

Noontide NEWS

Fall 2019

*Fresh information and fruition from
Noontide Visiting Christian Science Nurse Service of Michigan*



What if World Kindness Day Was Every Day?

Gratitude in whatever size or form, opens thought to see more of God's lovingkindness every day for all the world to receive and express. At this Thanksgiving season, I'm savoring all acts of kindness, whether in the Christian Science nursing ministry or observed in my daily walk.

A number of years ago, I witnessed a poorly dressed man with a bag of soda bottles sit down in the back pew of our church. He stayed to hear the church service and dropped a coin in the collection basket as he left. I was so touched by this sharing of his mite that I felt my heart soften and it was a cause for self-examination. How sincere were my efforts of giving my 'mite'?

Giving our 'mite' is a powerful act of kindness to ourselves and others. World Kindness Day, celebrated on November 13th, is a day worth celebrating. Mary Baker Eddy says, "Whatever holds human thought in line with unselfed love, receives directly the divine power" (*Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, p. 192).

Whether actions are comparatively simple—a smile, a listening ear, respectful attitude—or more involved, they change our lives for the better, and extend beyond race or culture. Kindness is a quality a Christian Science nurse lives every day in their ministry.

We're so grateful to Tenacre Foundation—for their kindness, and contributions toward our workshops this past year. At a recent Noontide workshop (based on Art. VIII, Sect. 31 **Christian Science Nurse**, from *The Manual of the Mother Church*), Tina Bilhorn, Director of Christian Science Nursing at Tenacre, noted that the definition "to nurse" is to *nurture, care for, encourage*. Attendees were asked to share a time when they had an opportunity to express nursing qualities which helped to uplift a situation. There were many. There's that (*continued page 3*)

Year End Appeal

Our gratitude and love abound for proof of God's presence and healing power this year.

"Never did gratitude and love unite more honestly in uttering the word thanks, than ours at this season. ...There is a special joy in knowing that one is gaining constantly in the knowledge of Truth and divine Love." (*Miscellaneous Writings*, Mary Baker Eddy, p.160)

Noontide's mission, "*to provide to patients, under the guidance of divine Love, the proper practical services necessary to support healing as demonstrated through the teachings of Christian Science,*" is being fulfilled because of your generosity.

We hope you will consider making a gift to Noontide. Your donations help provide Christian Science nursing for those in need. Go to our website, Noontidecs.org, or use the enclosed envelope. ■

WHAT'S INSIDE:

- Fruitage!
- Mentoring CS Nursing Students
- Here I Am, Lord
- Job Opportunity

Student Christian Science Nurses From Tenacre

Ever notice that our Christian Science visiting nurse, Jeanne Troutman, has been attending church with a buddy and visiting someone with that same friend? That's not just anybody!

Jeanne's been mentoring seven Christian Science nursing students from Tenacre, who come to Michigan for up to two weeks with their deep love for Christian Science and Christian Science nursing, and fresh perspectives and skills.

Their activities with Jeanne include accompanying her on nursing visits, interviewing Noontide Board members, Christian Science practitioners, and our Committee on Publication for Michigan, Bob Cummings. Some have assisted Jeanne with workshops, attended Christian Science lectures and church services, and all observed Jeanne managing the day-by-day nursing details for Noontide.

This mentoring allows the student Christian Science nurses to see just what it takes to be a visiting Christian Science nurse, affording them a view of what they may encounter when visiting patients outside of a Christian Science nursing facility.

Each student has unique "gifts of the Spirit," and we look forward to more mentoring experiences in the future. ■

Fruitage

I was walking my dog on a cold winter Saturday and before I knew it, I was on my face on the sidewalk. I knew that Mary Baker Eddy says "Declare that you are not hurt and understand the reason why" (*Science and Health*, p. 397:17-18), and that "accidents are unknown to God" (*Science and Health*, p. 424:5). I worked closely with these ideas but I still felt shaken. I reached out to God to ask what to know or think at this moment. I felt I should call for help.

I called a Christian Science practitioner for assistance to calm my thought. She declared firmly that there are no accidents that can harm and I can't be hurt, I am unfallen and free—I needed to declare and see this for myself. When we hung up I worked with these thoughts and became calm.

When my husband saw me he suggested I go to the emergency room. I firmly told him I wanted to work this out by relying on God for healing as taught in Christian Science.

I felt uncertain about how to care for my wounds, so I contacted our loving Noontide Visiting Christian Science Nurse Service of Michigan. The Christian Science nurse came to see me. She was cheerful and gentle, and expressed no shock or concern. She told me healing was underway.

