

Christian Science Nurse Service of New Hampshire



“Ministering with Exuberance and Dominion”

A talk by Blythe Evans, C.S. at the CSNSNH Annual Meeting, May 6, 2018

Thinking about this meeting today, I carefully considered the theme, Peter’s counsel, “As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.” Great advice. It says to me, as each of us individually receives divine Love’s precious gift of the ability to help others, we can reciprocate this blessing by ministering in our own unique individual way. Each of us has special gifts that we can use to aid others.

But Peter also elaborates on ministering unto others in the next verse of this chapter. Here’s how the New Living Translation Bible puts it, “Do you have the gift of speaking? Then speak as though God himself were speaking through you. Do you have the gift of helping others? Do it with all the strength and energy that God supplies. Then everything you do will bring glory to God through Jesus Christ. All glory and power to him forever and ever! Amen.” It sounds to me like genuine joy, doesn’t it? More than that – it sounds like exuberance. Peter is coaching us to serve God and man with energy, joy, ebullience, and expectation of continual on-going good.

You know, we Christian Scientists can be kind of serious sometimes. And we might even picture Christ Jesus and Mary Baker Eddy as rather somber types. All the wonderful photos of Mrs. Eddy never show her smiling or laughing, but according to the biographies she did plenty of that. And Christ Jesus’ life was sure full of joy, right from the start.

The message the shepherds got from the angel that wonderful night was, “I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people” (Luke 2:10). The angel didn’t say I bring you tidings of the Messiah. The angel said I bring you joy. That’s what the angels were bringing, great joy to all of us. Later when the Wisemen saw the star, “they rejoiced with exceeding great joy” (Matt 2:10). Jesus’ arrival was announced with infinite joy for all mankind. Surely he felt, experienced, and lived that joy!

Down the road in his career, when Jesus sent out the seventy, we hear that they “returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name” (Luke 10:17). We read that “Jesus rejoiced in spirit,” or as the New Living Translation Bible has it, “Jesus was filled with joy” (Luke 10:21). Then he thanked God for revealing these things to men. In joyful humility, “he turned him to his disciples, and said privately, Blessed are the eyes which see the things that ye see” (Luke 10:23). “Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven” (Luke 10:20). It was all about rejoicing with Jesus.

We, too, can rejoice knowing our names are written in heaven, as well!

Then towards the end of Jesus’ earthly career, on that incredible resurrection morning, when Mary Magdalen and the other Mary went to the sepulcher, the angel sitting inside the tomb told them Jesus was not there, but had risen. The Bible tells us they turned from the sepulcher with great joy. In that unutterable moment of the possibility that death had been overcome, that all was not lost, that their dear Master still lived, and that the Christ WAS here, joy was the prevailing sentiment felt and expressed.

A short time later Jesus appeared to his disciples, who were frightened and huddled behind closed doors. To prove it was really him, their Master showed them his hands and feet and proved his earthly presence by eating some fish and honeycomb. The disciples could hardly believe it; they could hardly contain themselves; the Bible says their joy and amazement was indescribable (Luke 24:41). Then, soon thereafter, right in front of them, Jesus ascended; “...they worshipped him, and [then] returned to Jerusalem with great joy” (Luke 24:52).

**PETER IS COACHING
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Paula Brensinger, Christian Science nurse (603) 848-7755

Think of it – here was this man, recognized as the Messiah by his peers, who had appeared on the scene just three years before, done countless miracles, been cruelly and publically executed, arose from the dead, and then eventually disappeared from their sight – and the overriding sentiment always was joy. It’s amazing. That tells us something about the power of joy and the importance of expressing it.

A loved teacher of C.S. once said, if you’re wondering about your well-being, think maybe you need a check-up, check your joy-meter. How much joy you are feeling will give you an accurate reading on your health and well-being. Good advice.

