



# ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

November 1, 2025

10:00 - 11:00am CT

*As we wait for the meeting to start please sign in using chat and type in your first name and where you are tuning in from today!*

# WELCOME

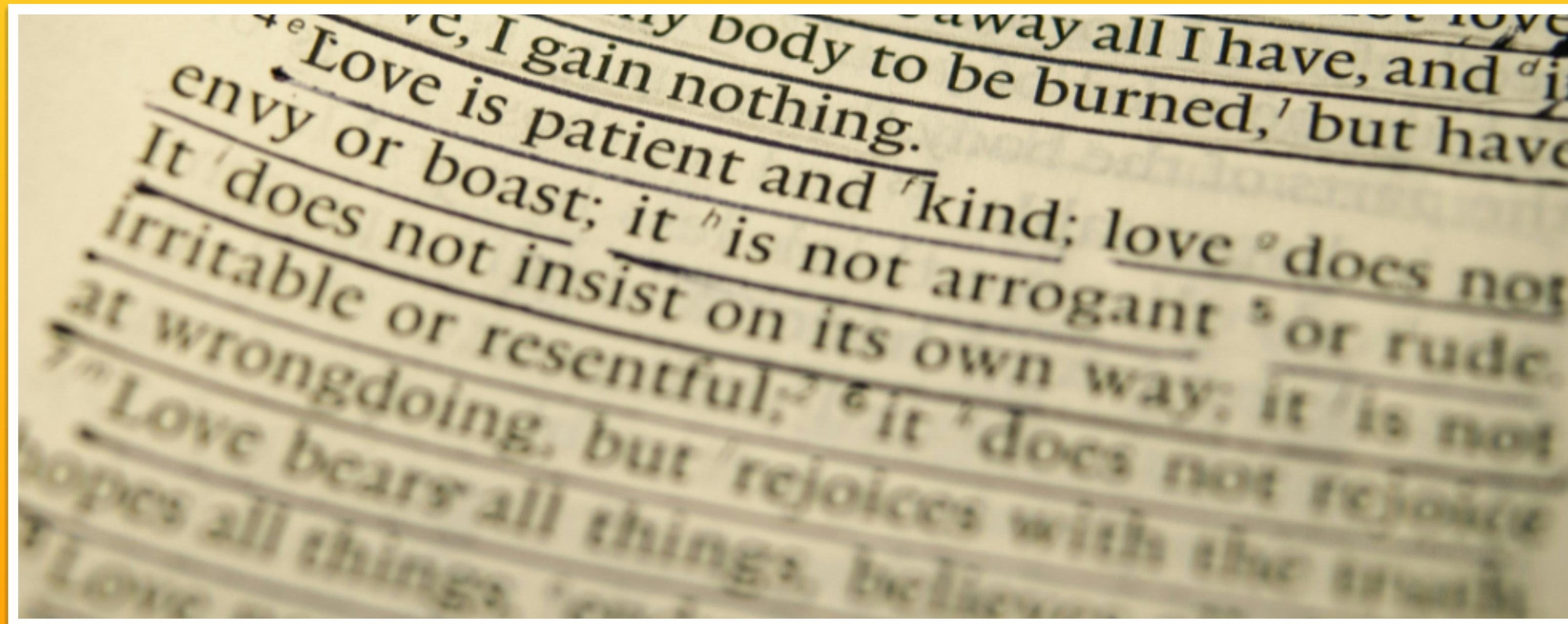
Rindy Powell



**“Blessing Our Community”**

# OPENING READINGS

Ray Cesca



# AGENDA & 2024 MINUTES

Rindy Powell



# TODAY'S AGENDA

- 1. 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes/Highlights**
- 2. 2025 Year in Review**
- 3. 2026 Strategic Plan Presentation**
- 4. 2026 Board Election**

# **2024 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

- **2025 Strategic Plan was unanimously ratified**
- **2025 Budget of \$96,000 estimated expenses was approved**
- **2025 Executive Board Members elected:**

**Ray Cesca, Hinsdale**

**Jeff Clements, Evanston**

**Diane Mahon, Barrington**

**David Maney, Palatine**

**Ray Morse, Barrington**

**Rindy Powell, Glenview/Barrington**

**Brittany Robinson, Naperville**

**Kim Schmidt, Barrington**

**Sally Turner, Glenview**

# 2025 IN REVIEW

Rindy Powell



# Who we are ... a recap

- **2025 is seventh full year since reorganization**
- **Christian Science in Metro Chicago is a joint activity organized and funded by the area churches, societies and individuals**
- **The field directives outlined in 2018 and ratified every year continue to guide us. They include ...**

# 4 Areas of Focus

1. **Introducing Christian Science to spiritual seekers/getting the word out**
  - via online advertising, website and social media, expos
2. **Attracting neighbors to Christian Science Manual-based activities**
  - i.e. Reading Rooms, Lectures, Church services, Bible Lesson/Sentinel Watch, other CSPS content, promoting *Science and Health*
3. **Connecting churches and students of Christian Science with each other and supporting church activities**
  - via e-newsletters, our robust area-wide website and social media presence
4. **Supporting healing throughout greater Chicago and beyond**
  - via phone helpline, website and engagement at expos

