

# The Society Pages



## “Whatever blesses one blesses all”...

More than 200 volunteer hours from some 20 volunteers account for the hugely successful outreach effort in March at the community Mercado during the local Swallows Day celebration in San Juan Capistrano. No one could have missed our inviting banner: “God is Love” as indicated by our distribution of 200 copies of the *Christian Science Monitor*, 200 *Sentinels* and *Journals*, and many copies of the *Bible* and *Science and Health* in both English and Spanish, carried off by visitors toting our signature bags.

As reported by **Paul Peck**, chair for this event, the fruitage was plentiful and rewarding. Some examples:

One young Latino couple with their young son spotted the banner. The wife was heard to say, “See that? God is Love. I want to go to that booth!”

Another visitor, whose grandfather was a CS lecturer, was attracted by our banner. She asked for a *Science and Health* for herself and one for a friend who was “going through a trial” at the time.

The Sunday after the festival a woman called the church during our service and was quickly connected to a Spanish speaking member. She had received a *Sciencia Y Salud* from our booth, staffed hourly with someone fluent in Spanish, and wanted to know how she could learn more about Christian Science. Several testimonies were given during Wednesday evening meetings during the following weeks expressing gratitude for the healing opportunities this outreach activity presented to such a large and interested audience. **“Whatever blesses one blesses all”**.... (Mary Baker Eddy)

## **Mark your calendar...**

### **Metaphysical Workshops**

Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

Continuing our focus on self-examination and spiritual growth in and for our church

Monday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

### **Growing Church Workshops**

Monday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

Monday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 p.m.

### **Second Sundays...**

A discussion forum for 20-Something students of Christian Science is held the second Sunday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Join us!

### **Annual Meeting Webcast...**

*"What does it take to be a healer?"*

Monday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, the Annual

Meeting can be viewed live from

Boston at 11:00 a.m. EST (8:00 PST)

For more details see The Mother Church website, [www.tfccs.com](http://www.tfccs.com)

### **Julia Wade concert...**

*"A Canvas of Colors"*

an inspirational concert

featuring the soloist from

The Mother Church along

with top New York musicians

and singers...

**Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 p.m.**

Orange County High School of

the Arts Symphony Hall (formerly First

Church of Christ, Scientist, Santa Ana)

1010 N. Main Street, Santa Ana 92701

**Ticket information:** Contact Paul Garman or pick up a ticket request form in the Office of Administration

### **Getting to know you...**

A big welcome to our new member, Diana Colarossi! You undoubtedly already know Diana in one of the many roles she already

fills in our Society---welcoming host, Reading Room volunteer, provider of delicious refreshments, and loving Sunday School teacher of our pre-school/kindergarten class. Diana and her husband, Lew, have been active participants from the moment they arrived and are now "official" members of our church family.

Diana tells us she is a native Californian, growing up in Downey. Following college she and Lew married and raised their family in the same community. As a full-time wife and mother, Diana also tutored children in math and reading and was active in many youth organizations including Adventure Unlimited.

Since moving to Coto De Caza, the Colarassis have enjoyed Orange County and being close to family---"our precious children" who include Richard and his wife, Elizabeth, residing in Dove Canyon, and daughter Jennifer, who is a lawyer in Mission Viejo. "And keeping us very busy at times are our energetic and special grandchildren, Dean and Ellison who LOVE to visit our SJC Sunday School!" When time can be found, Diana and Lew love to travel.

As a life-long Christian Scientist, Diana shares that she has enjoyed every elective/appointive experience in Church and serving as a coordinator for The Mother Church. Her church experiences over the years range from Los Angeles and San Diego counties to Arizona and New Zealand.

Diana relates that she attended one of our services years ago. "I loved the service and the people but had no idea at the time that I would become a member of such a progressive Christian Science Society. How God directs and leads the path for us! The San Juan Capistrano Society is a precious, loving group of healers---such a welcoming atmosphere where the expression of universal and unconditional love is continuous. I felt loved and accepted the first time I entered the doors. The Christ has no boundaries, stereotypes or closed doors.

The Christ presence reaches out and embraces all humanity with a comfort that meets every need. To me, this is the C.S. Society of SJC. I look forward to much spiritual growth as a member. Thank you for being here!"

And thank YOU, Diana, for being here!

### **Seeking spiritual solutions...**

Earth Day Sunday found an enthusiastic group of members and friends gathered after church to explore "*The Claims and Beliefs of Environmental Issues: Seeking Spiritual Solution*". A lively dialogue followed a presentation by one of our members, Kathleen Dallaire, who serves as an instructor of environmental policy at the University of California, Irvine. Aided by the creative contributions of Sunday School students, Brian Hirst and Rachel Nishikawa, Kathleen gave an overview of current environmental issues and challenges along with suggestions for individual daily practices that can effect long term solutions. Participants then broke into small groups to take on several world-wide environmental challenges from deforestation and water pollution to global warming and then sharing their collective inspiration toward spiritual solutions.

Two of our Sunday school classes have extended our celebration of what might be called "Heaven and Earth Day". The middle school class is currently devoting themselves to recycling---recycling thought, that is, and the 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> class is including in their prayers the claim of endangered species---from butterflies to tigers.

