

**FRUITAGE REPORTS INCLUDED IN HANDOUTS ANNUAL MEETING**  
**October 12, 2019**

**Christian Science Committee for Institutional Work in the State of Washington**

**Report from King County Corrections Facility – Seattle, Washington**

June 14, 2019

Quarterly Fruitage Report

Back in March we offered a church service at the KCCF (King County Correctional Facility) for the men. At these services we offer the inmates the Bible, *Science and Health*, *Full Text Quarterly*, *Sentinel* and *Monitor* and one-on-one visits.

One of the men who attended the service asked for a one-on-one visit and when I visited him he told me that he went to the church service just to get out of his cell. He hated religion and wanted nothing to do with it. But then he heard the word “science” and he was intrigued and wanted to know more—thus the visit. He began reading the Bible again and *Science and Health* for the first time and was getting a lot out of what he was reading. He also began studying the Bible Lesson.

Each week we would read some or all of the Bible Lesson together. He always chose to read the Science and Health part. I found that a bit unusual. It seems in my experience most people want to read the Bible as they are more familiar with it.

About the third visit he came in very angry! In fact he was raging. He couldn’t even sit down he was so mad. He had been falsely accused and he was not only angry at his accuser but he was angry because it was recommended that he plead guilty so he could be set free even though it would mean a strike on his record. He knew that he would have to do more time if he didn’t plead guilty but he refused to plead guilty to a crime he did not commit.

I was of course praying to know what to say to comfort him and I told him of God’s great love for him. I said it with conviction and confidence. He began to calm down and sat very close to the window listening to every word I spoke of God’s love for him and his innocence and purity. By the time he left he was calm.

The next visit he looked like a completely new man. Not only was he clean shaven his demeanor was much calmer and gracious. He looked brighter whereas before there was a darkness to him. Each week we talked about forgiveness, Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount and his instruction to “love our enemies” and them that despitefully use us—forgiving the false accuser and realizing that the only one who could suffer from hatred was the one hating.

For several months we met each week and read the Bible Lesson and shared ideas. He was waiting for his case to go to trial and it was taking quite a long time for that to happen. He was a bit frustrated that he had to do more time as an innocent man than if he had pleaded guilty. He told me that he was getting closer and closer to forgiving the false accuser and loving them and himself. The next time I went to visit he had been released without going to trial.

Another young man had come to jail having forgotten about God. He said he didn’t really need God that much. When he got into his cell, he flipped over his bunk to find a *CS Sentinel*. He was sure it was God telling him to inquire about Christian Science. He requested a visit and he began receiving the *Sentinel*, the *Monitor* and the *Full Text Bible Lesson*, a Bible and *Science and Health*. He had been in prison before and was familiar with the

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Bible but he felt he needed help understanding it so he prayed for a better understanding and he said that's when he discovered Christian Science and *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*.

We met weekly for several months. This man was very anxious and concerned about his sentencing. He was told that he may be sent away for life. As we worked with the Lesson Sermon every week and talked about man's perfection and innate innocency this man became more confident of God's love for him. Then he was told that the judge felt he had not been in his right mind when he committed the crime and was going to be given psychiatric help.

We continued our weekly visits and then he was given some choices about sentencing. He was very concerned about what choice he was to make-would he make the right one? We talked about God's as the one Mind and that he reflected this Mind. No missteps. Mrs. Eddy talks about no mistakes. Even if we seem to make a mistake we needed to go that direction to get us to the next right step. We looked to Psalm 37 for guidance and its great promises when we commit our way to God. We also talked about him not needing to know what decision to make at that moment but that he would know when he needed to know—he could remain in the “now” not look to the future. Referring to Jesus' guidance in Matthew 6: “Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added unto you. ...do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself” (AMP).

A few weeks later he told me that he had been given two choices equally good having to do with sentencing. He made a choice and was so relieved when he did! A huge weight was lifted from his shoulders! He ended up being sentenced to 3 years with work release. The 8 months that he spent at KCCF will be subtracted from that time.

He spoke of the people who came in and out of his cell during his 8 months at the jail and how he was able to “mentor” and share his love for God and the Bible and what he was learning. He was especially grateful for a young man who had been a gang member and how he was helping him pray. He would open *Science and Health* and just begin reading to this young man. And it was always appreciated and seemed to be just what this young man needed at that time.

He is looking forward to going to prison to continue his studies and to grow in his relation to God and to help as many as he can in their discovery of God through the Bible and Christian Science. He feels God has a plan for him to share and serve others in a way he had never thought of before. He expressed gratitude for the visits and how much it meant to him to be supported in his spiritual journey.