I love that one of the definitions of man in Science and Health involves joy. We read, “The sinless joy, — the perfect harmony and immortality of Life, possessing unlimited divine beauty and goodness without a single bodily pleasure or pain, — constitutes the only veritable, indestructible man, whose being is spiritual” (SH 76:22-26). We can boil that down to “The sinless joy.. constitutes the only veritable, indestructible man, whose being is spiritual,” and boil it down further to, “The sinless joy ... constitutes the only veritable man,” and then boil it down again to “...joy.. constitutes...man.” Isn’t that awesome? Joy constitutes man. Joy is all there is to us. Our life and our substance is joy.

And joy is not static. Joy is dynamic. Joy is active, and energetic. It’s doing and progressing and accomplishing. That’s what Jesus did – Jesus traveled around healing with liveliness, vitality, spunk, and accomplishments.

Consider for a moment the healing of blind Bartimaeus. Bartimaeus started shouting out to Jesus when he heard the Savior was passing by. When Jesus called him, Bartimaeus threw off his cloak and muscled his way through the crowd to Jesus. When Jesus asked what could he do for him (Don’t you find it interesting that it was seemingly not apparent to Jesus what the man needed....?), Bartimaeus declared that I might receive MY sight. Notice he was asking for *his* sight; he knew sight was his as an individual expression of the all-seeing God, and Jesus knew it, too. And so, it became clear to all that he had it. Right there. Right then. What joy, what exuberance was felt by everyone observing this exchange.

And what about Zacchaeus? He was so exuberant, so energetic, so desirous for Truth that he climbed a tree to see Christ Jesus go by. A big tree. Jesus recognized this thirst for the righteousness and blessed the man and his household. We read that Zacchaeus received Jesus joyfully. I am sure it was mutual. And it turned out to be a joy and a blessing for the whole town, because now the tax collector was honest!

And let’s not forget dear Legion. After he was healed, he wanted to join up with Jesus and the disciples, but Jesus told him to return home and show what great things God had done. Legion didn’t let his Master down, the Bible says he ministered to others as “...he

went his way, and published throughout the whole city, how great things Jesus had done unto him.” (Luke 8:39).

Now that’s amazing, but it’s even more amazing, when you recall that the folks in that city, when they came out to see what was going on and realized Legion’s healing and what had taken place, asked Jesus to please leave town because the whole thing was too weird. Good for you, Legion! Go, man, go! Go show them what great things God has done. Go show them how they, too, can serve God with exuberance!

How about those disciples? How did they fare after their master’s ascension? Did they become somber and stay under the radar? Heck, no! Just the opposite! They went forth to do a great work. They knew what they had to do and they were up for it. They did it with joy. And the joy was contagious.

When Peter and John healed the lame man at the temple gate, that man “leaping up, stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God” (Acts 3:8). That man was exuberant! And I’m sure his demonstration of energy and joy didn’t end there at the Temple gate either.

And what about Paul? Paul had incredible experiences, too. And he had a spirit of joy and exuberance, no matter what the circumstances. He preached that the kingdom of heaven is righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Ghost (Rom 14:17). He mentioned that when sorrowful, he was still always rejoicing (2 Cor 6:10); that he was “exceeding joyful in all tribulation” (2 Cor 7:4); that the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, and peace (Gal 5:22); and that no matter what, we should rejoice in the Lord always, and then, rejoice again! (Phil 4:4).

Why all this exuberant rejoicing? Because Jesus and his followers knew of God’s dominion over anything that would suggest less than 100% good was going on.

Dominion means authority, control, power, superiority. God, good, is the supreme, ultimate, absolute, unmitigated power, authority, and control. The ONLY power, authority, and control - over everything. All. All that exists. God is the all-mighty, all-powerful, supreme authority and controller of all that is. God is the one power. Nothing can happen or not happen unless it is of God. And since God is all and only good, all that can *be*, all that happen, all that *is* happening, all that *is*, is good. Speaking of God, Peter said, “To him be glory and dominion for ever and ever” (1 Pet 5:11). The Discoverer of Christian Science states, “There is no power apart from God” (SH 228:25).