# 2025 Results

- A year focused on “blessing our community” and sharing news of all the ways in the Chicago area to learn more about Christian Science
- Achieved +3,350,000 touch points with our spiritual seeking neighbors, a 10% increase over last year
- Reaching our neighbors via
  - Advertising (both in print and online)
  - Our website and social media presence
  - Helpline
  - Emails
  - Expos
- Reports of specific blessings to come in the upcoming reports

# Today's Reports

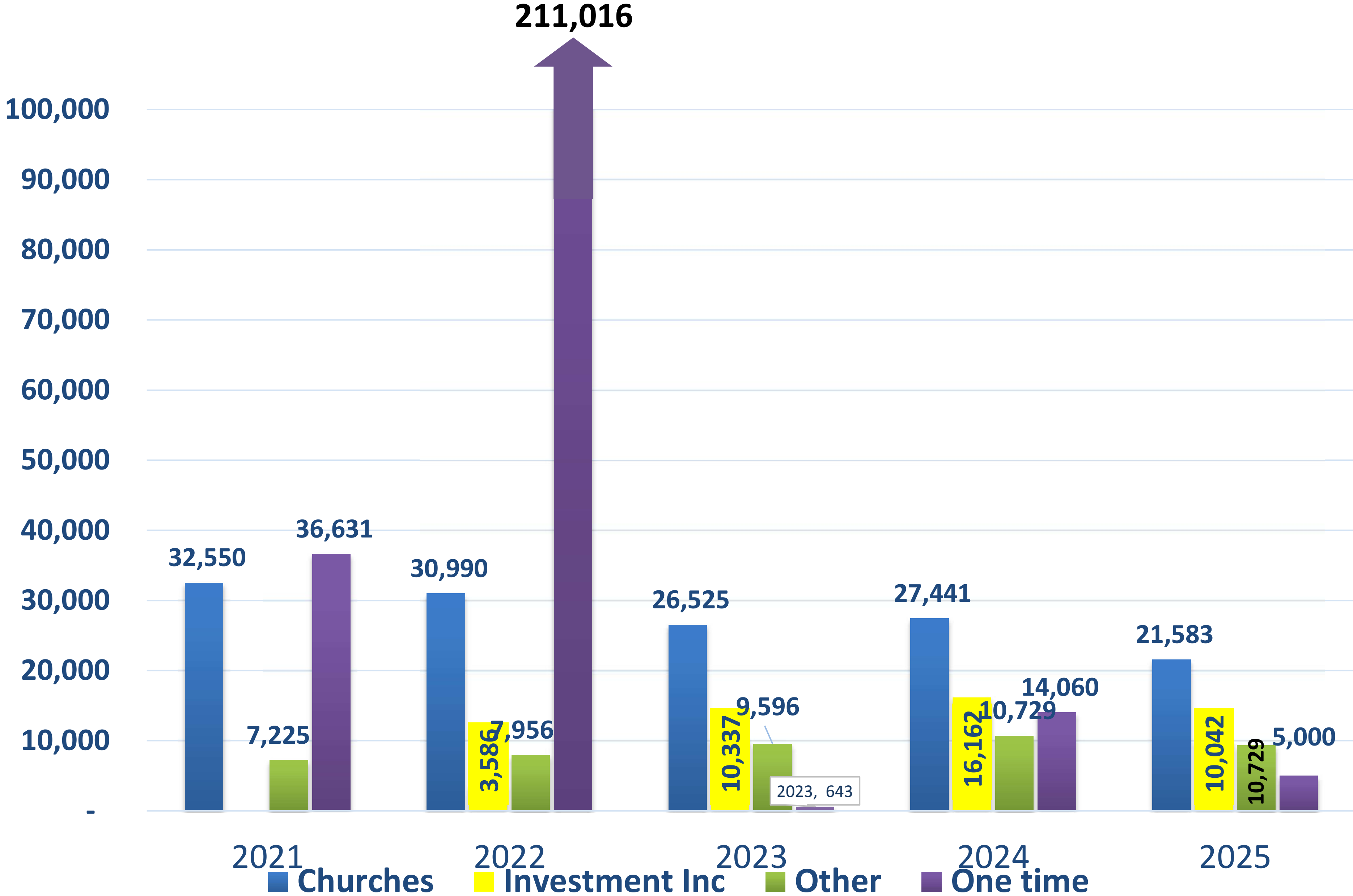
- **Treasurer - Jeff Clements**
- **Website & Advertising- Carol Hohle**
- **Helpline - Ray Morse**
- **Expo - Brittany Robinson**
- **Field Communications & Activities - Carol Hohle**

