

The First Church of Christ, Scientist

January 2019

Dear Fellow Members of The Mother Church,

Some years ago, I timidly walked into a meeting room in Austin, Texas, U.S.A., where three dedicated workers with the Committees on Publication Manager's office from Boston were waiting. They had come to talk to me about the position of State Committee.

Prior to the meeting, I had entertained visions of wrestling with legislators and editors in addition to standing in front of TV cameras attempting to answer tough questions. So, feeling a bit overwhelmed, I asked, "What does a Committee actually do?"

One of them simply said, "You talk to one person at a time about something you love." I immediately thought, "I can do that!"

Now, as President, I have the wonderful privilege of extending to you The Mother Church's profound love and gratitude. In other words, I get to speak to you, "one at a time," about something we all love: membership in The Mother Church.

After the June 2018 Annual Meeting, many of you mentioned in correspondence that the various events held were truly special. Your gratitude to the officers of The Mother Church for those inspiring days has been cherished by us, but we know that your love of Science was a large part of why so much inspiration was felt. Your spiritual clarity and Christian actions have been energizing The Mother Church and its branches over the last few years. As a church member, what you do really matters.

At a time when polarization and incivility seem to be tearing at the fabric of society, thank you for striving to listen only to God, the Principle that maintains ever-present harmony. Your insistence on unity and integrity is heartening. Your honesty is refreshing. Your devotion to reflecting kindness and compassion is impressive—exemplifying the Annual Meeting theme: "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit" (Galatians 5:25).

Should we ever forget what church members can accomplish, our Leader provided reminders to help break evil's seeming hold. In *Miscellaneous Writings 1883–1896*

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we find: “A real Christian Scientist is a marvel, a miracle in the universe of mortal mind. With selfless love, he inscribes on the heart of humanity and transcribes on the page of reality the living, palpable presence—the might and majesty!—of goodness. He lives for all mankind, and honors his creator” (p. 294).

No wonder The Mother Church appreciates you so much. You are and will continue to be a Christian “marvel,” a Christian healer, a loved, precious member of The Mother Church. God bless you.

With deepest gratitude,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Keith Wommack". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Keith Wommack

President