

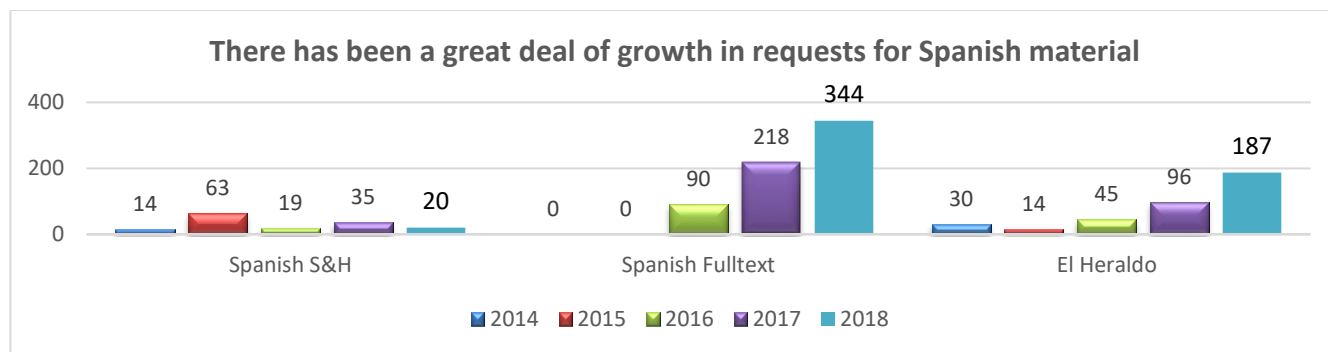
# The Christian Science Committee for Institutional Work in Texas

Date: January 15, 2019  
Subject: **2018 Year End Report**  
To: The Christian Science Branch Churches and Societies in Texas

It is with deep gratitude for your expression and support of the teachings, practice and understanding of Christian Science that this report is shared.

**Distribution Activity:** Distribution results for 2018 from the State office are as follows:

- *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* – 120 English and 20 Spanish mailed; 256 English and 16 Spanish provided to volunteers to distribute at lectures and chaplain visits
- Bibles – 82 English, 17 Spanish
- *The Christian Science Monitor* – 124 facility & 190 one-year subscriptions for individuals; hundreds of donated copies distributed to the inmates
- *Christian Science Sentinel* – 146 subscriptions; hundreds of donated copies
- *Herald of Christian Science* – 187 mailed from office
- *myBibleLesson* – 600 subscriptions through bulk license; 465 weekly recipients – 135 copies are mailed to volunteer chaplains
- 134 new requests to be added to the Bible lesson mailing list. 117 names were removed
- Spanish Full Text edition - 344 mailed - began with 23 recipients, now have 31 recipients
- Letters from this office to inmates – 1,310



**2018 Annual Meeting:** Houston volunteer Chaplain George Nutwell shared an inspiring report of his work in the Harris County Jail (HCJ). It was a real privilege to have a member of 7<sup>th</sup> Houston, who is also a guard from HCJ at the meeting. He shared a healing experience and told of his appreciation for the prayers and love of all the volunteers for the offenders. We also had a man who had been released in September share his gratitude for being introduced to Christian Science and the volunteers' support. He has been attending 4<sup>th</sup> Church Houston when able to get a ride.

Our deep gratitude goes to our outgoing Board members Patty Woodard, CS, and Shellie Evans for their wonderful support and work on the State Committee Board. Here are your new State Committee Board members and officers:

**Chair** – George Nutwell – Houston Zone – thru 2019  
Eleanor Bigbie – East At Large Member - thru 2019  
Suzanne Davis – Austin Zone – thru 2020  
Hal Shrewsbury, CS – San Antonio Zone -thru 2020  
**Vice Chair** - Allan Vivian – DFW Zone - thru 2022  
Brian Hall – West At Large Member - thru 2022

## Zone Update

Thank you to the many branches that helped sponsor 8 lectures in the prisons in 2018.

