

CM Soirée Society Leader Agreement

With my best effort and ability I agree to enthusiastically and wholeheartedly:

- Lead my CM Soirée Society with humility and much grace;
- Maintain a gracious and loving atmosphere while being diligent students of Charlotte Mason utilizing the teachings found within Charlotte Mason's Volumes;
- Continue my own education as I realize the great responsibility I bear in having a position of influence over others;
- Promote Charlotte Mason's teachings above my own or others' preferences and/or opinions;
- Direct people back to Charlotte Mason's words during discussions and when someone has a question;
- Share things on social media that reflect my desire to stay true to a Charlotte Mason education and to the focus of CM Soirée, understanding that as a leader, others will look to me as an example. This does not mean that I will create a contrived reflection of our home educating efforts by omitting our personal struggles and failures, but rather that I will not use social media to promote curricula, principles, and practices that don't align with an authentic Charlotte Mason education;
- Maintain the spiritual basis of Miss Mason's philosophy;
- Be cognizant that Leaders of Soirée Societies have a special responsibility because they will be interpreting Charlotte Mason to others and will be representing the purpose and vision of CM Soirée. We believe that in order to effectively represent CM Soirée and Mason, CM Soirée Society leaders must embrace Mason's historical and confessional view of the Holy Spirit. In 1888, Mason wrote: "With deep reverence be it said that the Holy Spirit Himself, the Lord and Giver of Life, when he undertakes the education of a human being, operates according to law, works out those very principles of education which are proposed to parents, in fact, plays the part of parent to the willing and obedient soul." By quoting the phrase "the Lord and Giver of Life" from the Nicene Creed, Mason is tying her understanding of the teaching ministry of the Holy Spirit to the doctrine of God in Three Persons as confessed by the historical church, east and west. In continuance of this tradition, we require that all Soirée Society Leaders state that they too confess the Nicene Creed as a trustworthy expression of the self-revelation of the Triune God;
- Not allow any involvement in leading a CM Soirée Society to replace my personal time spent in the Word and in prayer;
- Recognize that we may face challenges which, according to Charlotte Mason, point "to a cause outside ourselves—to those powers and principalities in high places, whose struggle for dominion over us the Bible reveals," and that as we endeavor to encourage and equip parents in the calling God has placed on their lives as parents and home educators, we should find strength in faith and in prayer;

- Submit my Monthly Message as a way of celebrating my CM Soirée Reading Group's achievements as well as a gentle way of holding me accountable to continue my own education;
- Not judge those in my group who are unable to implement the methods fully or perfectly;
- Prohibit division and strife caused by dissenting opinions but if this begins to occur,
- Reach out to Charlotte Mason Soirée leadership for support when needed.

