



Christian Science nursing
inspiring, loving and healing
humanity

Sunrise Haven

Spring 2016



Humanity loved, blessed, healed



Top left: Chestnut Booth, CS, from St. Louis, MO, gave an inspiring keynote talk titled, "Humanity loved, blessed, healed." (See excerpts from Chestnut's talk inside this issue.) **Top right:** Christian Science Nurse Vicki Lane opened the meeting with readings. **Lower left:** A panel of Christian Science nurses, staff and a trustee shared how they are putting Sunrise Haven's new mission statement into practice. **Lower right:** Executive Director Robin Banko honored each Christian Science nurse that has served 20 years or more at Sunrise Haven.

Sunrise Haven held its annual meeting at First Church of Christ, Scientist, Bellevue on Saturday, March 12th.

For the first time, participants joined the meeting by phone. A caller wrote in after the meeting and said,

"I just had to write to tell you how much my husband and I loved attending Sunrise Haven's Annual Meeting via phone! What an inspiring and uplifting meeting! Our Treasurer also attended via phone and related how special it was. Everything was outstanding—the readings, hymns, the wonderful vision and mission statements, and Chestnut Booth's inspiring talk.

I took notes and am so blessed to have them since my husband and I are caring for two dear ones at this time. The timing of the meeting couldn't have been better!

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts to you and everyone who made this wonderful meeting possible!" ■

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Board of Trustees Report

Mark Schoening,
President



L to R, Mark Schoening, Dave Lowe, Nan Leatherwood, Amy Dehnert, Jim Anderson and Kelly Michaels.

We reflect with thanks on the progress of another year here at Sunrise Haven. The Board is so appreciative of the loving resolve of Sunrise Haven's outstanding team of Christian Science nurses, and the staff and administration supporting them, who, working in concert with *Journal*-listed practitioners, are daily demonstrating the healing Science of the Christ.

Among the Board's goals last year was to revise and review the Sunrise Haven vision and mission statements. Led by a wonderful facilitator, a team of Christian Science nurses, administrative staff and trustees worked together to create a vision statement. Simply stated, a vision statement conveys the

organization's hope for what the world should look like, while a mission statement describes how to get there.

Mary Baker Eddy's statement reveals the importance of a clear vision, "To strike out right and left against the mist, never clears the vision; but to lift your head above it, is a sovereign panacea" (*Miscellaneous Writings*, 355:16-18). As the committee worked through the exercises and loving exchanges with each other, participants found they were rising above the mist of a false sense of humanity and these four words emerged:

Humanity
loved, blessed, healed

We rejoiced in this simple, clear and strong vision statement.

Then, we prayed together about how Sunrise Haven could play its part in realizing this wonderful vision in the form of a mission statement:

Christian Science nursing
inspiring, loving, and healing
humanity

We are finding ourselves readily engaging in this powerful statement. We're seeing it as leading to the "sovereign panacea," or supreme, universal remedy that's available to all God's children. Won't you join us in embracing these guiding statements for Sunrise Haven?

The trustees express deepest gratitude to Vicki Lane for her years of loyal service as Co-Director of Christian Science Nursing.

In the year ahead, we look forward to launching a new website in a couple of months, and to continuing our field presentations on advanced directives, Medicare and Christian Science nurses' training. We're so grateful to all in the Sunrise Haven community for your prayers, actions and support of this important activity. It's our joy to serve as your trustees. ■

Financial Report

Nanette
Leatherwood,
Treasurer

For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2015:

- 1) Funds on hand at the end of the year were \$1,100,000,
- 2) there was no indebtedness, and
- 3) total expenses were \$1,010,000.

The 2015 fiscal year saw a significant decrease (25%) in overall occupancy. As a result, there was a decline of more than \$200,000 in nursing service revenue from the prior year. We were most grateful for an unexpected \$200,000 contribution received from Tenacre (located in New Jersey) that enabled Sunrise Haven to break even for the year.

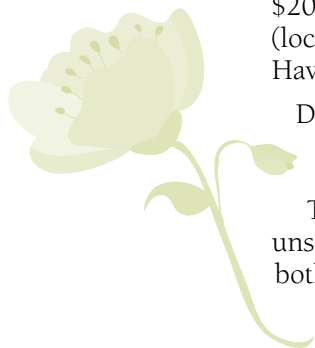
Diligent and persistent efforts in the management of Sunrise Haven have yielded expense reductions in recent years.