# TREASURER'S REPORT 2025 YTD

Jeff Clements



# CSMC REVENUE 2021-2025 est

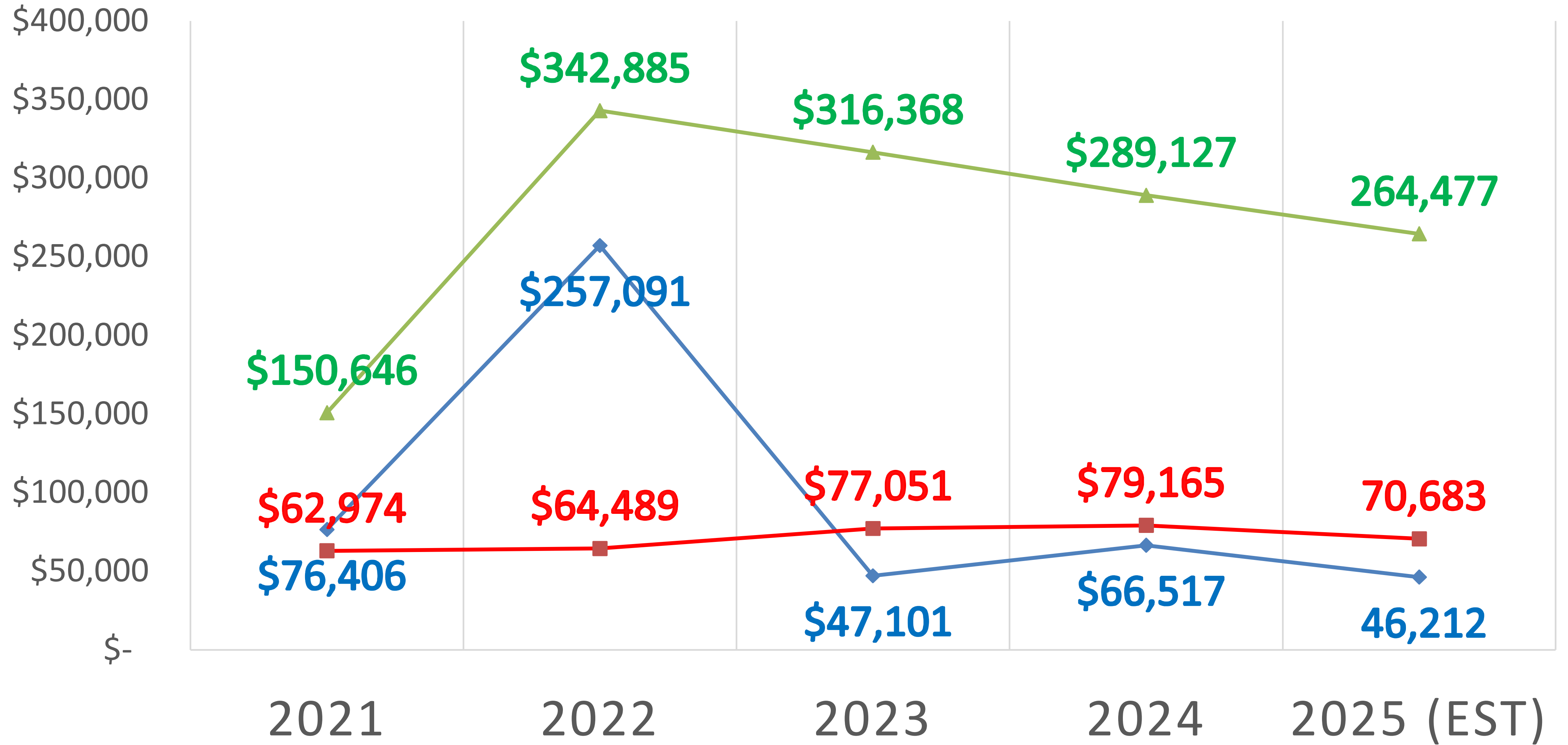


# 2025 Estimated Year End Total Expenses

<b>\$ 12,261</b>	<b>Website</b>
<b>\$ 27,500</b>	<b>Advertising</b>
<b>\$ 16,500</b>	<b>Helpline</b>
<b>\$ 2,422</b>	<b>Expos</b>
<b><u>\$ 12,000</u></b>	<b>Field Communications</b>
<b>\$ 70,683</b>	<b>Total Expenses (\$96,000 approved budget)</b>

