



NEWSLETTER

First Church of Christ, Scientist

Austin, Texas

July 2020

1309 Guadalupe, Austin, Texas 78701 • 512-472-2356 • clerk@firstcsaustin.org • ChristianScienceAustin.org
Sunday Service at 11 am • Wednesday Testimony Meetings at Noon and 7:30 pm

CALENDAR

See ChristianScienceAustin.org for details.
Call 512-703-8010 – Press 4 for updates.

- **JULY BOARD MEETING**
Sunday, June 28 @ 12:30 pm
- **JULY SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING - On-line**
Thursday, July 9 @ 7:30 pm
- **BIBLE STUDY - On-line**
Monday, July 13 @ 7:30 – 8:30 pm CDT

CHURCH SERVICES RETURN TO ON-LINE ONLY

In view of the difficulties encountered by our community in dealing with the pandemic, Austin officials have reverted to Stage 4 of the guidelines which limit gatherings to 10 or fewer people. With this change and with respect to the policies of local officials on public health issues, our church will return to remote services only. This will apply to both Sunday and Wednesday services beginning with Sunday, June 21.

Dial 346-248-7799, ID: 304-412-1309 # #

See our website for direct access to the Zoom meeting. The Sunday School will continue to be on-line as well. Many members have expressed their appreciation for being able to attend services in person. Indeed, there is a benefit to our church, our attendees and the community from holding in-person services. It is our hope that we can resume such services when the community makes progress in handling the key issue of our time.

In Miscellaneous Writings Mrs. Eddy reminds us that “A calm, Christian state of mind is a better preventer of contagion than a drug, or than any other possible sanative method; and the 'perfect love' that 'casteth out fear' is a sure defense.” (p 229) At the close of the Annual Meeting* on June 8, we were reminded of the importance of Manual Bylaw Article VIII Section 6 “It shall be the duty of every member of this Church to defend himself daily against aggressive mental suggestion, and shall not be made to forget nor to neglect his duty to God, to his Leader, and to mankind.”

* 2020 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MOTHER CHURCH

The worldwide membership had the opportunity to attend on-line the Annual Meeting of The Mother Church on June 8, exploring the theme, *Our duty to God, to our Leader, and to mankind*. The meeting included reports from the Officers of the Church, as well as Field Reports showing how we are able to bless and heal in our individual lives and as a collective Church. Our new President, Anne-Françoise Bouffé, C.S.B., was also introduced and shared a timely inspirational message.

The Reading Room

In church lobby - 1309 Guadalupe 78701
512-472-8109 • readingroom@firstcsaustin.org

The Reading Room will remain open

M-F 10-2 pm

It's official – The Reading Room's Lending Library is open. Reading Room staff can help you check out Bible resources, books on Christian Science, the church and biographies of Mary Baker Eddy. It is located in the Bound Volumes' room in the Sunday School.

New Item available in the Reading Room:

Pamphlet "**Free from Contagion**" for \$5.75.

There are lots of special collections available for youth—both teens and kids. You can listen to, browse, and download them on JSH-Online's collections page, and they're free for everyone from the link, whether or not you have a subscription. Click the search icon (magnifying glass) and enter 'collections.'

Bible Study - Monday, July 13th

7:30 – 8:30 CDT

Join us for Genesis Ch.1 - We have room!
Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/93113958416>

Meeting ID: 931 1395 8416

See our Website for *Study Questions*.

Here are some helpful ideas to prepare for Bible study:

From *Abingdon Bible Handbook* by Edward P. Blair - Consider:

What type of literature is the book – its character?

What occasioned the writing of the book – author & circumstances?

What are the writer's mood and concepts?

What message of value comes through?

Dig into the parts that are worthy of in-depth study.

What was the writer's purpose for the situation of the first readers?

Do a final review of the whole book.

What theme runs through it?

How did it meet the needs of the first readers?

What does it mean to you in your life?

