Thank you Carolyn Poole

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Carolyn Poole, a trailblazer, founded and spearheaded the Christian Way Ministry from the 1980s to the early 1990s. Renowned apologist Walter Martin encouraged Poole to share her testimony and speak up openly about the false teaching of Christian Science and build community with those who had left. Her speaking engagements at apologetic conferences, radio shows, and the creation of outreach resources such as her newsletters were instrumental in exposing the false teaching of CS. Poole was a courageous woman, whose pioneering work unequivocally communicated that CS is a heretical teaching, a cult.

Thank you Rita Swan

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Rita Swan led C.H.I.L.D. Children's Healthcare is a Legal Duty, from 1983-2017, championing and protecting the most vulnerable Christian Scientists – the children. Swan's efforts led many CSers to seek medical help for their children either out of fear of prosecution or assurance that they would not be condemned by the CS church. Her work, which included public education, research, and legal action, significantly increased public awareness of the dangerous physical consequences of CS when foregoing medical intervention. We thank Swan for fighting this good fight!

Thank you William Simpson

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William Simpson, Ph.D.'s investigative research article, accepted by one of the foremost medical journals in the country, had a profound impact on the Christian Science church. Published in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) in 1989, his work proved that CS's rejection of all healthcare significantly reduced the lifespan of its adherents. Backed by public data, Simpson's work gave validity to people's concerns about the medical consequences of CS practice. This work provided concrete evidence in court during the CHILD cases which ultimately led the CS church to change its verbiage to allow its followers to use medical care "if they felt it necessary." Simpson's bravery caused waves that continue to change the medical outcomes for CSers today.

Thank you Linda Kramer

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Linda Kramer, Ph.D., became a key figure in God's Rescue Story of Christian Scientists when she joined the Christian Way ministry. After Poole's death, Christian Way became primarily an online ministry. Kramer was instrumental in expanding the Christian Way website and co-moderating an online discussion forum where people could anonymously ask questions and dialogue. Her years of answering emails and investing in several visits to the Wellspring Retreat and Resource Center for cult recovery, Albany, OH, were the impetus for Kramer's book, *Perfect Peril: Christian Science and Mind Control*, published in 1999. This essential resource for those leaving and recovering from Christian Science expanded our understanding of why CS is so destructive by showing how it incorporates each of the criteria of Thought Reform developed by Robert Jay Lifton, M.D., and based on his research with prisoners of war. Her work helped explain why so many people struggled with leaving CS entirely, even when they cognitively understood it was a cult. Kramer's work identified that part of leaving CS requires recovering from CS mind control. We sincerely appreciate Kramer's contributions and bold Gospel witness.

Thank you Caroline Fraser

FFCSministry.org



Caroline Fraser's phenomenal book, *God's Perfect Child*, published in 1999, is another foundational resource for many leaving Christian Science. Fraser explains the history of CS in excruciating detail. This historical lens describes the controversies of Mary Baker Eddy's life and leadership, the corruption of the CS movement after Eddy's death, and the horrific medical consequences of CS practice among its followers. Fraser's book helps anyone struggling to believe that CS is a cult, face the historical facts about its destructive origin, life, teaching, practice, and fruit. We thank Fraser for her diligent reporting.

Thank you John Andrews

FFCSministry.org



John Andrews provided a pastoral voice for former Christian Scientist's in 2001 when he launched an informational and networking website, Ananias.org, encouraging those with a CS background to follow Jesus Christ. Andrews' work stems from his years trying to live as a Christian Scientist for Jesus, until he came to saving faith in Jesus Christ alone. His exceedingly gracious and generous approach to challenging CS teaching is compelling to those who struggle emotionally to let go of their allegiance to Mary Baker Eddy. Andrews' high-profile CS name and political experience gave him access to CSers connected with Principia, a CS school pre-K through college, and Adventures Unlimited, a CS youth camp in Colorado. Andrews' bold and heartfelt witness through his essays and interviews are now compiled in his wonderful book *Discovering a Larger God*, published in 2020. We thank John Andrews for his powerful witness encouraging those with a CS background to set their affections on Jesus Christ alone.

Thank you Guest Teachers

FFCSministry.org



Bob & Judy Pardon founded and operated a Cult Recovery ministry for more than 30 years at Meadow Haven, a residential recovery center in Lakeville, Mass. The Pardons have expanded our understanding of the destructive consequences of cult involvement, specifically for multi-generational survivors, which is the typical story of those of us coming out of Christian Science. Their teachings have been pivotal for understanding the unique recovery needs of those born and raised in a dangerous group along with practical steps to heal from the traumatic wounding. Their excellent teaching materials now serve as the foundation for our Get Wise support group curriculum we launched in 2020. The Get Wise project has exponentially expanded our outreach giving us a unique opportunity to serve secular former CSers alongside our Christian former CS community. The Pardons have been friends to our FFCS community, and we thank God for them and their ministry.



Jeana Roth, LPC, joined our Get Wise support groups soon after we launched in 2020. Bringing her recent psychological training from Covenant Seminary and her expertise in spiritual abuse recovery and attachment theory. Her work greatly impacted the growth and formation of our Get Wise curriculum and support groups. Her expertise has explicitly brought a practical bridge in both further naming the trauma of wounding and betrayal and offering tools for how a local trauma-informed counselor can help someone leaving Christian Science. This is a tremendous contribution, providing hope for those feeling trapped by the bondage of CS. Roth's pioneering spirit and teaching gifts are incredible as we seek to continue to create resources and train counselors around the country to help those leaving and recovering from CS.



