

**Christian Science Committee for Institutional Work in the State of Washington
King/Snohomish County Area Committee
Reports September – December 2019**

Worker: M. Peterson

Regional Justice Center - Kent

Six visits, 7 Full Text Quarterly, 17 Christian Science Sentinels, 14 Christian Science Monitors shared with inmates.

One offender mentioned a couple times that he is reading *Science & Health with Key to the Scriptures* by Mary Baker Eddy.

Worker: S. Alegria

We have read the lesson in English and Spanish. I have made 9 visits in November and December. I have given away one Bible, one *Science and Health* and 5 full text Bible lessons in Spanish, and 18 Heraldos.

I spoke to one man for an hour. He has requested the Bible and *Science and Health* and was scheduled to be released the following Tuesday. I assured him that God was with him wherever he went.

I am praying for another man for his sentencing. He will be placed where God needs him.

King County Correctional Facility

12 visits, 5 FTQ, one Bible, one SH, 10 Sentinels, 19 Monitors.

One wanted the "cold case" Monitor of March 4, 2019, as the one I gave him was missing pages. I was able to get four copies from Literature Distribution to share.

Worker: B. Hirschman

September -- I visited King County Corrections Facility six times in September. I have been visiting with three men regularly. One of the offenders continues to read the week's lesson with me. Even though he does not discuss it much, I trust that the truth is reaching his thought. He has handled time in the hole (almost solitary confinement where he is locked up 23 hours and allowed out only for one hour a day) with great grace and patience. He is finally back in the general population. His brother, is having challenges with the meds making him drowsy, but once or twice he has come out and read a portion of the lesson before he has to go back and lie down. Another offender has been very eager to talk about praying and we have been working with the chapter on prayer in *Science and Health*. Also, we have read the definition of Man, and soul and body, and "Is there no sin?" in the chapter "Recapitulation." This man lost all his reading material when he was moved to the 10th floor, but we have now restored his Christian Science materials. He took the imposition from the officers with grace and seems at peace with his situation - He reads the Bible with his cellmate and prays many times a day. I feel Christian Science has given him an insight into his true self and he is enjoying this new perspective on life.

In September I also met with a man that KITE'd for a visit by a Christian Scientist. He was looking for a way to avoid taking the special meds the jail was requiring of him for they changed his thinking patterns. He had read that he had religious rights and if he found a large group that didn't use drugs he could refer that to the judge to get him exempt from the drugs. I told him that Christian Science could heal him if he wanted to rely on it, but he really only wanted to use Christian Science in name

only. After an hour of discussion, we agreed that Christian Science was not the right solution to his desire just to get out of taking the meds. I told him that if he ever wanted healing using Christian Science that all he had to do was KITE and we would talk again. From this exchange I gained such an appreciation for all the healings in the periodicals and on Wednesday nights that led to a recognition of the efficacy of Christian Science and that I could stand on that record in my discussion.

October – I had 16 scheduled visits but only 5 face-to-face meetings occurred. Some of the misses involved conflicts with court or lawyers. I worked to establish the fact that the Christ was there to meet with these people, not me. The Christ does meet their needs inspiring, comforting and promoting right thought and activity. There have been no further refusals to see me.

November – I had 11 face-to-face meetings. I have been meeting with two men each week and reading the lesson using the Full Text Quarterly. They are both eager to see me and read the lesson. One even gets so excited in the reading the lesson that he continues to read both Bible and *Science and Health* straight through. The other one reads the Bible portions of each section and I read the *Science and Health*.

December – I had 8 face-to-face meetings. The two men continue to eagerly read the lesson with me. Every once in a while I stop them and take time to point out a spiritual point from the lesson to make sure they are getting some inspiration out of the meeting. One man's trial is starting the first week in January and he asked me to pray for him. We talked about Truth and justice as substance and God as ever-present to comfort him; that Love and Principle governed all the activity and motives of everyone in the courtroom. I have also asked our church membership to pray for justice and freedom, not for person, to be witnessed in our community and world for this week.

Monroe Correctional Complex

Worker: H. Dresser

October -- Had a nice chat with a guy who was new to Christian Science but was very polite and receptive. I showed him the books and pointed out the spiritual interpretation of the Lord's Prayer, the definition of God, and the definition of angels. I learned he was going to be released soon and was able to give him information on the Principle Foundation's new phone app (RedeeAbility) which gives released inmates an electronic way to find a job, housing, etc. [This was described at the State Committee's annual meeting on October 12.] He took a copy of *Science and Health* with him.

November -- Had another good talk with an offender in S.O.U. unit at Monroe. He is getting the Bible Lesson and the *CS Sentinel*. He asked for a Hymnal and Manual.

December -- Had another good talk with the same offender. He received the two hymnals and the Manual (sent via Chaplain Dave Sherman). He reported a healing of a back problem. He would like a CS Journal (the first part only, not the directory). He said he had introduced Christian Science to a fellow offender, who has requested a subscription to the CS Monitor.