

The Christian Science Committee on Institutional Work in Texas 2021 Year End Report

It is with deep gratitude for the receptivity and desire for the teachings, practice, and understanding of Christian Science by those we serve that this report is shared.

Distribution Activity: Distribution activities for 2021 from the State office are as follows:

- *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* – 175 English and 18 Spanish
- Bibles – 171 English, 15 Spanish
- 963 Reading items including 97 *Prose Works*, 106 biographies, 72 Hymnals and multiple Concordances to the writings of Mary Baker Eddy and the Bible
- *The Christian Science Monitor* – 11 facility & 389 one-year subscriptions for individuals;
- *Christian Science Sentinel* – 235 subscriptions; hundreds of donated copies
- *The Herald of Christian Science* – 536 mailed from office
- *Christian Science Quarterly Bible Lesson* digital edition – 600 subscriptions through bulk license; 450 weekly recipients – copies are mailed to volunteer chaplains to share with newcomers to their program
- 63 new requests to be added to the Bible Lesson mailing list; 71 names were removed
- Spanish Full Text edition - 522 mailed – began year with 38 recipients, now have 47 recipients
- English Full Text edition – 40 monthly for large print needs, county and federal facilities
- The Mother Church membership applications – 9
- Letters from this office to offenders – 1,448

2021 Annual Meeting October 9th: At Large West Zone Representative and Army Reserve Chaplain Major Brian Hall gave an inspiring talk sharing how to be alert not to let the “culture” or criticism of Christian Science discourage or erroneously influence the individual’s practice of Christian Science.

Our deep gratitude for the ongoing work of the Board!

Chair – Robert Cowart – Austin Zone – thru 2024

Vice Chair – Brian Hall – West At Large Member - thru 2022

Allan Vivian - DFW Zone – thru 2022

Anita Baker – Houston Zone – thru 2023

Carolyn Rook – East At Large Member - thru 2023

Susan Bowden – San Antonio Zone - thru 2024

Where We Serve: The Committee is in contact with individuals throughout Texas and branching out into Oklahoma, encompassing federal, state, and county jurisdictions! As offenders are transferred between state units and/or systems, e.g., from county jail to a state unit, the number of facilities changes. This has ranged from 72 facilities up to 89 facilities on any given day. **In June, “in person” services began in three units.**

Offender Quotes: G.R., at Dominguez Unit, “The purpose of this letter is simply to thank you and all of those who have made donations which have allowed you to renew my subscription to the Christian Science Sentinel. The Christian Science Sentinel always offers stories of encouragement that help get me through each day. I especially enjoy the Bible lesson insights at the back of the Sentinel. Thank you again for all that you do to help those incarcerated. I pray that God continues to bring joy, peace, and love into the lives of all of those who support your cause.”

D.M., at Coffield Unit, “...the weekly magazines are also healthy for our hearts. I pass them on when I’m done. During these times I should be having a group of peers writing you guys so you can help them as well. We are very blessed to have you.”

D. E., at Huntsville Unit, writes, “Any material that you would like to send me please do. I know it will be a blessing. Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures, by Mary Baker Eddy, has been an eye opener and has been a light in the dark. I enjoy reading it. This is the first time I have looked at life this way. It is truly a joy. I hope to hear from you when you have time. Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers.”

G. E. S., at Clements Unit, “I have finished reading all of the chapters in ‘Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures’ by Mary Baker Eddy. I am sure without a doubt that the work was a result of what is mentioned in Acts 2:38 & 5:32 in which the indwelling of the Holy Spirit is the result of what was written. The consistency of her writing that sin, sickness and death are not real to the divine infinite MIND really had an effect on my realization of the example of the WAY, the TRUTH, and the LIFE the Christ name Jesus’ showed THE I AM which we all must realize and strive to attain in this existence. She really showed that Christian Science is what Christ demonstrated in his ministry to reveal the Kingdom of God and I am very influenced by what I have read in the chapters written. I must admit it will take another reading to fully absorb the contents of her work to apply its thought process in which it was not totally strange nor not understandable, just different because the MIND of Christ is really something that being of the Holy Spirit must be present, and ones application of commitment and consistency must be put into study; constant renewing of the Mind to bring about actualization. What is stated in the chapter Science of Being, 337:9 ‘According to divine Science, man is in a degree as perfect as the Mind that forms him’ is what the reading of Science and Health has done to me. I have been and will be continually reading the book to apply its message. I hope that you may continue to be reached when I write to you on any questions that I may have need of clarification and explaining about when I read the entire book from page 1 to the end. Now to you be long life and good health.”

J.R., at Smith Unit, “You have no idea how much all of the things you are sending me has truly helped me surpass my stress and my depression behind these walls. I was at a point in my life where I felt like giving up, and thanks to Mr. Porter, and you, I am doing so much better in my faith in Christianity. I would like to one day be a full-fledged member of Christian Science when you believe me to be ready. Please continue to send me all that you can send me to further my knowledge in Christian Science. I promise to stay strong in my faith if you promise to pray for me daily.”

2021 Growth: We have two units, Smith and McConnell, which have both grown from one individual being transferred to it to 10 men receiving the weekly lesson sermons. There is also great growth taking in place in Oklahoma with a monthly service being held in a woman’s state facility where 11 offenders receive the weekly lesson and volunteer chaplain visits are being provided to a men’s facility. The men and women love sharing!

Amarillo area - Clements Unit has 28 men
Gatesville area - Hughes Unit has 18 men
Abilene area – Robertson Unit has 12 men
Beaumont area - Stiles Unit has 23 men
Livingston area - Polunsky Unit has 11 men
Huntsville area -Walls Unit 7 men; Estelle Unit has 31 men; Wynne Unit has 8 men

Palestine area – Michael Unit has 30 men; Coffield Unit has 81 men; Beto Unit has 7 men
Kenedy area – Connally Unit has 13 men
Lamesa area – Smith Unit has 10 men
Beeville area – McConnell Unit has 10 men

CONTRIBUTIONS - Checks can be made payable to the CS State Institutional Committee and mailed to the Executive Secretary at the address below or you can make a onetime or monthly donation online through Pay Pal at: http://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=s-xclick&hosted_button_id=HXPX7RJKKU56G

Thank you for your faithful metaphysical and financial support of this statewide healing church activity.

Elizabeth Arnett, Executive Secretary/Treasurer
P.O. Box 1181 Haslet, TX 76052
elizarnett@att.net 817-996-2285