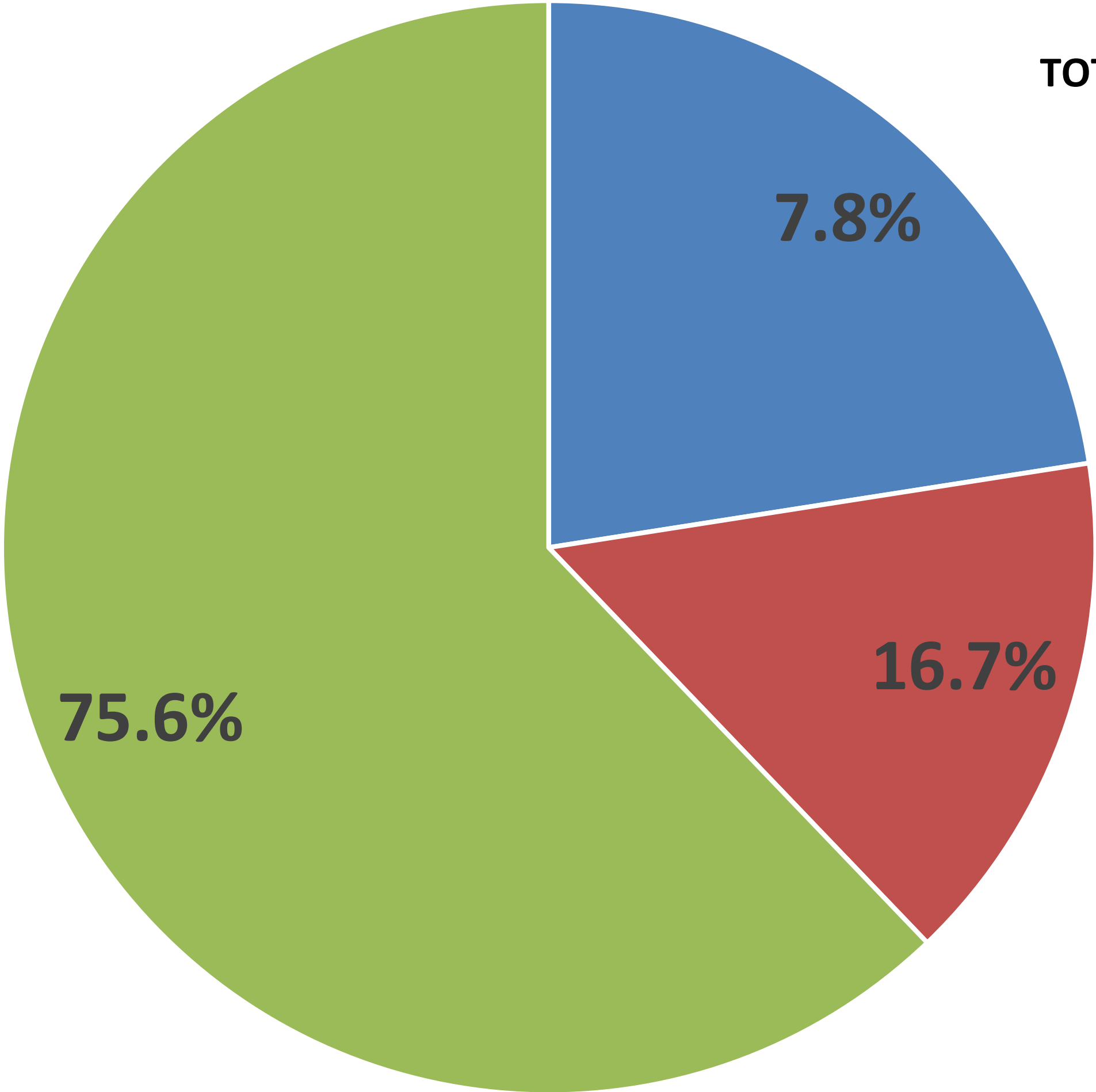
# CSMC REVENUE, EXPENSES AND TOTAL FUNDS

Revenue Expenses Total Funds



# CSMC INVESTMENT ACCOUNT-10/19/25

TOTAL PORTFOLIO **\$237,431**



■ CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS

■ US EQUITY

■ GLOBAL FIXED INCOME

# Donations

**Via Zelle**

**[donations@csmetrochicago.org](mailto:donations@csmetrochicago.org)**

**Via PayPal**

**link on website About page and in e-newsletters**

**Via Check**

**payable to Christian Science in Metro Chicago  
JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.  
1603 Orrington Ave, Floor 1  
Evanston, IL 60201**

**note on check memo line: Deposit to Account 937012695**

**Christian Science in Metro Chicago is a non-profit 501c3 organization**

# 2025 YTD Finances

**Questions ?**

**Remember to unmute and identify yourself,  
then re-mute yourself when finished speaking**

# 2025 Website Activity

Carol Hohle



# Website Activity Highlights

- # of visitors on par with last year
  - On track to achieve 35K visitors by end of December
- # of page views down slightly from last year's record of 56K
  - On track to achieve 52K page views by end of December
- Website visitors are finding local resources effectively, staying on website for an average of 1 minute/visit

# Website - Looking ahead

- **Goal: Continue updates based on performance to keep things fresh and current**
  - Over the past 6 years, there have been 3 major revisions
- **Ensure visitors can continue to navigate website with ease, visiting multiple areas before exiting**
  - path often begins on RR page > Healings landing page and opens one of nine testimonies in collection > the Weds Mtg or Events pages before exiting site
- **The Key: Always looking at trends to help seekers connect in most meaningful way**
  - e.g. “Spirituality and Mental Health” is top of mind for today’s spiritual seekers
  - Referencing mental health as benefit of Christian Science connects with online searchers
  - Sharing healings of “anxiety” and “depression” and referencing Wednesday prayer group meeting and RRs as places to learn more helps make connections for online searchers



## Prayer Support Groups in Metro Chicago

One of the best hours of the week, people share from the heart how they are working and praying about real issues – issues such as anxiety, depression, and mental health – and what they are learning from their study of *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* by Mary Baker Eddy.

