



When Love speaks, Love is heard and understood in any language. And so it has proved as we count the many blessings that continue to unfold from our August lecture given in Spanish by Jose Rodriguez Palaez, CS, of Malaga, Spain. Here are a few of the many love notes being shared....

- “To share the gift of Christian Science with listeners from Argentina, Canada, Spain, Venezuela, Columbia, Brazil, Mexico and throughout the U.S., truly feels like a church without walls...without limits. So awesome!”

- “Prayer is simply, purely, persistently listening to God!”

- “I think of the inspiring lecture every time I see the new group of Spanish speakers each Sunday reading the Bible Lesson together during our church service.”

- “From the spirited Mexican dancers in costume to the twinkle I saw in the eyes of the lecturer----the

## *“El Amor se refleja en amor”\**

- “This was the first time I have seen a smile on my father’s face in many years ....” (from a member who brought her native Spanish-speaking parents to the lecture.)

Never have I understood this so clearly as from this lecture.” (From a member who listened to the English translation of the lecture with a crowd sitting in our packed hallway near the translator.)

message was pure joy and Love in Spanish or English. No translation needed!”

**“...the Lord said, behold the people is one, and they have all one language”**

**Gen. 11:6**

*\*“And Love is reflected in love.” Mary Baker Eddy*



## Mark your calendar...

### Metaphysical Workshops...

Monday, October 11, 7:30 p.m.  
Monday, November 8, 7:30 p.m.

### Growing Church Workshops

Monday, September 27, 7:30 p.m.  
Monday, October 25, 7:30 p.m.

### Second Sundays...

7:00 p.m., a discussion group for 20-somethings held on the second Sunday of every month. This is an informal group organized and conducted by the participants themselves. Newcomers always welcome!

### Management Team Meetings...

Our Management Teams meets monthly, and sometime more often. You are invited to direct your questions and topics for discussion or action to any MT member rather than to our church administrator. This includes email communication directed to our Management Team.

### Special Events...

**Youth Lecture....**Sunday, October 10, Lecture and Breakout Sessions with **Tom McElroy, C.S.** Location: Doheny State Beach, Dana Point 2:00 p.m. lecture followed by breakout sessions....sponsored by the Laguna Beach Christian Science Church...details and flyers forthcoming.

**Youth Lecture....**Sunday, October 31, special youth lecture "Healing with Confidence", by **Christine Driessen CSB...**including a Sunday School Open House Lunch at 28<sup>th</sup> Church of Christ Scientist in Westwood---flyers available in our Sunday School.



## Answering the Public's Questions About Christian Science...

### An Interactive Workshop...

Sunday, October 24, 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. ....held in our church facility and open to regular participants of all Christian Science churches and Sunday Schools. Designed to help us become better communicators with those who know little about Christian Science.

Conducted by **Don Ingwerson**, Committee on Publication for Southern California.

## Getting to know you...

A warm official welcome to **Rich and Wendy Winegar**, new members who usually join us by Skype or conference call and whom many of us had the joy of meeting during their recent visit to San Juan Capistrano. Here's what they share with us as newcomers to our little flock:

"Rich got into Christian Science without a lot of kicking and screaming when he met and married Wendy in 1990. Within a few weeks of knowing each other he was hooked on Science and asked the magic question "Is there a class I can take?" Within a year he took Class Instruction and then joined The Mother Church. In the mid-90s, armed with this spiritual foundation, they launched into what many call "the adventures of Rich and Wendy" – over a decade of work overseas following Rich's engineering career through Saudi Arabia, Milan, Paris, Kuwait, Abu Dhabi, and Houston (the most foreign of all).





But they didn't leave the US until they had visited the San Juan Society several times during its early years, and then visited while on home leaves when visiting family in Orange County. Wendy remembers the night in 2000 when she asked Paul Garman when the society would offer Wednesday meetings online. The Mother Church had started on-line Sunday services that she and Rich listened to late Sunday nights from their home in Abu Dhabi. But Wednesdays were a big void. Wendy started praying about it, nurturing a desire to be more involved in church, as well as the Christian Science practice.