### San Antonio Zone

- The Applewhite Substance Abuse Training Facility has a very active volunteer who provided 43 Bible classes to 239 individuals, giving away 15 Bibles.
- The Laurel Ridge Treatment Center volunteer conducts Bible classes for the Wounded Warrior program at the facility when called upon.
- **Bexar County Juvenile Detention Center is in need of volunteers** to hold Bible classes.
- The Karnes County Correctional Center volunteer was able to visit 12 times with 66 participants.
- The Torres Unit in Hondo is supported by the New Braunfels branch volunteers. Since the regular attendees have been transferred, members continue to provide spiritual support through the mail with letters and articles.
- Two chaplains visit the Bexar County Jail twice a month to conduct a Bible study class and introduction to Christian Science. Often 30 or more men are in attendance.
- First Church San Antonio and area volunteers have been faithfully providing Sunday services at Lackland Air Force base for over 25 years!
- Three volunteers attended the Festival of Faiths Event at San Antonio's University Hospital.

### Houston Zone

- Eight volunteers serve in this highly populated zone with chaplain visits at Harris County Jail and state prison units, church services at 4 prison units and letter writing.
- The Huntsville Unit formerly known as the Walls Unit receives bi-weekly services on Saturday morning. The Ramsey Unit has weekly services on Sunday night at 6 p.m. The Wynne Unit has weekly chaplain visits on Tuesday afternoon. The Estelle Unit has bi-weekly services on Saturday afternoon.
- The volunteers visiting state facilities have distributed over 15 *Science and Health*, 7 Prose Works, 6 Bibles, over 70 *Christian Science Sentinel*, over 80 *Christian Science Journal*, 13 Hymnals, 15 *El Heraldo*, 12 biographies, 8 Manuals, 8 Concordances and over 400 articles or poems.
- The chaplain visits at the Harris County Jail reached 1,697 people. 160 *Science and Health*, 66 Bibles, 1,047 *myBibleLesson*, 704 *Christian Science Sentinel*, and 515 copies of *The Christian Science Monitor* were distributed by the volunteer, as well as *Prose Works*, Manuals, Hymnals and many other Reading Room items.
- The branches in this zone generously sponsored several lectures with Patty Woodard, CS.

### DFW Zone

- Over 20 volunteers provide 18 services per month at five facilities: state units, Coffield and Michael; federal units, Seagoville and FMC Carswell; services at two locations and chaplain visits at Dallas County Jail; and literature at the Denton County Jail.
- The Coffield Unit volunteers hold an annual Thanksgiving service each January. In 2018, 138 offenders attended. It is a real family gathering following the service with a meal and a movie!
- Three volunteers mentor through the mail. There is a need for additional "mentors thru mail" if you would be interested in corresponding with a sincere seeker!

### Austin Zone

- Volunteers from 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Church, Austin continue to support the Gardner-Betts Juvenile unit. The volunteers in this zone provide constant metaphysical support for all the work going on throughout the state.

### At Large areas

- Abilene, McAllen, Lubbock, and Tyler members are answering letters and providing one on one chaplain visits.
- Two wonderful ladies are volunteer chaplains at the El Paso County Jail.
- Abilene Society along with financial support from 3<sup>rd</sup> Dallas sponsored lecturer Josh Niles, CSB at the Middleton Unit.

**Where We Serve:** The Committee is currently in contact with individuals in 78 facilities throughout the state encompassing federal, state, and county jurisdictions! As offenders are transferred between state units and/or systems, like from county jail to a state unit, the number of facilities changes. This has ranged from 75 facilities up to 92 facilities on any given day.

- There are weekly church services at two Federal Units and two State Units in the DFW zone.
- Four county facilities- Dallas, Harris, El Paso, and Bexar have weekly church services and/or chaplain visits.
- Facilities with large groups of offenders currently **receiving the weekly Bible lessons**.
  - Coffield Unit in Tennessee Colony has 93 men – has weekly service.
  - Michael Unit in Tennessee Colony has 48 men – has weekly service.
  - Ramsey 1 Unit in Rosharon has 13 men – has weekly service.
  - Estelle Unit has 26 men – has bi weekly service
  - Huntsville Unit has 6 men – has bi weekly service.
  - Wynne Unit has 8 men – has weekly service.
  - **These Units need volunteers–would you consider reading the Lesson here?**
  - **Amarillo** area - Clements Unit has 20 men
  - **Gatesville** area - Hughes Unit has 12 men and the Murray Unit has 7 women
  - **New Boston** area – Telford Unit has 9 men
  - **Richmond** area - Vance Unit has 9 men
  - **Beaumont** area - Stiles Unit has 14 men
  - **Livingston** area - Polunsky Unit has 11 men
  - **Huntsville** area – Eastham Unit has 9 men and the Ellis Unit has 10 men