**"Man, created by God, was given dominion over the whole earth."** (Science and Health)

### **Tithing for April and May....**

The **Dana Point Earth/Ocean Society** (EOS) was the recipient of our tithing during April. Their mission is "to restore and maintain the health of our local watersheds, beaches,

and ocean through extensive education and action programs that challenge and change negative behavioral patterns." Their programs include a city wide educational program that sponsors all 5<sup>th</sup> graders in a four-hour course at the acclaimed Ocean Institute. And some twenty participants from our Society joined this year's Earth/Ocean Day cleanup in Dana Point, a perfect activity to launch our Earth Day celebration and focus on spiritual stewardship of our planet. Our member, Paul Peck, is the founder of EOS and is the inspiration behind many of its contributions to the community.

The **Surfrider Foundation** will receive our tithing contribution this month. A highly acclaimed non-profit organization based in southern California, the foundation encourages grass root activism in promoting clean water initiatives, coastal cleanup campaigns, restoring natural habitats and teaching children about beach ecology, safety and water pollution prevention. They are dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of the world's oceans, waves and beaches for all people, through conservation, activism, research and education.

**"When the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea..."**  
(Christian Science Hymnal—82)

### **Conference call participation....**

All of our church services and workshops may be attended via conference call. Dial number: 1-641-297-5900....Access code: 12111951#

Beginning 15 minutes prior to any meeting you may begin calling in and a host will greet you on the phone. See our website for further details on conference call-in... [csinsanjuanapistrano.com](http://csinsanjuanapistrano.com) We look forward to hearing you!

## **Grateful hearts...**

A big thank you to the many folks who participated in the planning and "manning" of our booth at the recent community Mercado, an outreach effort with many reports of fruitage.

Thank you to **Joy Aldrich** for hours of work in moving (and cleaning!) as we set up several of our Sunday School classes in temporary quarters in our new space.

## **FYI....**

### **Interfaith Council of South Orange County**

will hold a Spring Prayer Breakfast on Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 a.m. at Saddleback Memorial Medical Center in Laguna Hills. Information: 949 452-3758....

**Family Assistance Ministries...**Margo Bishop reports that Marie Toland has resigned as executive director of FAM. The FAM board of directors, of which Margo is a member, praised Marie and indicated it will be challenge to replace her. Our Society joins many other churches in supporting FAM with a monthly financial contribution toward their work for families and individuals in need....

Spring cleaning? **The Robin's Nest**, FAM's thrift shop, is accepting all kinds of (except furniture) which may be delivered to the back of the shop at 223-C Del Mar in San Clemente.

**After Katrina...**Hope, regeneration and renewal...A special report can be found on **CSDirectory.com**...Those affected by the hurricane in the Gulf region are still in need of help and welcome, particularly, specific prayerful support.

## **New discoveries...**

Looking for good movies with a spiritual perspective? Check out this website: [spiritualityandreligion.com](http://spiritualityandreligion.com). Click on columnists and find Meg Dendler, a Christian Science practitioner who reviews current movies in her column, "**Spiritually Significant Cinema**".

Recent reviews include "Spiderman 3", "Pride" and "Bridge to Terabithia". She often includes quotes from *Science and Health* or other writings by Mrs. Eddy in discussing the spiritual dimension of movie themes and content.

**TMCYouth.com**...A valuable resource for "kids" of all ages...contemporary issues...testimonies of healing...fresh perspectives from youth and those working with them. Chet Manchester recently visited us from Boston and gave an overview of what's ahead for TMC Youth. Check it out!

## **The Sunday School Page....**

Meet Joe Colliatie, this month's Sunday School celebrity! Joe is in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade and divides his time between Simi Valley with his dad who is a golf pro and Laguna Beach with his mom, Linda and stepfather, Tim. Joe made his debut at our church when he was just two months old and, tucked in a basket, played the role of baby Jesus during a reading of the Christmas story.

As many know, Joe is quite an athlete and loves sports. It seems he's always about to be in a championship game! His favorite sports? "I like playing basketball because it's really fun and golf because it's so hard!" Of all the talents God gave you, which are you most grateful for? "The talent of being athletic because I am a fast learner so I learn sports pretty fast."

What would the perfect day be for Joe? "I would have Panda Express (Chinese food), go air softening and then have a party." Joe tells us that he would like to travel to Australia mostly "because they have really good beaches and I'd like to see the outback." How about if you could change anything in the world? "I would like to change the way some people think so they would recycle and would also help stop global warming."

Last year Joe participated in building a home for a family in Mexico. What was

his experience? "My favorite part was that I got to help build on the roof. I learned that even one little group can make a big difference."

Does coming to Sunday School help you in sports, school, home?

"Sunday School actually helps me think nicer...it changes my way of thinking about a lot of things."

Like several of our Sunday School youth, Joe is headed for AU camp this summer. "I'm looking forward to camp, especially playing the big game of capture the flag. That's one of my favorites."

Look out other teams...here comes Joe!!

### **Sunday School by phone...**

**Important! NEW phone number!** ...Be sure to note the new conference call phone number for our high school/college Sunday School class. **Dial-In #: 1-218-486-1300.....Bridge/Access: 512203** Class begins every Sunday at 10:00 am (PST) and you may begin calling in 15 minutes before class. Join us!!

### **Opportunities to serve....**

Our current Team roster will be emailed shortly and will be posted in the Admin Office. If you have questions concerning any Team's purpose or operation, contact a Management Team liaison.

### **Your Management Team...**

Joy Aldrich....Evelyn Brookins...

...Bonnie MacDonald...Carl Symons..

....Peggy Webb

Let us know what you're thinking about or if you have a topic to be put on our Growing Workshop agenda. See church Directory for phone numbers and email addresses.

### **June newsletter....**

Please submit all announcements, articles and suggestions for next month's newsletter by June 4th

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