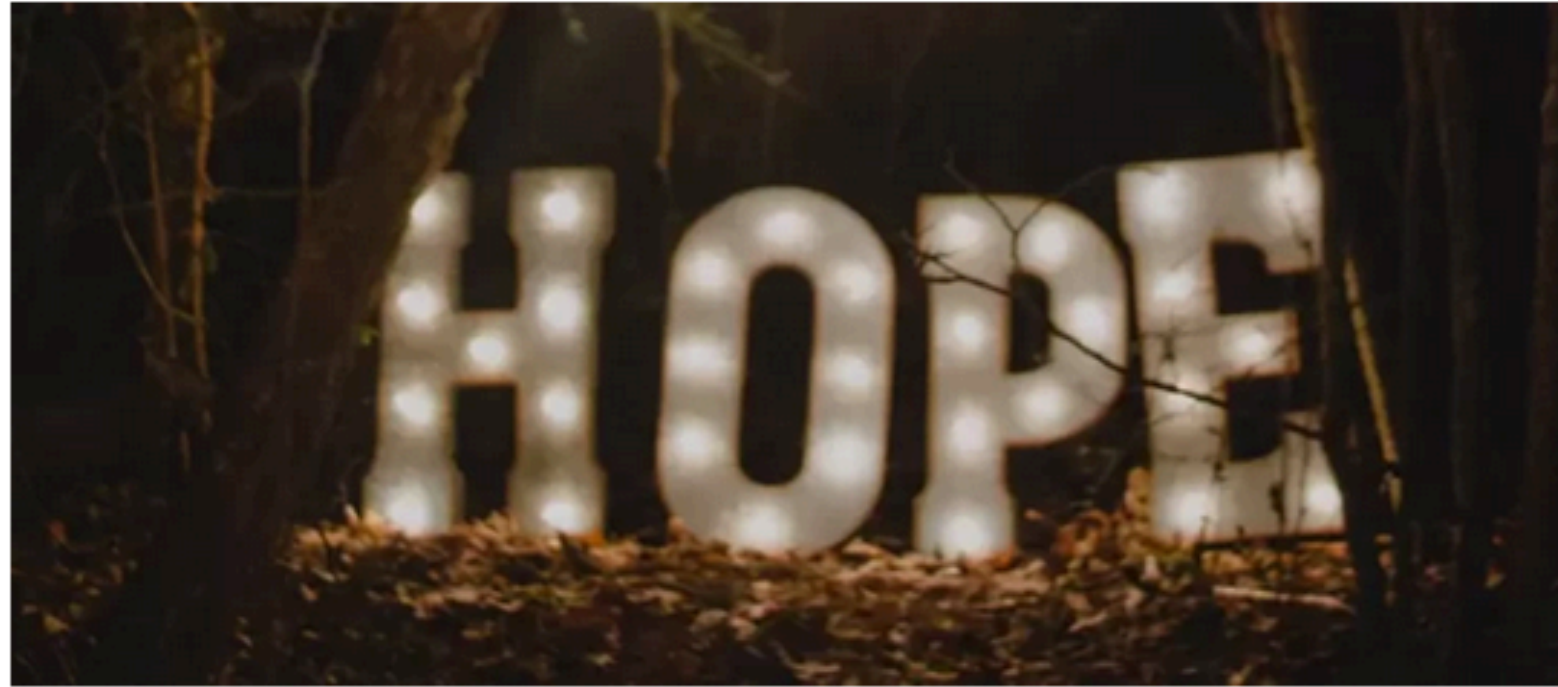
Find support and inspiration that cultivates more compassion, kindness and wisdom in your daily life at a Wednesday prayer group meeting!



## Spirituality and Mental Health

Mental health is often addressed at Wednesday prayer group meetings because spirituality can improve one's mental health. Prayer and spirituality often help people experiencing stress through an infusion of peace, sense of purpose, hope and meaning to one's life. And, it not only can help people make sense of life's experiences but can improve confidence, self esteem and self-control. Whether someone is coping with cancer or clinical depression, a spiritual practice has been found to decrease negative emotions, help one find meaning, deepen relationships with others and lead to new found mental freedom and health.

Here are two examples of individuals who found freedom from anxiety and depression through their study of *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*. These are the kinds of experiences that are often shared at Wednesdays' prayer group meetings.



### IF YOU NEED HELP WITH ANXIETY

"Anxiety used to hit me like a wave. One moment I was OK, the next I felt like I was drowning. Sometimes the thoughts were specific; sometimes it was just a crushing weight of anxious feelings. All of it was awful.