Now the fact that God is all good, and the all and the only power, may seem like the ultimate good news, but there’s more! God provides this dominion and authority to man. To us! By reflection, man has God-given dominion, authority, and control over all the lies that mortal mind wants to throw out there to dampen our spirits. As the psalmist said, “Thou madest him (us) to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet” (Ps. 8:6). Under our feet....

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After Jesus healed the man of palsy the people who had witnessed it declared that “God had given... power unto men” (Matt 9:8). MBE said we have “God-given ability to demonstrate Mind’s sacred power” (SH 182:22–26). She said we have “divine authority for...healing the sick” (SH 390:23).

As you know, dominion is a word Mary Baker Eddy uses quite a bit in her writings.

Our Leader tells us, divine Life is ever “revealing spiritual understanding and the consciousness of man’s dominion over the whole earth. This understanding casts out error and heals the sick, and with it you can speak as one having authority” (SH 14:25). Authority over what? Over the lies presented by the material senses. Mrs. Eddy tells us, “Knowing the falsity of so-called material sense, you can assert your prerogative to overcome the belief in sin, disease, or death” (SH 253:15.) There is no everlasting punishment for you, no chronic problems or worries that can needlessly stick or cling to you. You have only everlasting dominion and joy.

Looking more closely at the lie of material sense for a moment, we read in “Footsteps of Truth,” “The illusion of material sense, not divine law, has bound you, ...” (SH 277:26), and on the next page we are reassured, “It will cease when man enters into his...God-given dominion over the material senses” (SH 288:11-13). The material senses do not have the last word. (Or any word!)

Mrs. Eddy counsels that when we think less of the enactments (validity) of mortal mind, i.e. material sense, we will be quicker to understand our God-given dominion (SH 381:20). When we challenge and stand up to sham material sense headlines, then trade out human concepts for the divine consciousness, we will recognize and embrace our God-given dominion (SH 531:10). We already have it. Just like Bartimeus already had his sight, we already have our dominion over the earth and things earthly. We can know that we have this God-given dominion. We can show that we do. And because of our God-given dominion, authority, and control, we do not need to be feel helpless in the face of difficulties. We have supreme authority over the temptation to believe false theories and incorrect material sense rumors. We reflect this authority from our powerful divine Mind.

Dominion, authority, and control naturally include joy and exuberance. I love the story of how Flavia Knapp, once an invalid confined to her bed for years, strode energetically across a meadow while her ecstatic children danced around her. Love’s dominion and joy were in full bloom.

But dominion can also be a quiet joy, such as expressed by the Midwest dirt farmer whose wife, also an invalid for years, was healed by James Neal. After the healing, as this humble farmer went door to door selling vegetables, if he noticed anyone at the homes he visited was not well, he would confidently tell them of C.S, and recommend they pursue it. Many were helped as a result of his expression of quiet dominion.

In my husband’s family there was a lovely example of quiet dominion. It may sound familiar as he wrote about it in his editorial



in a recent Journal. Rich’s great aunt had recently found C.S, and was beginning to practice it. She told her sister, my husband’s grandmother, about C.S. Grandmother started to embrace the truth, as well. Grandmother was also expecting a new baby soon. When she went into labor her sister arrived at the house to help, acting as a sort of Christian Science nurse. The birth did not go well and the doctor informed the family that either the wife or the child could survive. Her husband insisted the doctor try to save his wife. The child was stillborn and laid aside as the doctor worked with the wife. The sister picked up the child and held it. She prayed. The baby revived. Soon all were well and full of joy. Later both of the parents and the baby became full time practitioners of C.S. One young woman’s humble trust, and understanding of God’s dominion over the mortal claims of birth, death, and inevitability rippled out to bless hundreds.

I also witnessed a lovely healing due to the quiet dominion expressed by a Christian Science nurse. After the home birth of one of my children, the newborn had an appearance that concerned me. I asked the midwife about it and she confirmed she was also worried about what I had noticed. She said medical tests could be done, or we could just “wait and see” as the next few years went by. I tried to pray about this, but I couldn’t really shake the fear.

