the world and envision each association and where and when it is meeting, we would have an image of the world being embraced by the Comforter throughout the year.

At a time when it may be tempting to look out on a divided world or unmet challenges in our individual lives and churches, we find great hope in the teaching that unites us. Each year we receive comments from teachers who share their delight in hearing about their students' progress, as well as how students are working in Science to meet various challenges. Each year we also hear from individuals who share their gratitude for their teachers and for what was gained from class instruction, as well as how much they value ongoing association meetings. Common to all of these good reports is an enormously deep reservoir of gratitude for the teaching that Mary Baker Eddy provided as the established curriculum for class instruction—her chapter “Recapitulation” from *Science and Health*. When Mrs. Eddy was asked, “*Is there more than one school of scientific healing?*” her answer was clear and direct: “In reality there is, and can be, but one school of the Science of Mind-healing.” In that same answer, she goes on to warn of the danger of diverging from the exactness of her teaching (see *Rud*, p. 16). In our association meetings, church testimony meetings, periodicals, and individual practice, we are united in our efforts to amplify and increase our demonstration of the practical healing power of Mrs. Eddy's teaching. This is cause for great joy!

Mrs. Eddy told a class in 1889 that those gathered were enough to convert the world if they were of one Mind. As we embrace that promise today, let's pause and consider the power our work together can have in advancing the Cause of Christian Science. Let's rejoice that the Christly grace so fully demonstrated by Jesus is today available to humanity as a practical system of healing. Clearly, our Leader expected Christian Scientists to be actively working together to demonstrate something tangible of the allness and oneness of divine Mind. To that end, we find ourselves thinking of a specific request Mrs. Eddy made to her followers that is as true today as it was then. On April 10, 1909, Mrs. Eddy wrote to the Christian

Science Board of Directors, “Let every member of The Mother Church pray for the prosperity of our Church, and realize the nothingness of the unrighteous prayer,— know that it cannot avail anything. My beloved, rouse the attention of all the Church, to preserve unity and allegiance to Christian Science” [L00604, The Mary Baker Eddy Library].

There is so much good to accomplish together. This year’s Annual Meeting theme, “Joy in the living Church,” reminds us that we not only can do more together than we can do on our own, but also that there is great joy in doing it. And, our joy most sincerely includes our gratitude for each and every one of you.

Blessings and grace to each of you,

The Christian Science Board of Directors and the Board of Education



Rich Evans



Moji George



Scott Preller



Mary Alice Rose



Keith Wommack



Diane Marrapodi



Margaret Rogers