### MENTAL HEALTH THAT'S PERMANENT AND SECURE

"I was one of those struggling to find reprieve from the constant roller coaster of highs and lows and the anxious and sometimes suicidal thoughts that would paralyze me with fear. And yet, I learned that there is a power greater than the seeming power of such dark thoughts. This power is God, who shined a light so bright as to permanently dispel the mental darkness I was experiencing, which led to a complete and permanent healing of depression and anxiety.

# 2025 Advertising Activity

Carol Hohle



# Advertising Activity Highlights

- Advertising on Google proved very effective again this year
  - Three ads ran throughout year promoting
    1. Reading Rooms
    2. Wednesday Meetings
    3. Science and Health
- Results:
  - Over 2.4 million impressions year to-date, resulting in 32K clicks to our website to learn more
  - Overall, we are on track to meet or exceed our goals
    - 3.1 million impressions of advertising on Google, Meta social media platforms
    - Achieve over 42,000 clicks from ads to visit our website
    - Reach 530 followers on Facebook and 445 on Instagram

# Website & Advertising Activities

Questions ?

Remember to unmute and identify yourself,  
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# 2025 Helpline Activity

Ray Morse



# Telephone Helpline

**The “Helpline” at 630-929-5635 provides Weekly Bible Lessons, Sentinel Watch, and Daily Lift podcasts.**

**There is no charge for the service.**

**Callers can leave a message requesting help, expressing gratitude, or reporting a healing.**

# Helpline Activity Highlights

- 16 reported healings in 2025
- 411 unique callers per month (433 in 2024; 423 in 2023)
- 16 new callers per month (for two months - Jul & Aug)
- 152 recorded messages and 16 direct calls in 2025
- Helpline is shared with Washington State Media Committee
- Working group members dedicate time daily to pray in support of this healing practice

# Helpline Activity Highlights

- Callers express deep appreciation of the helpline
  - Often do not live near a church or are unable to get a church service or RR
  - Healings and spiritual growth are a natural result of listening to the programming
- Recent call from a grateful listener

click to play

note: you may need to tune up the volume on your computer

# Helpline Activity

Questions ?

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# 2025 Expo Activity

Brittany Robinson



# Expo Activity Highlights

- Body, Mind, Spirit Expo September 2025 in Schaumburg
- RR Booth introducing and selling SH
- Staffed by 5 workers, 17 exhibit hours over weekend



# Expo Activity Highlights

- 13 copies of *Science and Health* sold



# Expo Activity Highlights

- **Dozens of meaningful conversations**
  - A couple familiar with the Bible, said they were concerned with how our culture is getting away from religion. We looked at the chapter on fruitage and talked about Jesus' healing message. They purchased *Science and Health*.
  - A woman who declared herself a Messianic Jew said her cousin is a Christian Scientist. She purchased a book.
  - A man seeking healing, who was familiar with Christian Science attended the expo specifically to hear the lecture. He had enthusiastic conversations with two booth volunteers and the lecturer.

# Expo Activity Highlights

- Lecture sponsored by seven area churches
- 13 attendees (9 new)



# Expo Activity

Questions ?

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# 2025 Field Communications & Activities

Carol Hohle



# Newsletters

- 10 e-newsletters sent Jan-Aug
  - sharing news of upcoming lectures, study groups, local healings published in CS periodicals and other resources
- 515 email subscribers

