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**To reach a Christian Science
nurse, please call
603.848.7755**

FALL 2017 Newsletter



P.O. Box 764
Concord, NH 03302-
0764

Christian Science Nurse
Paula Brensinger
603.848.7755

*As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another,
as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.*
I Peter 4:10

Dear Friends,

The Executive Board of the Christian Science Nurse Service of NH would like to share with you excerpts and highlights of their Annual Meeting. The meeting was held Sunday, April 30 in the Sunday School Annex of First Church of Christ, Scientist, Concord, NH. The meeting was well attended, and attendees participated in a workshop format address by guest speaker Linda Kohler, that was followed by the Executive Board Report, and Treasurers Report.

The following is a summary of the comments from our guest speaker Linda Kohler, followed by our Treasurer's report and the report of our 2016-17 Executive Board Chair, Carolyn Keith:

Linda introduced the subject of "Christly Caring" by sharing some thoughts about the Beatitudes. She told us how, on the mountain, Jesus had gathered his closest disciples and began to teach them, through the Beatitudes, what it means to be spiritual. These were qualities they would need for the work that lay ahead of them. But they were also qualities that each one already had within, waiting to be expressed. The qualities in the Beatitudes, meekness, mercy, comfort, purity, etc. are qualities that are very akin to Christian Science nursing.

Linda then invited us to think together about what would motivate someone to call a Christian Science nurse. In answering the question, many people shared experiences of healings not only of physical beliefs, such as a sports injury and a fall, but healings of fear. Several spoke of the Christian Science nurse who came being completely unimpressed — which helped them to be less impressed. Others told how comforting it was to know and feel that the Christian Science nurse was seeing them as God saw them, bearing witness to their spiritual perfection and wholeness.

Sometimes people who are new to Christian Science don't know about Christian Science nursing, and they may just call on someone they know and trust. In such cases we can pray to know how to help. It may be right to just step up and help them. In other cases we might introduce them to the idea of Christian Science nursing. Love will inspire and lead the way.

OUR MISSION

To provide and promote Christian Science nurse care, embracing an individual's reliance on Christian Science for healing.

Christian Science Nursing as a provision of the Manual of The Mother Church, safeguards, supports, dignifies, and defends the ministry of Christian Science healing. More than a mere human activity, it fully demonstrates "...the spirit of Christ's charity."

Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures

By Mary Baker Eddy, p. XII

It was also brought out that calling a Christian Science nurse can be a response to the Church Manual, since Christian Science nursing is included in the Manual. "Of this I am sure, that each Rule and By-law in this Manual will increase the spirituality of him who obeys it, invigorate his capacity to heal the sick, to comfort such as mourn, and to awaken the sinner." (Mary Baker Eddy, *The First Church of Christ, Scientist and Miscellany* 230:10) And to the admonition in *Science and Health*, "If students do not readily heal themselves, they should early call an experienced Christian Scientist to aid them." (page 420)

Several Christian Science nurses at the meeting shared some of the thoughts they pray with that help them bring a spiritual perspective to everything they do (for instance seeing a bandage as "protection".) And Paula explained the steps the service takes to protect the confidentiality of each one who calls.

Linda asked, what were our expectations when we called a Christian Science nurse, or when we heard that a friend had called on one. Healing! was the resounding reply. The highlight of the meeting was the many, many healing experiences that were shared, and the deep gratitude for the Christly qualities the Christian Science nurses brought to each situation.

Carolyn Keith, shared this helpful summary from *Miscellany* p.200:11-19: "*My Beloved Brethren*: — The chain of Christian unity, unbroken, stretches across the sea and rises upward to the realms of incorporeal Life — even to the glorious beatitudes of divine Love. Striving to be good, to do good, and to love our neighbor as our self, man's soul is safe; man emerges from mortality and receives his rights inalienable — the love of God and man. What holds us to the Christian life is the seven-fold shield of honesty, purity, and unselfed love."

The board of the Service thanked Linda for the very important and valuable work is doing in support of Christian Science healing and nursing and for bringing a motivating perspective supportive of what each of us at the workshop are endeavoring to do each day.

FROM OUR TREASURER'S REPORT TO THE 2016 ANNUAL MEETING

Our Treasurer, Alice Shepherd, noted in the beginning of her report that the Christian Science Nurse Service of NH had run a cash deficit for 2016.