Attendees of the live viewing of the **Annual Meeting of The Mother Church** enjoyed singing together and hearing the inspiring reports of healing and supporting each other by Christian Scientists from all over the world. If you missed it, you can view the replay on christianscience.com under Additional Resources / Annual Meeting.



The Gentle Beam

July Topic:

The hour is come

SUNDAY SERVICES ON JULY FOURTH Extempore Remarks

The great theme so deeply and solemnly expounded by the preacher, has been exemplified in all ages, but chiefly in the great crises of nations or of the human race. It is then that supreme devotion to Principle has especially been called for and manifested. It is then that we learn a little more of the nothingness of evil, and more of the divine energies of good, and strive valiantly for the liberty of the sons of God.

The day we celebrate reminds us of the heroes and heroines who counted not their own lives dear to them, when they sought the New England shores, not as the flying nor as conquerors, but, steadfast in faith and love, to build upon the rock of Christ, the true idea of God — the supremacy of Spirit and the nothingness of matter. When first the Pilgrims planted their feet on Plymouth Rock, frozen ritual and creed should forever have melted away in the fire of love which came down from heaven. The Pilgrims came to establish a nation in true freedom, in the rights of conscience.

But what of ourselves, and our times and obligations? Are we duly aware of our own great opportunities and responsibilities? Are we prepared to meet and improve them, to act up to the acme of divine energy wherewith we are armored?

ever was there a more solemn and imperious call than God makes to us all, right here, for fervent devotion and an absolute consecration to the greatest and holiest of all causes. The hour is come. The great battle of Armageddon is upon us. The powers of evil are leagued together in secret conspiracy against the Lord and against His Christ, as expressed and operative in Christian Science. Large numbers, in desperate malice, are engaged day and night in organizing action against us. Their feeling and purpose are deadly, and they have sworn enmity against the lives of our standard-bearers.

What will you do about it? Will you be equally in earnest for the truth? Will you doff your lavender-kid zeal, and become real and consecrated warriors? Will you give yourselves wholly and irrevocably to the great work of establishing the truth, the gospel, and the Science which are necessary to the salvation of the world from error, sin, disease, and death? Answer at once and practically, and answer aright!

Miscellaneous Writings 1883–1896
Mary Baker Eddy, pp. 176:4–20 (np)

FROM THE BOARD

THE JULY SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING Thursday, July 9 at 7:30 pm via Zoom.

Members - be on the lookout in your emails for the **Committee Reports to be read before the meeting**, as they will not be read at the meeting.

BE SURE TO SUBMIT YOUR PREFERENCE FORM
for the 2020-2021 committee year.
Let the Board know where you would like
to be serving our church this year.

CLERK'S OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday 11am - 2pm

Clerk's Phone Number - **512-472-2356**

on the phone & web

- **OUR SUNDAY SERVICE AT 11 AM AND WEDNESDAY NOON & 7:30 pm MEETINGS BY REMOTE ACCESS ONLY**
Dial 346-248-7799, ID: 304-412-1309 # #
Dial 512-703-8010 • AVAILABLE ANYTIME, ANYWHERE
- **SENTINEL WATCH** • Press 2
- **THE WEEKLY BIBLE LESSON** • Press 3
For church information • Press 4
- **DAILY LIFT**
Two minute podcast about Christian Science healing
Dial 617-450-3430
- **AUSTIN AREA WEBSITE**
www.ChristianScienceAustin.org
Includes INTERNET RADIO – 4 audio programs
- **THE MOTHER CHURCH WEBSITES**
www.ChristianScience.com
www.jsh-online.com
www.christianscience.com/youth
- **THE LEAVES**
www.TheLeaves.org
- **LECTURES**
<https://www.youtube.com/user/officialcslectures>

JULY SENTINEL WATCH PROGRAM SCHEDULE

July 6-12 – *Facing down hopelessness*

July 13-19 – *What does our oneness with God mean to us?*

July 20-26 – *The key to a successful job search*

July 27-August 2 – *The Bible and Science and Health – infinite resources for good*