**CHRISTIAN SCIENCE in Metro Chicago**  
**OCTOBER NEWS**



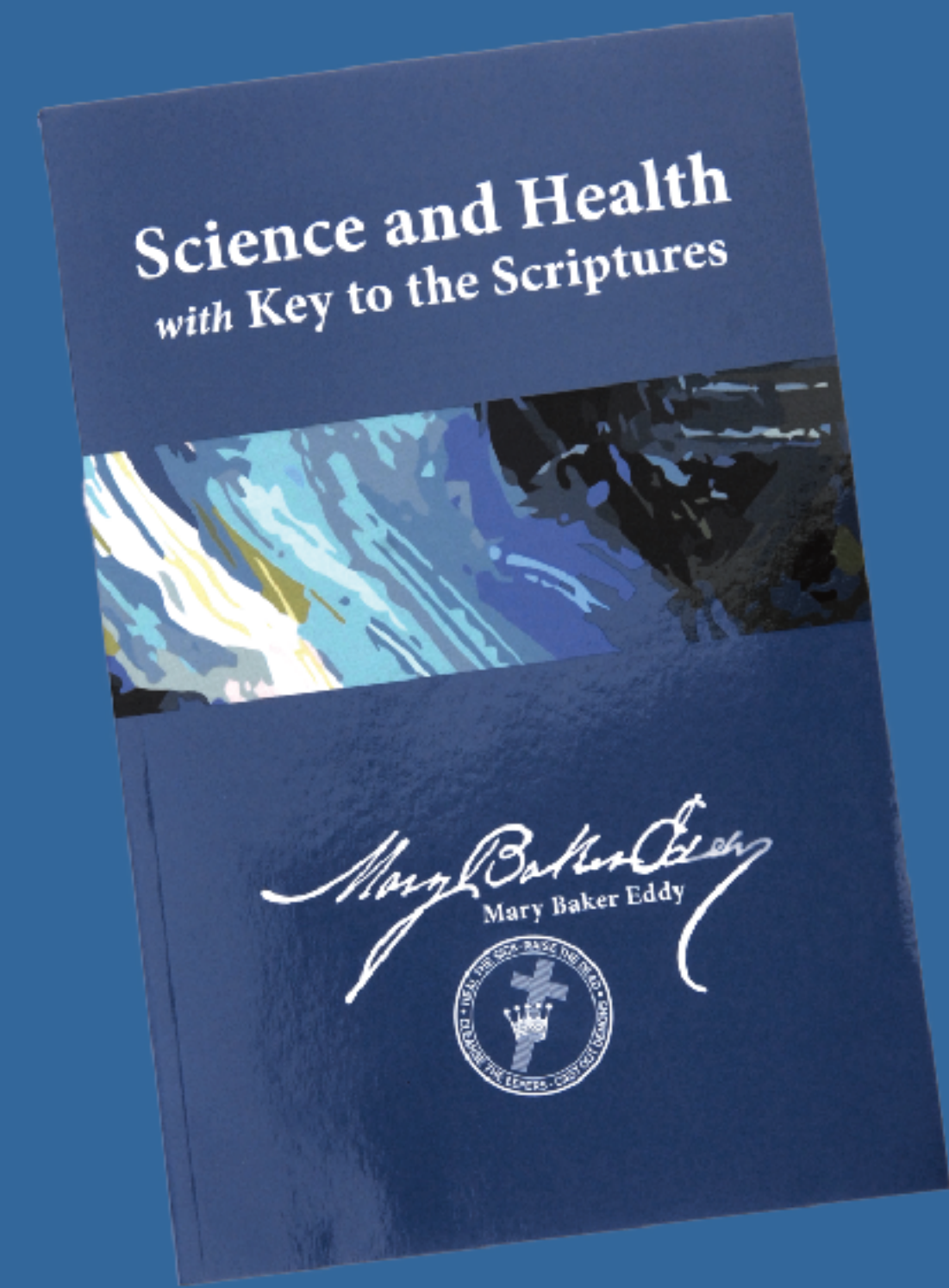
**Upcoming Christian Science Lectures**

- Sunday, October 5 @ 2pm in Evanston - "The Science of God and Its Power to Heal Us" with Nikki O'Hagan
- Sunday, October 12 @2pm in McHenry - "Moving past fear - to healing" with Lisa Troseth

# “Reign Within Us” Posters

Six inspirational posters based on the quote “Let unselfishness, goodness, mercy, justice, health, holiness, love — the kingdom of heaven — reign within us, and sin, disease, and death will diminish until they finally disappear.” (SH 248)