Michael McClymond, Ph.D., a professor of Modern Christianity at St. Louis University, has brought his extensive knowledge of the history of religious movements, Gnosticism, and healing ministries to FFCS. His expertise in these areas has been particularly beneficial in our understanding of how Christian Science fits into the larger theological and historical landscape. We are grateful for his recent partnership with our ministry and his work on the core resource of "25 Points of Contrast between Science and Health and the Bible." His research has clearly demonstrated that CS is not just different but specifically rejects biblical teaching.

Thank you FFCS Board

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Mark Ryan has been instrumental in shaping FFCS's relational outreach ethos. Ryan's wise counsel, prayerful, and pastoral care have nurtured the growth of the FFCS ministry from its inception. He was on the original FFCS board of directors in 2014 and rejoined in 2022. We thank God for Mark's partnership and support.



Chris Smith, M.Div., associate pastor of Covenant Presbyterian Church in St. Louis, has served FFCS with his gifts of encouragement, discipleship, and teaching for seven years as Katie's board advisor. Smith met with Katie weekly for almost five years prayerfully walking alongside FFCS in each step and stage of ministry, providing a pastoral perspective instrumental to living out our Christ-centered foundation. We thank God for Chris' faithfulness and care over the years.



Cindy Fischer, M.A.Ed., caught the vision of FFCS from the beginning when she met Katie in seminary in 2012 and has been helping Katie articulate and promote FFCS ever since. Officially joining the board in 2019, Cindy's writing, editing, and financial expertise have been foundational to FFCS's life and flourishing. She has generously opened her home to host events and retreats. She is a friend, encourager, and cheerleader of our FFCS cohort, the heartbeat that makes the ministry thrive. We thank God for Cindy, and her husband Doug, for all the ways they pour into the FFCS Ministry.

Thank you FFCS Leadership Cohort

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FFCS Volunteer Leaders who meet regularly to pray, plan, and prepare for FFCS events. They help create resources, moderate groups, and build fellowship within our former CS community.



John Andrews is a cornerstone of the FFCS cohort offering his wise, pastoral counsel and encouragement. Andrew's excellent book *Discovering a Larger God*, conference talks, and book reviews are tremendous resources providing a bold witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



Dixie Baker's deep love for people pours through her caring outreach and grace-filled hospitality. She's been pivotal to our FFCS team in co-moderating our Get Wise support groups, Facebook community, and in hosting our FFCS Christmas brunches.



Gayle Brown's spirit-filled gifts of discipleship, encouragement, and wisdom have been instrumental in developing our Get Wise Support group curriculum. She faithfully co-moderates our Get Wise book clubs and conference sessions, greatly blessing FFCS.



David Brunell, D. Mus., is our FFCS "hound of heaven." His relentless outreach and excellent apologetic article "A Time for Thinkers" cultivates a CS Lewis-style dialogue that boldly proclaims Jesus Christ. Brunell's faithful prayers, vast theological knowledge, and musical gifts greatly encourage and edify our FFCS community.



Holly Henske is a servant-hearted leader eager to help when there is a need. Her heart for local outreach and administrative gifts greatly blesses our team. She's jumped into our leadership team, assisting with our outreach training, Facebook group, conference logistics, and website update project.



Lauren Hunter's excellent book *Leaving Christian Science: 10 Stories of New Faith in Jesus* is a go-to resource, beautifully explaining the differences between CS and Biblical Christianity through telling our stories of God's grace. Hunter has boldly shared her testimony on dozens of podcasts. Her excellent blogs and tech expertise helped us launch our FFCS website and greatly expand our outreach in the Gospel!



Tanner (M.Div.) and Hillary Johnsrud's public exit from Christian Science caused waves throughout the community. Their bold testimony sharing their testimonies and reasons for leaving CS has garnered over 100 thousand views (combined) on YouTube, encouraging many who have been on the fence to leave Christian Science and follow Jesus Christ. Tanner and Hillary's theological and teaching gifts, as well as their heart for outreach, are tremendous assets to our team. We praise God for their incredible courage and sacrifice in Jesus Christ.



Kelsey Jensen's gift of faith is revealed in her prayers, discipleship, outreach, and teaching. We thank God for her help in leading our FFCS Book Club with Linda Kramer. She deeply encourages our FFCS Leadership community and the people we walk alongside with her love for God and heart for people.



Linda Kramer, Ph.D., immediately joined the ministry of FFCS in 2014, faithfully participating, praying, co-leading our FFCS Book Club, and teaching at our conferences. She continues to share her story boldly, offer wise counsel, and encourage our team. She's a treasure, and her excellent work, *Perfect Peril*, is a go-to resource for those who reach out to FFCS.



David Lamb, MA is our former CS conference pastor. Lamb's time is limited, but he profoundly encourages our FFCS Community through his regular preaching at our FFCS Conference. We're thankful for our tremendous gift of sharing the Gospel and nourishing the hearts of our former CS community in Jesus Christ.



FFCS Partnering Churches and Supporters have generously and faithfully prayed and supported me, allowing me to serve part-time for four years and full-time for six years as the director of the FFCS. We thank God for these St. Louis PCA churches: Grace and Peace Fellowship, Twin Oaks Presbyterian Church, Kirk of the Hills Presbyterian Church, Covenant Presbyterian Church, Restoration Church, and Church of the Resurrection (ACNA) also in St. Louis and First Baptist Church in Rochester, MI who also sponsored our celebration tonight.

Also, we are grateful for more than 100 individuals who have partnered with FFCS through immediate and monthly gifts over the years. Thank you! You have volunteered and hosted events. You have prayed alongside me, walking in the park by Principia or as you have driven past Principia, or sat at a game on their campus. You have invited me to come and share about CS, joined in a CS outreach training, and sought opportunities to share the Gospel with your CS connections. Never has there been a time when people have been more aware of the need to pray for the CS community and are actively praying. I thank God for each of you and your partnership in God's Kingdom work. Thank You!