You get what you pray for. Early the following year they were unexpectedly plunked back into the US where their former home in Surfside was rented out, so they moved into their vacation rental in Park City, UT. Within a few months Wendy was elected First Reader. She started emailing the Wednesday readings out to CS

friends around the world who didn't have access to a church or who couldn't attend at the usual time. "You never really understand how important it is to be a church without walls until you live outside the walls," she says. The list has grown considerably over the past 10 years.

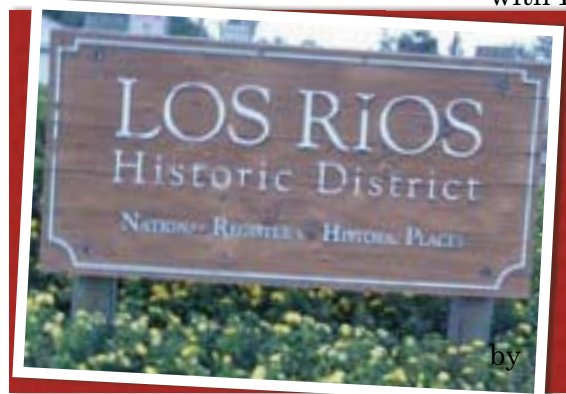
Meanwhile, both she and Rich discovered winter. Their Park City home served as a summer haven from the Middle East heat. But the white stuff offered new adventures. They soon learned to ski and even took basic bobsled and skeleton classes to better understand their roles as course marshals during the 2002 Salt Lake Olympics. After that, Rich started a project management services firm while Wendy became a *Journal* listed practitioner.

About a year after Wendy redecorated her forest view office in Ralph Lauren Coastal Blue and Royal Hawaiian Pink with art featuring tropical fish and Welsh Corgis at the beach, with Rich's favorite Hawaiian

music blaring on heavy snowfall days, she and Rich finally heeded their inner whales who were singing incessantly, "Go back to the beach! Go back to the beach!"

Never intimidated by a major move, these

## SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO



by



two members of the hermit crab family (18 homes in 20 years plus innumerable hotels) nestled into their tropical haven of peace on the island of Kaua'i. Six months later Rich got one of those job offers you can't refuse: project director for a revamp of a fertilizer plant in Cheyenne, WY. With Kaua'i dreams of a home business for Rich on hold, God's care showed up in a couple from up the street who asked out of the blue if they could rent their property.

"So where are you now?" That's their most-asked Christmas card question. Almost as difficult to answer for twenty years has been "Where are you from?" There are no short answers. But you can be sure that on Sundays at 10am and Wednesdays at 7:30



PST they will be faithfully on their computers, participating via Skype, gratefully going to church together even if they're separated by oceans or land masses. And if you see Lilo and Russel, two Welsh Corgis sitting together at church, you

can bet Rich and Wendy are with them.

We are blessed that **Wendy** and **Rich** have included a stop with us along their world-wide journey!

Have you met **Elena Shideler** who recently affirmed membership in our Society? Elena is a native of Argentina and describes herself as "Italo/Argentinian, or a second generation Italian immigrant quite common in Argentina, a country built much like the U.S. from immigration following the two World Wars."

Elena shares that she has had a wide variety of jobs including tour guide, computer technician, dancer, wife, mother, step-mother, house-keeper, owner of a moving business and front desk receptionist at Sunland Home. Widely traveled, Elena has been to Uruguay, Peru, Canada, Japan, Korea, and the Philippines before finding "home in the U.S.A."

Describing her introduction to Christian Science, Elena explains "I was a dancer in a big theater and during this time developed a serious gland problem and was sure I was going to lose my job at any moment because of my physical appearance and didn't see any way out of this situation. But God already had something better prepared for me. During this time my mother attended a CS lecture and was so

captivated that she immediately began to study the Bible Lesson, accepting that God had made His daughter perfect. I



was soon offered a job in a new resort with a boss who apparently did not see my 'deformity' and soon after I had a fast and complete healing. "Somewhat later, while living in Japan, Elena really "delves into the study of Christian Science when I was alone in a new country, no friends, no mom, nothing but God!"