Let  
**UNSELFISHNESS**  
Reign Within Us



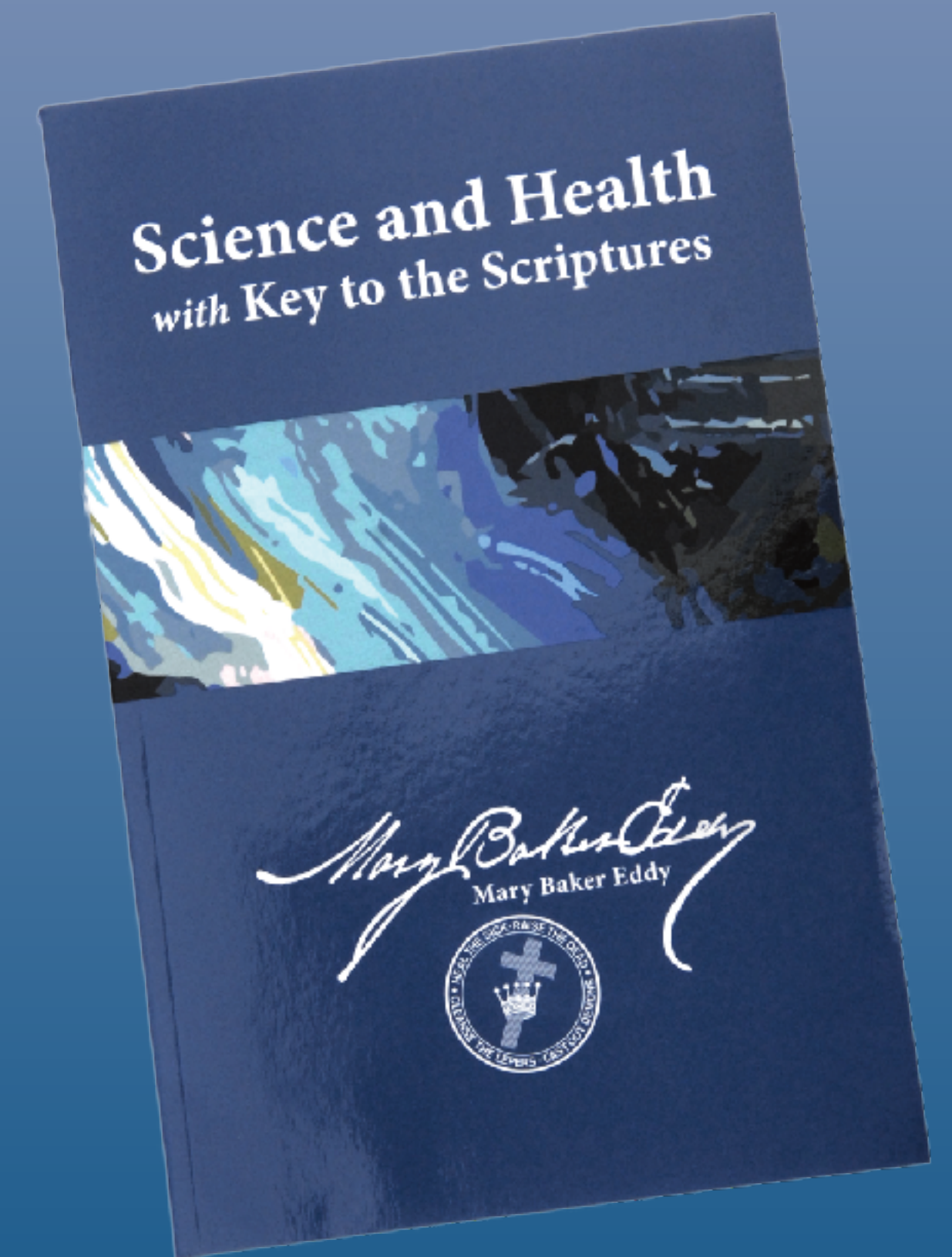
*A reference book for life*

Available HERE and at Christian Science Reading Rooms throughout Metro Chicago



# Science & Health Book Groups

- During 150th anniversary year of the publication of SH —
- 3 online SH reading groups**
- one group meets monthly / 8 new readers of book
  - two groups meet every two weeks / 32 participants more familiar with book (co-sponsored with Santa Rosa RR)



# Science & Health Book Groups

- I have loved this book club. **Reading SH front to back is an entirely different experience from reading pieces of it in our Bible Lesson** or even doing research for Wednesday evening readings and scriptural selections or even exploring in search of healing (of course all of those great as well!). **Reading citations and pondering them in the context of a chapter** and embedded in paragraphs and pages that surround a citation or thought provides an entirely different view on a sentence. I spend moments mulling around the thought: "Why is this relevant to the chapter - what was she thinking?" – Chicago North Shore group participant

# Science & Health Book Groups

- A new reader **learned of SH** after being invited to a Christian Science **lecture**. Prior to reading, he had injured his shoulder badly and a physician indicated it was a serious rotator cuff injury and that nothing could be done for it except stop using it for several months. During this time he **started reading SH** and completely dove into it. He was sure he would be **healed**. And he was. When he **joined the SH Reading Group** he shared his joy at being free from pain, and his complete healing. He has **recently applied to join a branch church**. — Detroit area group participant

# Science & Health Book Groups

- In just the past few months, one group participant was **asked for copies of SH** by two different family members and a long-time friend from another denomination.

# Field Communications & Activities

Questions ?

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# 2026 STRATEGIC PLAN

Rindy Powell



# 2026 Plan

Continue to share the good news of Christian Science with our neighbors by:

- **maintaining a robust website**, CSMetroChicago.org, highlighting Christian Science resources available throughout metro Chicago
- **promoting Christian Science lectures** sponsored by area churches
- **advertising online** the healing message of Science and Health and its availability in Christian Science Reading Rooms as well as the healing and inspirational weekly Wednesday prayer meetings
- sponsoring a **telephone helpline** with recorded programs produced by The Christian Science Publishing Society that uplift and support healing
- organizing pop-up joint Reading Rooms introducing Science and Health and Christian Science to hundreds of participants at **expos** around Chicago

# 2026 Estimated Expenses

2025  
yr end projection

Website	\$ 12,500	\$ 12,261
Advertising	\$ 30,000	\$ 27,500
Helpline	\$ 21,400	\$ 20,140
Expos	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,422
Field Communications	<u>\$ 14,000</u>	<u>\$ 12,000</u>
	\$ 75,000	\$ 70,683

# 2026 PLAN APPROVAL

**Questions ?**

**Remember to unmute and identify yourself,  
then re-mute yourself when finished speaking**

**Vote to ratify 2026 Strategic Plan**

# 2026 BOARD ELECTION

Rindy Powell



# **Ballot 2026 Board Members**

**Diane Almendarez, Naperville**

**Garrick Bradley, 8th Chicago**

**Ray Cesca, Hinsdale**

**Diane Mahon, Barrington**

**Ray Morse, Barrington**

**Rindy Powell, Barrington**

**Kim Schmidt, Barrington**

# ADJOURNMENT & BENEDECTION

**Note to 2026 Board Members: Brief meeting before end of year to determine officers and set 2026 meeting schedule.**