These efforts, combined with the generous, unsolicited support received from Tenacre in both fiscal 2014 and 2015 made it possible for Sunrise to avoid having to draw down its reserves.

If not for the unexpected contributions the past two years, Sunrise Haven, like most Christian Science nursing facilities, would be operating at a deficit. Donations (including individual contributions and grants) cover 35% of Sunrise Haven's operating expenses. This is why your contributions are so important and necessary to carry the mission of Sunrise Haven forward into future years. Please accept our heartfelt thanks for your support.

In the Board of Trustees report, you'll find our new vision and mission statements. As we have embraced these ideas in thought and applied them to the Christian Science nursing activity, Sunrise Haven has enjoyed a wonderful, significant increase in occupancy and healing in the new fiscal year.

All of us at Sunrise Haven are so grateful for the opportunity to help and support our beloved brethren. "The devotion of thought to an honest achievement makes the achievement possible" (*Science and Health*, 199:21). ■



It has been a truly remarkable year! Our hearts are filled with gratitude for the unique way 2015 unfolded and resulted in growth, progress and much healing. Our beloved Leader, Mary Baker Eddy, writes, "God expresses in man the infinite idea forever developing itself, broadening and rising higher and higher from a boundless basis" (*Science and Health*, 258:13-15). Our new vision and mission statements, created in late 2015, are the natural outgrowth of our progress in "broadening and rising higher".

At Sunrise Haven, we are seeing the nurturing, nourishing, and nursing qualities in ourselves and in every child of God. As we cherish and recognize God's ever-present love and pray to love more, we are finding new opportunities to help and support one another and to witness our mission statement in action:

**Christian Science nursing
inspiring, loving, and healing
humanity**

As our view has broadened, risen and expanded, so has the utilization of our facility. We've seen our occupancy rise to 85% over the past five months. We're always praying and seeing our facility filled and overflowing with God's inspiring, loving, and healing

What an exciting year we've had at Sunrise Haven seeing marvelous healings and patients returning home! Lifted from fear to hope, family members gained new confidence that their loved ones were safe and being cared for in a haven of healing.

Healings have also taken place among our staff. Recently, one of our Christian Science nurses came to work and was unable to keep working because of sudden illness. With the help, support, and love of her co-workers, this Christian Science nurse was able to have quiet time off the floor and then return home where she was completely healed.

One aspect of Christian Science nursing care at Sunrise Haven includes providing daily activities for our patients. They access JSH-Online in our Day Room and it's heartwarming to see them listen to a chat or lecture and share uplifting, spiritual ideas with each other. We have hymn sings once a week with one of our

thoughts, regardless of our occupancy. As we embrace humanity in our prayers, those needing our help and support are led to us.

We are expanding communications and contact with our field as we continue to explore the important role Christian Science nursing plays in our church's healing mission for humanity. In the past six months we have given five Medicare and advance directive presentations to members of 19 churches. In addition, we recently presented two hands-on workshops, *Discovering the Comforter Within*, to members of 11 churches. Please let us know if your church would welcome our support by sharing one of our presentations!

Our wonderful staff is truly our most valued and cherished asset! Our gratitude overflows for our highly qualified, professional team of experienced Christian Science healers. The hallmarks of our staff are love, inspiration, joy, teamwork, flexibility, dedication, and spiritual growth. We are strengthened and inspired by witnessing many healings. We're deeply grateful for each Christian Science nurse's healing ministry.

We thank you for your generous support of Sunrise Haven and the healing ministry of Christian Science nursing. We're here for **you!** ■

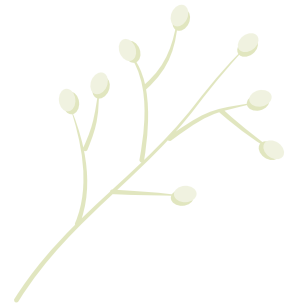
talented Christian Science nurses at the piano and occasionally additional staff on other instruments. And daily wheelchair rides are always available in the garden when weather permits.

A recent, big event is the change in our Co-Director of Christian Science Nursing position. After many years of being a Co-Director at Sunrise Haven, our beloved Vicki Lane is retiring from this position and returning to the Sunrise Haven nursing floor. The entire staff is thrilled she's back working arm in arm with them. Vicki is excited to be back and loving every minute of devoting herself to her Christian Science nursing ministry.