Elena describes one of her lifelong passions is art--- she has been painting and sculpting for many years. "But my present passion is really Christian Science," Elena says. "I first visited SJC Society a few years ago and really felt we were visiting old friends. My husband, who usually avoids church, was very happy to join me when we visited. While looking for a new branch church near my home (I live 40 miles away) I kept visiting San Juan now and then and finally realized this was my church home. Here was practiced Christian Science the way I felt it should be: lived in every aspect of daily life.

"Because I live so far



away, I listen to services through Skype quite often which is a plus for me. I am quite involved with the CS Spanish Outreach in L.A. and wanted to be able to work with Hispanics here also. As I began to talk with a few members, they seemed to be as ready as I was for this work. And now we are starting to have simultaneous Sunday Services in English and Spanish. I also have an interest in Christian Science in Africa and by just mentioning my ideas, people pitched in and my project was underway. I love the idea that although I am new here, my ideas count!"

During some recent personal challenges, Elena shares that "I have been seriously drawing strength from our San Juan Capistrano Society and am very grateful."

Welcome to your new church home and family, Elena!

### **Meeting our Skype and Conference-Call Congregation...**

(Contributed by **Susan Clay**)

We might think of two "H" words when we hear **Dan Tompkins** on our teleconference line. "H" for Hawaii (where Dan lives) and "H" for humor, a trait much in evidence to fellow phoners from the moment Dan says aloha."

Dan calls in from Kailua, a small town on the island of Oahu. Dan says he is drawn to calling in to our services because of our "relaxed atmosphere, sense of humor, phone friends and high quality of readings, testimonies and music."

Dan attended Sunday School off and on in his youth and has been a member of The Mother Church since his days as student at the Army Language School in Monterey, California. But, Dan says, he didn't earnestly practice Christian Science until 1990, when he was impressed by, and immensely grateful for, a decisive healing of a diagnosed physical ailment. At the time he worked as a civilian in the intelligence field for the Department of Army and Defense. Dan figures he was preparing to embrace Science wholeheartedly during his earlier careers --- first as an Army officer specializing in counterterintelligence, then as owner/operator of a running store in Kailua.

Regular SJC callers know Dan as the proud "Dad" of Saimin, a Dachshund named after a noodle soup unique to Hawaii. Many SJC folks now know Dan since his recent "in person" visit to one of our services. And a few of us are planning a vacation that includes a Dan-guided tour of a pineapple plantation.

### **Welcome!**

A warm welcome to our very latest "official" members. Joining us is **Cassidy Busch**,



recently part of our high school/college Sunday School class and daughter and granddaughter of members **Debby Oliver** and **Nan Hopper**, respectively .....and **Ken Transom** who has been regularly attending our services with his wife, **Grace**, via conference call from Niagara Falls, Ontario.



## Grateful hearts...

**A big thank you** to the team of facilitators---**Joy Aldrich, Judy Benson, Lenore Garman, Linn Moffett and Jackie Riegel**--- who conducted our September Metaphysical Workshop where we discussed "Handling discouragement with Christian Science".....**We so appreciate the many folks who worked in organizing, advertising, distributing flyers, translating, attending the lecture prep meeting, and supporting the recent Spanish language lectures in your prayers---you know who you are!** **Muchas gracias** to our friends at **CREER** for the beautiful dance presentation that set the joyful mood for our Sunday afternoon Spanish language lecture ....**Thanks so much** for **Dan Border's** contribution of Full Text Quarterlies for use in our Sunday services .....**Every day thanks** to our AV Team for keeping our electronic door open: **Marcia Brannon, Marlene Bridges, Bill Cunningham, Lew Colarossi, Carl Symons, and Alan Hess....**

**A note of gratitude from a newsletter reader:** "...One special memory I have about my childhood and hometown is of our community newspaper. Everyone looked forward to each issue. The newspaper united us by celebrating residents' individual accomplishments and joys and gently reporting life challenges facing community family members. It was the hub for important information and provided a forum for community issues. You couldn't live without it!....And now I have our church newsletter to look forward for the same warm reasons. I read it cover to cover in one sitting! Thank you for this gift...."(excerpted)

An ongoing column explaining our decisions about how to conduct our church services, business, and outreach activities, all growing out of some basic ideas that we believe should be reflected in church. Questions covered in previous newsletters: Why are our services so informal? Why do Wednesday meetings often run longer than an hour?