Recently we had a church service at KCCF for the women. There were 4 who came, fully engaged and very sure of themselves! When we sang-no holding back! Loud and robust. The Lord's Prayer-again, not too fast as is sometimes the case, but loud and with confidence! Responsive Reading, same thing. Really quite refreshing to me. And they sang the hymns with the same vigor and confidence!

There were a few questions and some good discussion and sharing of testimonies with the group. We all came away very inspired.

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Much, much gratitude is given to all who support the institutional work by giving metaphysical support. If we could all give just 10 minutes a day to this work think of how it will uplift and free those receptive hearts in the prisons and jails. Thank you all!

Renée Alton, CS

### **Report from Clallam Bay Corrections Center – Clallam Bay, Washington**

August, 12, 2019

“Breaking through the clouds of darkness,  
Black with error, doubt and fear;  
Lighting up each somber shadow,  
With a radiance soft and clear;  
Filling every heart with gladness,  
That its holy power feels,  
Comes the Christian Science gospel,  
Sin it kills and grief it heals.

Christian Science Hymnal, Hymn 29

This hymn, that we sang at our meeting at Clallam Bay in June, was the message needed right then. We had had to postpone our regular meeting two times in June; once for a lockdown because of a fight with 82 men, and the next time we had gotten half way there and were turned back because of a shortage of staff. Our two regular men came when we finally met with them the last week in June. One man had been moved to a less secure unit for which he was very grateful. He knew he would be leaving for his court date for a retrial soon and was worried that he wouldn't say the right things in front of the people who had been his victims. We referred him to Luke 13 that speaks about not having to worry ahead what you will say but God will tell you.

In July one regular man came even though he told us there were 4 other men interested in coming. He shared how there has been a softening of his relationship with his mother, which had been strained for a long time. She had surprised him by coming to visit and giving him a book she wanted to share ideas about.

In August, for the first time in the 4 1/3 years we have been going to Clallam Bay, we got all the way, on the way to the chapel through the yard, when a guard stopped us to tell us the chapel was closed and all the programming cancelled because new carpeting was being installed. No one had called us. I realized later that I should have been more alert when an email I sent to the Chaplain hadn't been answered. The volunteer coordinator told us he had been gone for a couple of weeks due to a family emergency. She was very apologetic. She had had to take over his duties as well as her own and plan a big event. She had called all the other volunteers but somehow missed us.

I had really looked forward to sharing the Bible Lesson on Love and the hymns I had chosen. I thought, oh, we'll just repeat that Lesson when we go back the following week. Well, after I had read the Lesson on Spirit I realized first, how wonderful it was, and secondly, by reading the Lesson for the week we would be participating in the world wide study of that Lesson. I found new hymns easily.

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Three men had been on the callout but just our regular man came. He is always so grateful for our coming and our sharing the Lesson is always so inspiring. He has thoughtful questions. His reading has also become more thoughtful and deliberate. He loves to sing the hymns and asks questions about the music too.

In our sharing time at the beginning, "Scouting Reports" like Mr. Greene used to do in his Sunday School class, I asked our man what his dream job would be. He said own restaurant. I asked how many more years he had and mentioned a Light in Prison testimony about a man who had never thought to ask for an appeal, but a lawyer came to him. Our man hadn't thought about that before.

In last week's Lesson it talked about "the joy of salvation".  
When I am at the prison, in these wonderful sharing times,  
I feel that joy and know that the salvation is present for everyone involved.

Added note: Phillip Hockley has saved Nov. 14, 2019 for a Lecture at Clallam Bay. Both participating churches, Sequim and Port Townsend, have agreed and so has our Board to go ahead with the Lecture.

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September 29, 2019

Since the last Annual Meeting, there has been significant progress with one of our men; 3 have been transferred to other prisons; at least one has been released. Our most regular attendee, for the whole 4 years we have been holding our gatherings, joined the Mother Church and is either waiting for or has had a new trial which was a beautiful demonstration in itself. Before he left, he shared a healing of a long standing, recurring skin problem that was healed overnight.

Two different months we had to go once a week later, and the other month, two weeks later, due to lock downs. One other time we got all the way in to the prison, on the way to the chapel, when we were told all programs had been canceled in the chapel because they were putting down new carpeting. So we went back the next week. The extra driving gives Jo Yount and me time to pray and study the Lesson.

Back on schedule, in September, a new man joined us. He knew nothing about Christian Science but is eager to bring more of Jesus into his life, he said. He is so eager to learn and was already seeing more good in his life as a result of turning to God for help.

I continue to ask the men to share something good that has gone on in their lives. I asked if there was anything good that had come out of the lockdowns. One man said he couldn't have gotten through them without "the Lord."

The scheduled Lecture with Phillip Hockley, sponsored by the Bainbridge Island, Port Townsend and Sequim churches, had to be cancelled because of the lockdown. When contacting Phillip later, asking if he would be able to come back, at first he said his schedule was completely full. Then he let us know of one opening, when he could stop here on his way from Alaska. So we will be having his wonderful lecture November 14. We are so grateful for how this has worked out.