Woody Minsk is continuing on as director of Christian Science nursing, and Jennifer Scott will serve in a new role as the assistant director of Christian Science nursing. ■

Executive Director's Report

Robin Banko



Co-Directors of Christian Science Nursing Report

Vicki Lane and Woody Minsk

Boundless gratitude for healing at Sunrise Haven

“The challenge I faced came swiftly and gripped my loved ones with fear for my life – me, too! When the situation arose, we were so grateful for Sunrise Haven. I knew from the beginning that I would not be relying on material remedies. Yet, as a lifelong Christian Scientist I still inwardly wondered how such an aggressive lie would be met. But you (Christian Science nurses at Sunrise Haven) were there to quickly and firmly give the assurance that the situation was not dangerous. This message, which was conveyed to me, was truly a lifeline that resonated in my thinking over and over.

Every practical need was met. I’ve always found hymns to be so healing. At Sunrise Haven, they were sung by a Christian Science nurse’s angelic voice. Although I was unable to eat or drink anything for three or four days, all possible ideas for something that might taste good were acted upon.

Every single one of you at Sunrise showered me with love. It was beyond a human love. It turns out our family was witnessing the power of divine Love, the love that Christ Jesus embodied and the way he was able to heal.

My gratitude is boundless and this healing has been a benchmark in my experience.”

Shared by a recent patient



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www.sunrisehaven.org

Our vision:
**Humanity
loved, blessed, healed**

Our mission:
**Christian Science nursing
inspiring, loving and healing
humanity**

Services:

- 24-hour nursing care, including inpatient, outpatient, and relief care
- Consultation by phone or in-home
- Equipment rental
- Rest and study

Board of Trustees

Jim Anderson, CS	Dave Lowe
Amy J. Dehnert, CS	Kelly Michaels
Beverly Foltz, CS	Mark Schoening
Nanette Leatherwood	

Executive Director

Robin Banko
executivedirector@sunrisehaven.org

Director of Christian Science Nursing

David (Woody) Minsk
csnursingdept@sunrisehaven.org

Visiting Us: Bring a friend; we'd love to give you a tour. Do call ahead though, so we can be sure a staff member is available to show you around.

Excerpts of Chestnut Booth's Talk at Sunrise Haven's Annual Meeting, March 12, 2016

Thank you to everyone in the auditorium and those calling in today. Your generosity in taking time to support Sunrise Haven will be returned to you “pressed down and overflowing,” as this week’s Bible Lesson promises!

My goal today is to persuade you to love the idea that your practice of Christian Science would not be complete without the qualities of the Christian Science nurse. The Christian Science nurse is one of God’s greatest ideas, and, according to the definition of man in *Science and Health*, man includes every right idea (*Science and Health*, 475:14). So, you already include the qualities and capacities of the Christian Science nurse!

I first learned about the qualities and capacities of the Christian Science nurse when I was in a nurse aide-training program at the Chestnut Hill Benevolent Association (B.A.) during the summer after I graduated from high school. I loved the metaphysical and practical focus on the qualities of the Christian Science nurse: even-tempered, uncomplaining, honest, cheerful, orderly, punctual, patient, full of faith, and receptive to Truth and Love (*Science and Health*, 395:17). I loved learning that the three capacities required of a Christian Science nurse were: “demonstrable knowledge of Christian Science practice,” “practical wisdom necessary in the sick room,” and “proper care of the sick” (*Church Manual*, 49:7). I realized that the Christian Science nurse was actually a “Practitioner Plus”! The Christian Science nurse needed the same demonstrable knowledge as a Christian Science practitioner, as well as the added practical wisdom to provide care in the sick room.

Learning a few of the nursing skills and to love the qualities of the Christian Science nurse has been an ongoing blessing in my life. I learned that underlying all nursing skill was the metaphysical practice of translating “things into thoughts” and exchanging “the objects of sense for the ideas of Soul” (*Science and Health*, 269:14). We were trained to translate everything we did into the spiritual qualities we were expressing. Now, I do that no matter what I’m doing.

[Chestnut told many stories of healings—more than there is room to print in this newsletter, but here are two.]

One afternoon our four-year-old got off the pre-school bus at the administrative building where I worked for Principia College. He stopped, as did most of the



pre-schoolers, at a dear secretary’s office to get a piece of hard candy before coming to my office. After our hello hug, the candy slipped down his wind pipe and he couldn’t breathe. Both he and I stayed calm because we’d already talked many times about God’s care in every emergency. While wondering if I should perform the Heimlich maneuver, I instead found myself taking his little hands and kneeling in front of him. I told him that divine Love knew exactly how to meet his need. Suddenly the candy exploded out of his mouth, pelted me in the chest, and rolled away. He happily chased it and popped it back in. I didn’t know whether to laugh or cry in relief. When I asked what had happened, he pointed to his abdomen and said, “Love pushed here!”