### **Why do we have an administrator, NOT a clerk?**

This is another way we've tried to bring fresh thought to the way we express church. The concept of a clerk sometimes carries a lot of baggage along with it. A clerk in many churches often is responsible for doing much work that members could do themselves (making photocopies, collating reports, communicating information among individual members, etc.) Our practice is to have every member and every team take care of its own work whenever possible. This is one way to cut down on the amount of busy work that tries to get in the way of real church work---and to help us stay "light on our feet." It's also one way to keep everyone engaged in the work of the church rather than leaving it to someone else to take care of.

### **Why do we have hosts, not ushers?**

Traditionally, an usher directs people to empty seats. A host makes people feel welcome and comfortable---and finds seats for them if needed. We

**Why do we do things that way?**



have tried to reach the goal that every active participant in our church services is a host in this sense. We are all responsible for welcoming newcomers, making sure everyone has a hymnal, or a Full Text Quarterly as needed, and that they feel included and loved at each of our Sunday and Wednesday services.

**Why are our church business and metaphysical meetings open to everyone, not just members?**

“I would gather every reformed mortal that desired to come”, writes Mrs. Eddy (Misc. Writings 146: 20-23.) We want to make it easier for people to be involved in church, not harder. So we’ve lowered many of the usual barriers. We also want to break down the walls between our membership and the community at large, so we don’t become isolated. Rather than church as a “fortress” behind a moat, it is for the community. So all of our meetings, services, metaphysical meetings, even meetings where we discuss church business (Growing Church Workshops), are open to anyone who wants to come. Hopefully they will also contribute---and become even more active in our church and its mission. This is why we sometimes use the word “stakeholder” to refer to every-one who is active or interested in our church. The stake-holders include both “official” affirmed members as

well as the many people who attend, love our church, and contribute to our services and activities in so many wonderful ways.



**Opportunities for giving, serving, learning, growing.....praying!**

The need continues for non-perishable food items for **Family Assistance Ministries (FAM)**. There is a marked container in the Community Room for these donations. No donation is too small and will be delivered to the FAM facility to be distributed to families and individuals in south county in need of food.

**Volunteers needed** for our continued support for **Apoya**, our Saturday afternoon tutoring program for youth in our neighboring community. Tutors are needed on an on-going basis in a variety of subjects for children and teens in all grades. For more information on this outreach program contact Valerie Flynn...[jvflynn@cox.net](mailto:jvflynn@cox.net)

**Good news.....**

Are you a participant in our monthly **Metaphysical Workshops** currently focused on

nurturing a church of healers? Have you had fruitage resulting from any of our metaphysical meetings? Let us know....we’ d like to share the good news!

**How do our “remote” members contribute to church?** Our church has been moving into new territory with so many “remote” members who attend our church regularly by teleconferencing or Skype. But that’s not all they do. Together we’re discovering new ways to include people, near and far, in the work of our church. Here are some of the ways that some of our members in far flung places contribute alongside those of us who live locally:

Remote members read on Wednesdays, prepare our Sunday program, host the teleconference, distribute literature in their home-towns, pray in support of our church and its outreach work, serve as web-master for our website, co-facilitate Metaphysical Workshops contribute to Growing Church Workshops, publicize our lectures and write for The Society Pages. Let us know of other ways you contribute and we will share the good news!





## **Tithing....**

During the month of **September** our tithing recipient is the **Boys and Girls Club of San Juan Capistrano**. We have been a supporter for many years of this important community center that serves local youth, most notably in after-school programs for children of all ages. During the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons we often “adopt” families whose children attend the Club, and year-long we try to stay in touch with the staff to become aware of specific challenges that invite our prayerful support. Currently the Boys and Girls Club has a special need for volunteer tutors for their after school study programs and there is a continuing need for financial support to sustain their non-profit services to the youth in our community.

In **October** we will be tithing to **W.I.N. (Worldwide Impact Now)**, a non-profit organization we have supported for several

years. . W.I.N. is devoted to humanitarian outreach and capacity building efforts in Burma, Kenya and Mexico that are often the focus of our collective prayerful work.