The Christian Science nurse who had assisted at the birth, had to leave soon after the delivery, and a second Christian Science nurse arrived to stay with us a few days. I confided in this second individual what I was concerned about. She responded quietly, “I was not trained to recognize that, and I don’t think you were either.” That did it. I realized I was not trained to recognize any such false mortal suggestion either, because such a condition did not exist in God’s loving kingdom. There could not be such a prognosis for one of God’s precious children. Each of God’s dear ones was created whole, harmonious, and perfect. That’s all I had to know. And I could know it with joy and dominion.

When the midwife returned the next day to check on the baby and me, she remarked that the baby looked much more normal. The baby has since grown up perfectly happy and healthy in every way.

Our quiet joy and dominion, or our exuberant joy and dominion, also enable us to minister unto those around us, even if they are not yet aware of C.S.



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When I was teaching first grade out west a few years ago I had a little girl in my class named Kristy. She was lovely, happy, friendly, and outgoing. I really liked her and she was a shining light in my classroom. One day I got an email from her mom saying Kristy had been badly burned on her face in a cooking accident at home. She would not be at school for the next several days.

This was an opportunity for me to practice my joy and dominion, my joy of knowing of my God-given dominion over the material sense's false suggestion that one of God's little ones could be harmed. As I asked God what was true about this little girl, it was clear she was perfect, whole, untouched by any suggestion of accident or harm. She was ever safe in her Father-Mother God's constant care and could never have any other state of existence. Divine Mind, God, was the source and condition of her being (See SH 181).

It came to me to email her mom and share the story of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. I started the letter by saying I did not know what the family's religious practices were, but that I wanted to share this Bible story that was helpful to me. The story shows that no matter what the circumstances seem to be, God keeps us safe and unhurt. I mentioned that not even the smell of smoke was on the three young men when they emerged from the fire.

Her mom wrote back thanking me for the note. I felt she was genuinely appreciative of my "thoughts and prayers." Thoughts and prayers that were not mere well-wishes, but had the love, grace, power, and

dominion of God behind them.

The next week Kristy was scheduled to return to class. I met with the rest of the children before she arrived and discussed with them that the best way we could all show our love and support to our friend, was to simply love her and not stare or ask questions about what had happened. The children understood that and agreed. And that's what they did.

Kristy, meanwhile, arrived with a few bandages on her face, but those were soon removed and there was no evidence of any burn or accident. She finished out the year her same joyful self. And, during the following years that we were both in that same school building, we had a special bond between us. It was a wonderful opportunity to minister unto another with the manifold grace of God.

Divine Love is providing continual experiences for each of us to minister unto others in our own unique way, as each of us has received the gift of God's grace, expressed through our own individual expression of joy, exuberance, and consistent powerful dominion over error. As we willingly open our hearts to help our neighbors, as we know ourselves as the children of God constantly reflecting the authority of Truth and the power of divine Love, "God will supply the wisdom and the occasion for a victory over evil" (SH 571:16-18). Lots of opportunities to glorify God and help one another await us. Have a great time out there doing it! Thank you.

FROM PAULA MADER BRENSINGER

Dear, dear, fellow Christian Scientists,

The Christian Science Nurse Service has been all over the beautiful state of New Hampshire, and into the borders of Maine and Vermont and Massachusetts. We've been out in the mountains and foothills in bright summer, on gorgeous colorful autumn days, in the silent softness and muted shades of a winter-blanketed snow day. We've watched the winter yield to spring, snow melting, rivers high, tiny green leaves unfurling. Mrs. Eddy wrote about nature's beauty frequently, as metaphor for the perfection of God's creation, and it's our New Hampshire that inspired her appreciation of this beauty.