We know that all good is of God. We confidently rely on God to supply all of our needs. However, from the human perspective we recognize that we are often called upon to play an active role in meeting our own and other's needs. We attend church regularly, generally weekly, even twice a week. We contribute to church regularly – likely weekly. We gather once a year to actively and jointly consider the work of our Christian Science nurse service. Do we also contribute to the Christian Science nurse service only once a year?

The Service is active throughout the year. We regularly respond to calls for assistance. Even when we are not actively working with a patient we are on duty actively and prayerfully supporting our field, knowing that help is available to all who can be benefited by it, and that all who would benefit will be comfortable in seeking help.

As we give help and support throughout the year, so we need your help and support throughout the year. Please make metaphysical and financial support of this service a part of your regular practice throughout the year.

Change to Our Policy re: Billing for Travel Time

We are making a slight change in our billing policy for travel time to keep it as equitable as possible regardless of your location, or where a nurse may be coming from:

Effective January 1, 2018 patients will be billed for all travel time at \$25/hr in ¼ hr increments based on round trip from and to Concord

Contributions are vital to our ongoing mission.

Checks can be sent to:

P. O. Box 764
Concord, NH 03302

or you may visit our website:

cnsurseservicenah.org

for information on additional ways to contribute.

CNSNH BOARD REPORT 2017

As many of you know, our long-time devoted Christian Science nurse, Pat Cameron, resigned at the end of 2015. We hired another Christian Science nurse, Amanda DeNicholas, from St. Louis, whom you met last year. However, after a few months, she found that she needed to return home. It would be another five months before we were able to hire Paula as our permanent Christian Science nurse.

This was a time to prove that God does indeed meet every human need, not only that of the Service, but the needs of the field we serve. And, Love certainly did provide a continuous solution to this need.

Kerry Reed came to our rescue. As many of you know, Kerry owns and operates Tallwood Home for Christian Scientists here in Concord. She lovingly agreed to answer all calls that came in requiring a visiting Christian Science nurse. She or one of her *Journal*-listed Christian Science nurses responded to every call for the next five months. We found a wonderful sense of unity between our two organizations in meeting the needs of the field, which is all of New Hampshire, and parts of Maine, Vermont and Massachusetts. We'll always be deeply grateful for the gracious way in which Kerry stepped up to this demand, which added to her already full plate of running Tallwood. And, as I mentioned earlier, Kerry wasn't able to be with us today because she is actually covering the phone while Paula is with us.

The metaphysical prayer during those months came to fruition with the hiring of Paula Brensinger. Paula graduated from the Christian Science nurses training at Chestnut Hill Benevolent Association in Boston. She was not yet *Journal*-listed, and as our bylaws require that we have a *Journal*-listed nurse, Pat Cameron lovingly agreed to be Paula's mentor until she acquired her listing. Everything came together so beautifully and quickly.

A few months later, between her training of five years and experience in the field, Paula was more than qualified to be *Journal*-listed. Pat could now retire – almost! She still steps in on occasion, on an on-call basis. We just can't let go of her completely! And just so that we keep everyone busy, the current arrangement is that Kerry and her staff of Christian Science nurses answer calls when Paula is off-duty.

We cannot begin to express our gratitude for all of the love, support and dedication to the Service this past year – from Pat, from Kerry and her staff, and from Paula. The board members wish to thank you from the bottom of their hearts.

Another change that occurred this past year is that we have changed our name from Christian Science Visiting Nurse Service of New Hampshire to Christian Science Nurse Service of New Hampshire. Simply put, we eliminated the word "Visiting" from our name. The Mother Church asked that the words "Christian Science" and "nurse" not be separated by any other wording. This prevents any confusion that the nurse is a Christian Science nurse. We were happy to comply with this request and we have done so by meeting all the legal requirements involved when a state-recognized organization changes their name. Though the word "visiting" was removed, the activity remains the same. Our purpose is to provide services for a visiting Christian Science nurse for those individuals relying solely upon Christian Science for healing.

The board is grateful for the opportunity to give daily prayerful support to the activities of our Christian Science nurses and to the field they support. We will be prayerfully focusing on our theme for the coming year, which is from I Peter, chapter 4, verse 10: "As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."

With love to you all.