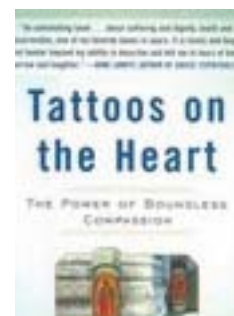
Humanitarian assistance in Burma includes many important projects, among them disaster relief, landmine victims, refugees and displaced persons, and care of orphans primarily among the oppressed Karen tribes. For more detailed descriptions of W.I.N.’s focus areas, go to their very informative website: [worldwide-impact-now.org](http://worldwide-impact-now.org).

## **Sunday School Celebrations...**



A special welcome to **Anton Moshhammer**, one

of our newest Sunday School students and part of our high school/college class. Anton is a visiting student from Germany and is spending the year with the Cunningham family. Watch for an interview with Anton in an upcoming issue of The Society Pages. We’ve already learned that Anton has played in his first American football game (his team won!) and has performed at the Nixon Library as part of a symphony orchestra musical tribute for a 9/11 memorial. Be sure to introduce yourself to Anton. (No, you don’t have to learn German first!)



## **The Book Report...**

**Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion**, by **Gregory Boyle (New York: Free Press, 2010)**



Gregory Boyle recounts his twenty-plus years helping young men and women caught in the gang life of east L.A. He's a Jesuit priest with the usual duties conducting mass, weddings, baptisms and funerals---too many of the latter in the dysfunctional society of poverty, racism, and drugs. But he also patiently counsels and ministers to these families and their kids. He is often in his office or on the streets, getting to know the gang members as young men and women. His approach has never been to argue anyone into a better way of life. But by simply being there, without judging and with love, he finds himself able to help them when and if they make the decision to step out of the gang lifestyle.

Boyle founded Homeboy Industries long ago to teach gang members how to work at honest jobs---skills many of them have never learned. The jobs offered give them a practical way out of the cycle of drugs, poverty, and helplessness. The non-profit company offers tattoo removal, graffiti cleanup, a bakery, an excellent restaurant in downtown Los Angeles, and other jobs.

As an unvarnished account of gang life, this book is both inspiring and realistically tragic. But it is the humanity and Christliness that Boyle reports and expresses that is most eloquent. The book is written through his eyes and his heart, as he gets to know the real kids---youngsters---behind the tattooed stereotypes. This honesty, says Boyle, is the first

step in healing the problems of poverty, racism, and drug addiction, and families under stress. It's not just about working with the poor, but casting your lot with them, he says. Even in humanity's extreme situations, we can often see ourselves. (contributed by **Alan Hess**)

### ***In the news...***

Some recent discoveries: In the "Letters" column of the August 9 Christian Science Sentinel is **Laura Fisher's** thoughtful response to an inspiring photograph spotlighted in a previous "Through a spiritual lens" Sentinel feature page.

And spotted in a publication from The Principle Foundation of Greater Los Angeles, two familiar names on their Board of Directors..... **Melanie Fisher Duffy** and **Ryan Duffy**. The foundation provides financial assistance to Christian Scientists. During their first year of activity in LA, it has aided 28 local Christian Scientists who have reached out to them for help. For more information or avenues for giving, contact [principlefoundation.org](http://principlefoundation.org)



## **Attending our church without walls...**

**Joining us by conference call... DIAL 1-605-475-6350...** then punch in this **ACCESS CODE: 12111#**. You may begin calling in fifteen minutes before any meeting or join any time after the service or meeting is in progress. A host will greet you and answer any questions, or you are welcome to just listen in.

**Meetings by Skype...** We are now using the Skype room of members Mark and Marilyn Mohlenbrock. They have generously donated this service to us in the past, and now, to help us defray operating expenses, they have offered this free to us again.

Instructions: For all services, meetings and workshops: Skype number to dial: **+9900827047040344**.....or to call in by phone: **1-201-793-9022** ACCESS CODE: **7040344**. There is no charge for the Skype connection through your computer. Call in a few minutes before the service or meeting is scheduled to begin. You need your own Skype account which you can sign up for at Skype.com.

**Your Management Team...**  
Our members comprise the governing body of our Society and our Management Team serves as the communication center, handling ongoing administrative and organizational tasks. Agenda items, motions or topics for discussion are welcomed and may be directed to any member of the Management Team.



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