## Volunteer Quotes

“One of our members has asked for listings of Christians Science church and Reading Rooms in the location where his dad is living at the request of his dad because of the changes and improvements he is witnessing in his son.” – Houston Zone

“One man said he had grown lax in replacing ungodlike thoughts with God thoughts. We discussed that replacing those ungodlike thoughts was not a one-time event but a way of life as each problem presents a new understanding of God which Jesus says is eternal life. This is a good lesson for every Christian Scientist since a scientist is one who practices a science rather than just a church attendee.” – San Antonio Zone

“In one of our units, this question was asked: How did you find Christian Science? Each individual replied that it was the Bible lesson that led him to ask for more information about Christian Science. Some were seekers for the truth. Others wanted to find out more about God and become a better person. But at one unit, each man found the Bible lesson, by reading someone else’s copy shared by a subscriber. This reading made them want more of this truth, and their own subscription to the Bible lesson.”  
-Houston Zone

“F. W. talked about how he has applied ideas he picked up from a lecture he heard titled "The Healing Power of Stillness." He said he gets mad easily and has learned to find a place where he can go and find that sense of stillness. He realizes it's error and that it's not true about him. Said he uses this idea daily.”  
– DFW Zone

“Testimonies from men in the services who have had healings of eyesight, spider bites, anger, grief, taking drugs for addiction, and change of character from severe temper, anger, revenge to complete forgiveness and inner peace. Many have seen family issues resolved where they never expected there could be forgiveness and resolution.” – Houston Zone

## OFFENDER QUOTES

“I just wanted to send a quick thank you for always sending me these weekly Bible lessons! Sometimes my world is full of turmoil and chaos and sorrow. But you have been a constant for years now. You follow me no matter where TDCJ moves me. Often, when I feel alone, they call my name for mail call and there you are to remind me that God is Love, Truth and Life and all of this turmoil, all the chaos, all the sorrow is false and fake and worthless. So, thank you times a million for continuing to remind me that we are the reflections of God.” R.M. – Terrell Unit

“Thank you for the Sentinel and especially the Monitor. They keep me grounded. The Sentinel provides me (and those I share them with) excellent examples of CS practice, while the Monitor provides such invaluable knowledge of the happenings of the world.” B.B. – Darrington Unit

In response to reading a Sentinel article this man writes, “This article hit right on a problem of my own. But since reading it, it has helped me a lot because what she said I have written it down were I have it right in front of me to read as a reminder every day when I start to lose it a little bit. She said, ‘I am losing my mind.’ I felt powerless to stop it. I feel this way at times and work with it every day. There is only one God, there can be only one Mind, the Mind we all reflect as God’s spiritual creation. She prayed, ‘God is my Mind, God can’t lose His Mind, so neither can I.’ This is one of the things I remind myself every day, throughout the day, to keep following the path of light, leave the darkness behind.” D. E. Terrell Unit

“The Bible lessons improve my theology. Every Bible lesson is a classroom and I’m enjoying the lessons. I know that God’s thoughts are born in our silence. I’ve learned not to take matters into my own hands. I wait on God’s perfect timing for Him to give me provision, vision, and guidance. Most people give up on God because He doesn’t do things the way they want Him to do it, as if they are wiser than God. I know that whatever God is doing is always best for us all even when we don’t perceive it. I really can’t afford to miss one issue or mailing of my Bible lesson. They are indispensable and vital to my spiritual life. I’m a Christian Scientist.” P.M. – Clements Unit

While sharing his gratitude for the Bible lessons, “... not to mention feel spiritually enlightened. No longer fearful or frustrated, angry or lost in a lifestyle that’s less than honest and humble. I long for peace of mind and to have a successful relationship with God.” A. A. – East Texas Treatment

### **2019 Needs:**

**VOLUNTEERS!** Do you have time once a month to share your love for Christian Science and the Bible? You can contact your branch volunteers, Zone Board Rep or the Executive Secretary to find out how to become a volunteer chaplain or “mentor thru mail.”

**CONTRIBUTIONS** - Checks can be made payable to the state committee and mailed to the Executive Secretary at the address below or you can contribute online thru Pay Pal at:  
<http://christiansciencedallas.com/programs/outreach-to-prisons/>

Thank you for your continued metaphysical and financial support of this statewide activity.

Elizabeth Arnett, Executive Secretary/Treasurer  
P.O. Box 1181  
Haslet, TX 76052  
[elizarnett@att.net](mailto:elizarnett@att.net)  
817-996-2285