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This work continues to be such a blessing. It is truly church in action.

Sue Anderson

### Reports from Washington Correctional Center – Shelton, Washington

May 15, 2019

The message from the State Institutional Committee regarding the *Light in Prison* website was shared with the men at WCC yesterday. We also read and studied 6 sections of the Bible Lesson. There were about a dozen men and the response was very inspiring.

Just after I got to the chapel to meet up with an offender who had requested a one-on-one visit, we had 5 minutes together and there was a “recall.” He had to leave and we were “locked down for 2 ½ hours. It was our new chaplain’s first day - a great introduction to life in prison. All staff had to report for face checks.

Then we were “at a loose end.” I used this time to talk with Malik, our new Chaplain. He has been an Air Force Chaplain. and is used to doing interfaith support. He’s very open to sharing ideas. We had a good conversation and I gave him *Science and Health*, which he was happy to receive and said he’d read. He’s looking forward to meeting our other volunteers and would also like to arrange a meeting of all faith group volunteers, which I think would be great.

Also locked down in the chapel with us was the sub-superintendent of WCC and I had a good conversation with him, too. I mentioned our problem with Purdy and he was surprised. He also said the changes were coming on many of the topics I approached with him. So my time during the lockdown, far from being wasted, was highly productive. I’m so grateful.

Joy

August 1, 2019

We had a group of about 15-20 men in R6.

One or two left shortly after the start. An avid core remained to the very end and we prayed together at closing. [One thing I’m learning is to pray aloud spontaneously - something Christian Scientists are not so used to!]

I let one of the men who requested it, keep our last copy of the August *Full Text Quarterly*. All but one of the *Christian Science Weekly Monitors* were taken, as well as most *Sentinels* and one textbook. Apparently, when the *Full Text Quarterlies* are left out on the bookshelves in the chapel, other men take them, so interest seems to be growing.

Chaplain Malik is planning many changes. The chapel has been repainted, the seats once more rearranged and he has ideas for a small dais for the band and for a desk and easy chairs in one corner. He has been allowed to purchase some handsome furniture for this and is also arranging for the many books to be reduced in number, accommodating only the essential study books for each religious group. He also wants to have a pamphlet from each group, summarizing their key beliefs, to make the chapel truly ecumenical.

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Does our church still have such a pamphlet? I know we used to have one. It would be useful for institutional work.

That's my fruitage report so far. I'll be going twice more this month, so hopefully more fruitage to come. I had about 20 minutes with an inmate who had transferred from Clallam Bay. He had high praises for Sue Anderson and Jo Yount for their work in introducing him to a new view of the Bible. He also shared a healing of a lady friend of his mother's whom he'd written to, sharing what he understands of God and her relationship to Him.

Joy Basse-Emerson

### **Report from Larch Corrections Center – Yacolt, Washington**

October 7, 2019

The volunteers going to Larch Prison are happy to announce that 4 copies of *Science and Health* were requested by residents this year. We have new people dropping in from time to time. There is one dedicated attendee who received his *Science and Health* last year. He actually first came to our service saying, when he got in the room, "Where is the book? Can I get another book?" He had gone up to Shelton for getting glasses for an eye disorder due to a fight. While at Shelton, he had found a *Science and Health*, read it, and was healed of the eye problem. While there, he was given a *Science and Health*, and several full-text quarterlies, but his personal property bag had not arrived with him, thus the need for another book. So last year we had another sent to him, and he also eventually got his personal property bag. Since that first time of coming to our service, he has been a consistent attendee. When asked much later what his religious background had been, he said, "Nation of Islam." Upon learning of Christian Science, he was so happy to have found a religion that was of love and peace, and was healing. He recently requested a renewal of his *Full Text Quarterly*. He rarely asks questions, but is truly grateful for what he finds in the Lesson-Sermon. He sees it as logical and practical. And when anyone new comes, he is open in telling others of his experience, and his enthusiasm of Christian Science.

So this year we have had two *Full Text Quarterly* requests. And one resident just before being released asked if there was a Reading Room in Tacoma.

We are grateful for the addition of 5 copies of the new Hymnals to our collection of books. Our weekly service is essentially like a church service, with hymns, Scripture, Prayer, everyone reading a section or more of the lesson; hymns, a solo, the closing with the Scientific Statement of Being, and Correlative Scripture, and a Benediction. As the keyboard that we had been using is not working well, we have changed to using CDs for our accompaniments and the solo.

We are grateful for the opportunity to plant seeds, and share the healing truth of Christian Science with the residents of Larch Correction Center.

Carol and James Phillips, volunteers