I'm most grateful to have had on-call support from Kerry Reed, Sally Carruth, Pat Cameron, and Sandy Blanchard, in covering the needs of the field. I am also deeply grateful for the support of the members of the Board of Directors of this Service, who take turns by month to provide daily metaphysical support for the service, and take my calls for metaphysical support for challenges that claim to interrupt the work of caring for our dear fellow Christian Scientists. I am also very grateful for the branch churches inviting the Reeds and myself to visit with their membership. George shares the most current information on the Committee on Publication activities, and Kerry and I address the need for Advanced Health Care directives that specify Christian Science care effectively, and more about what kind of support Christian Science nursing provides. Please invite us to your branch soon!

Along with the joy of travelling our beautiful territory, there were many opportunities to practice our theme this year, (I Peter 4:10) "as every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same, one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."

In 2017 and thus far in 2018, the Service helped patients with a variety of needs. We've helped with bandaging, assisted with mobility, loaned appropriate equipment, and provided support for restful nights. We've helped with bathing and dressing, and prepared appropriate nourishment meeting individual patient needs as Proverbs 30 verse 8 suggests -- "feed me with food convenient for me".

We've helped people remain in their homes with short visits, or reached out to Jacob's Ladder, an organization that provides 24 hour care for a few weeks at a time, to hire fly-in contract Christian Science nurses -- particularly useful in cases where the patient needs to receive all care in bed but isn't able to travel to a facility. We have also assisted with arranging admission to a Christian Science nursing care facility.

We have seen fear give way to freedom, as the formerly homebound take their first steps outside again, and witnessed healing in both mild and more aggressive appearances of mental impositions.

We've facilitated contact with Christian Science practitioners for patients without phones, and provided reports to practitioners. We've had numerous telephone consultations, ranging from providing care committees with community resource information, to a Sunday morning call asking how to gently cleanse a chin wound on the caller's precious cat. I was so grateful to hear back that afternoon, that when the caller and a friend went to give the recommended care, the area was clean, closed and (I quote) "furred over." A complete healing,

brought about by the mental atmosphere of all of us "beholding in Science the perfect [cat]..."(SH 476:32)

The most important part of my message today is -- do not hesitate to call on the services of a Christian Science nurse. Mrs. Eddy wrote in Science and Health on page 420, "If students do not readily heal themselves, they should early call an experienced Christian Scientist to aid them. If they are unwilling to do this for themselves, they need only to know that error cannot produce this unnatural reluctance."

When she wrote that, the Manual by-law (Article 8, section 31) "Christian Science Nurse" did not yet exist. This by-law begins, "A member of The Mother Church who represents himself or herself as a Christian Science nurse shall be one who has a demonstrable knowledge of Christian Science practice, who thoroughly understands the practical wisdom necessary in a sickroom, and who can take proper care of the sick."

Although the by-law had not yet been written and it's obvious she referred to the aid of a Christian Science Practitioner, the qualifications given in the by-law for representing oneself as a Christian Science nurse, and the qualities listed on page 395 in Science and Health ("cheerful, orderly, punctual, patient, full of faith, -- receptive to Truth and Love") are clearly the attributes of an "experienced Christian Scientist," and who wouldn't want those qualities at their side amidst the din of matter's false claims?

With apologies to Adam Dickey, it seems to me that our Treasurer used up the supply of numbers available for reports today so I will only give you 5 numbers. In 2017 we made 164 visits, a total of 412 hours, to 17 individuals, some for a single visit and some for multiple visits over days, weeks or months. And we've made 97 visits so far in 2018 over 125 days. What do those numbers mean? Well, comparing the number of visits to the number of days in the year, in both years, the average is LESS THAN ONE PER DAY. (There are other activities that are part of this work, and I frequently make multiple visits in one day... but I'm trying to tell you that there's plenty of time available to be of assistance at your side in a time of need!)

So... when your Christian Science practitioner tells you, or your church friend gently suggests, or your concerned family member begs you... "Maybe you should call a Christian Science nurse about this," you can confidently call, knowing that we do have the capacity to respond and that we are not overworked or burdened. It is sweet and gracious of so many patients, who don't want to make one of us come out at night, or in rough weather, but we are ready and willing and eager to be about our Father's business. And that business is, of course, seeing man's God-given dominion demonstrated to both of us.

