



Greetings Fellow Branch Members!

July 2023

Letter Writing Workshop

One way individuals can participate in the work of the Christian Science Committee for Institutional Service is by writing letters to Adults-in-custody (AICs). We need more letter writers in Oregon (and across the nation)!

If you would like to know more about this important role, we invite you to join us for a free, 1-hour Zoom workshop hosted by Embraced:Fully on Thursday, July 13, 2023 at 6 pm.

Marilyn McDonald, a Christian Science Chaplain, will explore best practices for writing letters to AICs. You'll learn about working with your local Institutional Committee (us!), general guidelines, how to email an inmate, and much more.

Please visit embracedfully.org for more details and to sign up.

We hope to see you there!

Updates from Volunteer Chaplains (visiting inside prisons)

A volunteer continues weekly Friday visits with as many as 12 AICs attending and participating in lively discussions about the Bible Lessons and other Christian Science topics. Ten AICs attended a lecture by Nicole Virgil, CS in May. Sessions may start with music (one attendee plays guitar) or sharing ideas on the Bible. Participants are very supportive of each other. A 2nd volunteer will be joining these sessions soon!

A volunteer makes a monthly trek to two facilities where she continues to have good conversations with 1 or 2 AICs on most visits. Discussions focus on the Bible Lesson, prayer, and other healing topics.

Healing work continues in Bend with two visits each month. Volunteers read the Bible Lesson and pray regarding the needs of staff and AICs and how this healing message can be revealed to and bless them.

Angel Teams (Embraced:Fully)

Embraced:Fully is committed to bridging the gap between exiting prison and successfully reintegrating with society. The conference in May was a good introduction to institutional work and was full of energy! Speakers shared news on Christian Science in institutions from around the country, testimonies from previously incarcerated people on how they found Christian Science, and information on how you can get involved. Visit embracedfully.org to learn more. Conference recordings will be available soon.

We have several previously incarcerated in our local communities with links to Christian Science. Each time someone releases, if they are not already connected, we notify the local church to watch for them and welcome them. Are you interested in helping someone get reconnected to the positive side of their community? Contact us at csiscoregon@gmail.com.

Administrative changes

- ♥ Terri Griffin (Lake Oswego) joined us as Secretary in April.
- ♥ Barb Weiser remains Treasurer.
- ♥ Barb Weiser (Lake Oswego), Judith Hillend (Gresham), Dave Myers (Beaverton), and Diahana Barnes (Medford) make up the current Executive Committee.

Interested in helping?

We have volunteers in several different roles. There are guidelines and mentors for every position. It is very rewarding and enlightening work.

- write letters
- serve on the Executive Committee
- serve inside a prison, jail, transition center, or other institution
- help those just released (1st 48 hours, 1st 2 weeks, ongoing as a Christian Science mentor – could be by phone, ongoing transportation/ job/ resume/ whatever)

Financial Summary – details sent to churches

October 2022 – June 2023

Balance in checking = \$9267.07

Balance in Money Market = \$4953.31

Income = \$17669.00 (incl \$ from TMC grant)

Net ordinary income \$-1908.05

Net income \$-366.35

Balance in CD's (if go to term) = \$75,000

Expenses = \$19,577.05

Interest income 2023 \$1541.70;

Grant from The Mother Church

We are grateful to have received a grant (\$2644) to cover a portion of last year's subscription expenses and are working on our application for this year.

Gratitude for Branch Churches

THANK YOU! Many of you increased your per capita or found other ways to donate to us. THANK YOU for your recognition of the work being done. Please consider the standard per capita to be \$2.75. We consider the sending of the Bible Lesson, *Christian Science Sentinel*, and *Christian Science Monitor* to each facility to be a significant outreach for our Oregon Christian Science community. Thank you for supporting that effort.

Other Ways to Donate

THANK YOU for your metaphysical and financial support for this important work! Individuals may donate directly to this committee by using a credit/debit card and the "donate now" button at <https://csisoregon.com/> or by sending contributions to:

Christian Science Committee for Institutional Service
PO Box 1233
Wilsonville, OR 97070

Abbreviation legend:

AIC = Adult-in-custody – does not imply guilt or innocence