As she lightly cared for (and taught me how to care for) the wounds, she suggested I stay with Genesis 1—that God made all and made all very good! She told me to "look into the mirror of Divine Science," that I was unbroken, unfallen, and to live in the now...not rehearsing what had happened. That evening I was able to participate in a church meeting, feeling love expressed by all present.

The next evening my husband really wanted me to go to the emergency room. I felt confident I was fine and agreed to go. They took X-rays and found I had no breaks and urged me to take off all bandages and let it heal! I was so grateful and of course, my husband was so relieved!

The practitioner encouraged me to know I had never been *through* anything. God hadn't gone through it, so how could I? I was fearful I would never look "normal." *Science and Health* says "Christian Science is always the most skillful surgeon, but surgery is the branch of its healing which will be last acknowledged" (p. 402:1-3). This comforted me immensely. When I washed my face a few days later, a scab came off with completely normal skin underneath. The healing was moving forward beautifully.

I am so grateful for the help from the Christian Science nurse and practitioner. This lesson has taught me to stick with God by continuing to see beyond the aggressive physical/material picture and stick with the Truth that protects, heals, and indeed restores our real activity and beauty!

From this individual's husband: This testimony is as my wife says. I was alarmed for my wife and she seemed so calm. She improved and she healed very quickly. ■

EMPLOYMENT

* Visiting Christian Science Nurse— * MICHIGAN NEEDS YOU!

- * If you'd love to serve fellow Christian Scientists in beautiful Michigan and are looking for part-time hours, consider applying. The position is ideal for
- * a Christian Science nurse who's either *Journal*-listed or working toward this.
- * Please give Jeanne Troutman a call at **(517) 582-0575**.

Here I Am, Lord

“Here I am Lord” was the theme of the 2019 International Christian Science Nursing Conference held September 4-8, 2019 at Cedars Camp, in Missouri.

Both of Noontide’s visiting Christian Science nurses, Jeanne Troutman and Carol Towar, attended. The talks, workshops, and interactions with other Christian Science nurses invigorated, educated and comforted them.

Over a hundred Christian Science nurses discussed topics including the National Fund for Christian Science Nursing, continuing education of Christian Science nurses, and how to attract and retain others to this healing ministry.

On the departure bus a spontaneous hymn sing ensued—everyone refreshed, joyous and grateful and anticipating the next conference of 2021. ■

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thought of kindness again. How innate it is for each of us to nurse this way!

*Ask God to give thee skill
In comfort’s art:
That thou may’st consecrated be
And set apart
Unto a life of sympathy.
For heavy is the weight of ill
In every heart;
And comforters are needed much
Of Christlike touch.*

— A.E. Hamilton

(Quoted in *Retrospection and Introspection*, Mary Baker Eddy, p. 95)

With heartfelt gratitude and love,
Natalie Wright, *President*, Noontide Board of Trustees ■



Donations

Our Visiting Christian Science Nurse Service continues to need your generous donations. We’ve made it simpler to focus your donations in a specific way, such as helping Noontide keep our nursing car in top shape, helping us pay for nursing supplies, Christian Science nurses’ salaries, patient benevolence, office supplies, or to support in whatever way God leads.

Ways to donate include bequests, corporate matching gifts, or using [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) when making purchases. (Smile.Amazon allows buyers to select a preferred charity and donates a percentage of the purchase to that charity.)

amazonsmile

You can also make a direct donation through our website at <https://www.noontidecs.org/ways-to-donate> or use the enclosed donation envelope. Michigan Christian Scientists are so blessed to have a Visiting Christian Science Nurse service! *We could not provide this service without your help.*

FRIENDS, We Need Your Help!

We are currently updating our newsletter mailing/emailing list. Would you please mail us your current contact information using the form below and enclosed envelope? Or send us an email at office@noontidecs.org. *Please cut and send to:* Noontide, P.O. Box 702072, Plymouth, MI 48170-9998.

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BUSINESS OFFICE:

Toni Nayback
Business Manager
(734) 459-5850
office@noontidecs.org
www.noontidecs.org
P.O. Box 702072
Plymouth, MI 48170-9998

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE NURSES:

Jeanne Troutman
(517) 582-0575
csnurse@noontidecs.org

Carol Towar

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Noontide Visiting Christian Science Nurse Service of Michigan is to provide to patients, under the guidance of divine Love, the proper practical services necessary to support healing as demonstrated through the teachings of Christian Science.