Now, on the subject of "church friends gently suggesting..." Care Committees in our branch churches will be receiving a letter inviting them (and any Christian Scientists who are visiting individuals in their communities) to help your Christian Science nurse on the Service reach some of the people that you are visiting, who could benefit from the services we can provide. From time to time, someone will give me a name, a phone number and maybe some description of a need they have perceived. The individual may be someone who hasn't been to church in a while, and their friend has been visiting and knows they need some help, but isn't sure quite where to begin, what is available and how to help. I cannot just call and ask for an invitation. But as the trusted person that has been visiting, you can secure an invitation for me to join you on one of your visits. It's what we call a "friendly visit"

–visits made at no charge, to provide an opportunity to enjoy the companionship of another Christian Scientist, which is often helpful

when an individual isn't getting out much and therefore doesn't get to experience much contact with other Christian Scientists. This can then lead to an introductory experience of receiving a care visit at no charge, so the individual can see if it might be helpful to have this support.

There are many ways to see our upcoming theme demonstrated in our experience, "...to all mankind and in every hour, divine Love supplies all good." (SH 494:13 to) Whether our role is serving as a Christian Science Practitioner, giving Christian Science nursing care, encouraging someone to seek and accept Christian Science treatment and care, or receiving assistance from a Christian Science Practitioner and Christian Science nurse, we are all working metaphysically from the same position – one of strength and freedom, and the recognition of God's perfect man being our present salvation.

Let us share in this sweet joyful ministry together.

BOARD REPORT FROM DIANE JOHNSTON, CHAIR

This year the theme for the Christian Science Nurse Service has been according to I Peter 4:10 *As every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.*

The "*divine influence on the heart*" Strong's definition of grace, has touched each of us as we carry out the business of the service. As stewards or managers of our God given gifts we have moved forward in many areas.

Our patients and the service have been blessed by benevolence provided to them by The National Fund for Christian Science Nursing. After working out reporting requirements and a system to receive payments from this fund, while still providing anonymity for patients, our clients began receiving help with their Christian Science nursing expenses. This meant that bills to the service have been remitted more quickly and fully, blessing both the patient and the service.

This year changes were made to the manner in which we charge patients for travel costs. Travel expenses for time, mileage and tolls are based on round trips from Concord instead of from wherever the Christian Science nurse happens to be, resulting in more equal and consistent billing; and, as it should have been all along, our on-call Christian Science nurses are now compensated for both their travel time and expenses.

As our full-time Christian Science nurse, Paula, was hired for a five-day position, we are very grateful to Kerry Reed and the Tallwood House staff for their availability to cover weekends and Paula's vacation days. In October, a contracted agreement with Kerry Reed to take all calls and make weekend visits was discontinued due to staffing shortages at Tallwood House. Our relationship with Tallwood House continues to be strong and emergency needs are definitely handled should they arise. The need for more C.S. nurses is great, not only here in Concord, but throughout the C.S. field. We have interviewed and are looking for an additional full-time C.S. nurse whose work week will be shared with Tallwood as it is more difficult to find someone who wants to work only

weekends. Tallwood has worked with the Service to provide advertisements in the C.S. Sentinel and the Christian Science Nursing Network. We would also like to thank Christian Science nurses, Sally Carruth and Pat Cameron along with Sandy Blanchard who have helped in times when there was a need. The service is now a five-day service, with the desire to get back to that 24/7 model that we cherish. We are very grateful at this time that all needs have been met and are continuing to be met. Please remember that church members can often help someone in need temporarily and that each of us is able to minister to each other as we have all "*received the gift*" of Christian Science.

We are blessed this year to have received a generous gift from the Isabel Foundation, along with donations in honor of the Doak-Carruth wedding. We also received gifts in memory of Marjorie Wessner, a founding and longtime board member of the service along with our dear friend and more recent board member, Don Alusic.