The child had been spared the trauma of being grabbed, pounded, or squeezed. “Love pushed here!” I was in awe. I knew I’d just witnessed how a “demonstrable knowledge of Christian Science” is the foremost “practical wisdom in the sick room.” All “proper care of the sick” starts there for the Christian Science nurse.

Over the years, I’ve cherished that the Christian Scientist is a humanitarian, interested in the welfare of all mankind. I’m absolutely certain that someday we will see mankind seeking and valuing the quality care provided by the Christian Science nurse. I say this because several times I’ve seen the respect of medical nurses for the quality of care and the supportive environment provided by Christian Science nurses.

One example occurred in our home. We all have relatives in our families and extended families who are not Christian Scientists and rely on medical means. One year a man in our family asked if he could stay in our

continued on reverse

Excerpts of Chestnut Booth's Talk, continued

home while he was on hospice care. The hospice nurses visited once a week and supplied all the equipment, bandages, and medicine that he needed. I had to do all the bandaging, cleansing, and feeding. Out of respect for his wishes, I also agreed to administer the prescribed medicine. Remembering the sense of order that I learned in my training at the B.A., and my observations of working with the Christian Science nurses at Principia College and at Peace Haven, I set up a linens station, a bandaging station, and a feeding station so that I had all the supplies he needed close at hand, well-stocked, and orderly. I also had a medicine station with a chart for keeping track of his pain medication. Although administering medication was foreign to me, I simply translated its administration into the spiritual qualities of intelligence, diligence, alertness, grace, etc. I endeavored to lift my thought up and support a beautiful and Life-affirming atmosphere.

As the different nurses visited, they often asked how I'd learn to set things up in such an efficient manner. That always gave me the opportunity to talk about what I'd learned from Christian Science nurses. They wanted to

know all about Christian Science nursing. They were curious and respectful.

One said to me: "You should know that this man has received the best care that he could have gotten anywhere in the world." The head nurse of the hospice service came the morning the man passed on. She said, "Look at the beautiful expression on his face. I've seen many faces and can tell you that he is at peace." Another nurse came to our door a few days later. While it's not a practice of hospice to come by afterwards, she said she just had to come and say, "Your house is the most peaceful place in my life," and that she would miss coming. I think what they all felt was the spiritual atmosphere of Christian Science nursing.

We need Christian Science nursing. We need places like Sunrise Haven that provide Christian Science nursing. We need to express the qualities and capacities of the Christian Science nurse to complete our own practice of Christian Science. Thank you for supporting Christian Science nursing. All that you invest in it will come back to you "pressed down and overflowing." ■

Practicing the mission

Christian Science nursing inspiring, loving, and healing humanity

Another highlight of Sunrise Haven's annual meeting was a panel discussion with Christian Science nurses: Woody Minsk, Jennifer Scott and Gay Townsend, along with Dave Lowe and Jennifer Johnson (Sunrise Haven's board president and business manager, respectively). The panel shared how they are putting Sunrise Haven's new mission statement into practice.

One of the Christian Science nurses confided to the audience that it hasn't always been easy for her to share Christian Science with strangers. But she had been thinking about that word "humanity" in Sunrise Haven's mission statement. What exactly is humanity? Everyone in the world. So where can we start to fulfill Sunrise Haven's mission? With everyone we come into contact with.

In her case, it happened during a simple, spontaneous conversation at the grocery store:

"Picking up some ice cream in Trader Joe's recently, I remarked to a woman, who was apparently deciding whether to buy the carton in her hand, that this was the only place I knew of that still had half-gallons of ice cream.

She mentioned how good it was and said she thought she probably shouldn't get it. She paused, and then told me she was having surgery in a few days. She also said she was a surgical nurse and usually wouldn't be concerned.

I was almost surprised when I felt led to say to her that I was a Christian Science nurse, since that inclination doesn't usually come to me so easily. I added that I help people needing practical care while relying on prayer for healing. I lovingly encouraged her to keep a good thought about it all.

She then said that over many years she'd come to believe that the most important thing was to 'know God.' Wow! I was not expecting that answer, and I practically hugged her! I smiled, saying 'YES! You're so right!' Then I told her that I'd been working on 'knowing God' for some time myself — and I added a thought or two about God's goodness and love for us. I could just feel Love's presence right there in the store and I just knew that we both felt uplifted as we each went on with our shopping." ■