Don had such a long-standing devotion to the service that his generosity was found in many areas. The technical services which he administered have now been transferred to the service's name. We cannot end here without saying how grateful we are for all the talents that Marjorie and Don brought to the service.

In researching grants that are available to help with the financing of the service, we were provided with a new idea of philanthropy - philanthropy seen as a way to solve problems (we might say healing). We realized that the building of a larger endowment could help to meet the needs of the service, both currently and long-term, through dividends and interest gained through investment. At this time the service is working on a letter to donors and foundations that defines the need, so they can learn about the many and varying ways to support the service of Christian Science nursing in N.H., to "witness healing that is already there."

We hope that all of you enjoy receiving your newsletter. We have always worked with Jenny Green who has helped us with the formatting of our Newsletter. This year, Jenny was very busy and was extremely grateful when our board member, Kathy Wallace figured out that she could take this on. Jenny looked it over and approved the new formatting. We are very grateful that we can continue to send our newsletters without professional assistance.

As we move into the next year, we would like to thank Allan Dermott for his service on the board and I will be moving out of state so will be unable to complete my term. Pat Cameron has been asked and has agreed to join us. If you feel that you would like to serve on the board, please let Kathy Wallace know about your availability. For me, it has been a blessing to serve on this board, to witness the healing effect of Christian Science in many ways.

Going forward the Board has chosen the following quote from *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* by our leader, Mary Baker Eddy as our theme for next year;

"...to all mankind and in every hour, divine Love supplies all good." SH 494:13 to

REPORT FOR 2017 FROM ALICE SHEPHERD, TREASURER

In 2017 the expenses directly related to our nursing services totaled \$81,071. The revenue generated by those service was \$25,845 resulting in a net shortfall of \$55,227. Contributions received of \$18,642 included a \$5,000 grant from the Isabel Foundation, and gifts in honor or memory of specific individuals totaling \$4,760. These contributions reduced the shortfall to \$36,585. Dividend and interest income generated by our portfolio of \$14,979 further reduced the shortfall to \$21,606. In addition to the expenses of the nursing services themselves we paid administrative costs of \$6,890, which brought our shortfall up to \$28,495. This shortfall was supplied from our investment portfolio.

During 2017 we restructured our investment portfolio in order to increase the dividends it generates. We anticipate seeing the results of these changes, which were made late in 2017, in our 2018 financials. The trades made in 2017 generated realized gains from the sale of securities of \$65,482. However, we also reported net unrealized losses of \$33,662 for a net gain of \$31,820. Therefore, the net result of all of our financial dealings in 2017 was a profit of \$3,324.

While this is good news, we must not lose sight of the fact that it was necessary to withdraw over \$28,000 more from our portfolio than the dividends it generated. Consequently, as Diane indicated in the Board Report we will soon be launching a drive to build up our portfolio with a long-term goal of generating sufficient dividend income to avoid the need to routinely drain our principal each year, as has been the case for several years now.

As students of Christian Science, we know that we can confidently rely on God, divine Love, to meet our needs. As our theme for this new year has it "...to all mankind and in every hour, divine Love supplies all good." (S&H 494:13) We also know that our role as children of God is to express Him, His infinite love, in our prayer and study and, more importantly, in what we do. As Paul says: "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit." (Gal 5:25).

Thank you for your support, for being here today, for your metaphysical support and for your financial support.

All in our Service are brimming over with love and enthusiasm seeing all the ways that our Journal-listed Christian Science nurse is being led to witness the healing Christ, Spirit, uplifting the atmosphere and healing impositions at each home she is called to.

Bit by bit the funds needed to match supply and demand for this precious ministry are manifesting themselves. We sincerely appreciate your acting on the call coming to you to provide strong prayerful and other support. In whatever way you are led to contribute, please respond at CSNSNH, P.O. Box 764, Concord, NH 03302.

*Thank you sincerely,
The Board of Directors of CSNSNH*

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



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