



BEACON HAVEN STAR

Supporting proper care and an atmosphere expectant of healing through Christian Science Nursing

The Harvest Is Here and Now

by Elizabeth Harned, Director of Christian Science Nursing

In thinking about our harvest theme for the annual meeting, what has continually come to me are the words Jesus said to his disciples. "Say not ye, there are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? Behold, I say unto you, lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." Jesus then points out that both the sower and the harvester can rejoice together. (John 4: 35-38).

As we lift up our eyes, or as Mrs. Eddy points out, our "spiritual discernment," we find a bountiful harvest present right now. In thinking about our purpose here to provide Christian Science nursing, I see it as a "harvest of Love." We are witnessing the purity, perfection, and health of each one of you. In the words of our hymnal, Christian Science nurses are here to "wrestle, fight and pray" with you, to support the "lonely heart," to give loving reassurance of God's "gracious omnipotent hand" to "uplift thee from the sod" and to "sing of hope and faith uplifted" where each one is "crowned with a light that cannot fade." (Hymns 312, 34, 123, 14, 171).

When you or your family member stay with us you can be reassured that



*Foreground - Visiting Christian Science nurses, Susie Smeyers and Darnell Hancock
Back - Elizabeth Harned, Director of Christian Science Nursing*

the Christian Science nurses lovingly approach every daily activity acknowledging the will of God, the will of Love. Christian Science nurses insist (mentally and silently) and yes, sometimes audibly, on man's Godlikeness and freedom from sin. We recognize that any resistance to Truth is not part of God's creation. We acknowledge and realize that Divine Love is with man at every moment and maintains joy, activity, happiness, health, understanding, and life.

What would prevent each of us from seeing this harvest of Love? How can we lift our thought higher? In *No and Yes* Mrs. Eddy states, "Prayer is the utilization of Love wherewith He

[God] loves us." (NO. p.39). Couldn't we add that prayer awakens in us the desire to see and accept the harvest of love that is "pouring forth more than we can accept"? (SH, p. 2). Couldn't we agree that in order to put something to use we must first recognize and accept its availability? God's love must be recognized and accepted in order for it to be utilized. Couldn't we also expand this thought to recognizing and accepting help from those who express that love?

Expressing love and being loved seems simple enough. Ask yourself, do I really accept and utilize these expressions of God's Love coming to me daily? If I did, how would it change me? How would it change my church, my family, my community? How would it change the world?

Christian Science nursing, provided for in the *Manual of The Mother Church*, is one example of God mothering the world and who wouldn't want a loving hug from Mom when they didn't feel well. This loving (healing) hug from our Divine Father-Mother is what fills our harvest basket.

Administrator's Report

by Terri Erickson, Beacon Haven Administrator

Since Mary Baker Eddy wove Christian Science nursing into the fabric of the Christian Science church in 1908 (*The Manual*, Article VII, Section 31), there has been a rich legacy of Christian Science nursing in Minnesota. It started with the Star of Bethlehem, followed by Clifton House. Today, Beacon Haven and our Visiting Christian Science Nurse service continue to support proper care and an atmosphere expectant of healing.

Frequently, local church members lovingly ask me about the status of Beacon Haven. Let me give you a little update.

There were quiet times this year, interspersed by blessed opportunities to meet a human need for beloved members of our Christian Science family. What a privilege it is to witness the healings that have taken place.

I have also seen some very positive trends in the utilization of Beacon Haven. We have served children, young mothers, businessmen and grandparents from the local area and from Canada, Illinois, and Kansas. One day, every room in the house was full (two Rest and Study and six patient

rooms). We have received inquiries from states as far away as Montana. These inquiries have echoed the words of our youngest patient, a four-year old, who woke up with the sniffles and told his mother "I want to go to that healing place."

Did you know that Beacon Haven is now Medicare certified? Also, we now provide "light care" services at \$100 for room, board and up to two hours of care per day.

Additionally, as a result of your generous prayer and financial support, I am pleased to report that our revenue in 2011 increased by nearly \$200,000 from last year. Meanwhile, our expenses decreased by more than \$30,000. Still, we cannot let our guard down. Please continue to pray for and financially support Christian Science nursing. Mrs. Eddy understood the need for Christian Science nursing to maintain the dignity and defense of individual Christian Scientists, as well as to promote our movement's ability to bless the world. In keeping with our Annual Meeting theme, "Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe."

Be sure to take advantage of Beacon Haven. The moment you enter

the facility there is evidence that every aspect of the new facility began with inspired prayer, including its lovely lake, the foundation, windows, roof, etc. That is why workmen entering the facility state, "I wish I could come here," and our first patient remarked, "I knew that I would be healed the moment I entered Beacon Haven."

Take advantage of our Rest and Study rooms. Consider taking a "vacation with God" here. There is no need to feel shut in during the winter when you can join our Beacon Haven family for an afternoon, or a week. Christian Scientists travelling to the Twin Cities could stay here rather than at a hotel. The cost is \$60-\$80 per night. Take advantage of our "light care." Individuals caring for a family member and who are in need of a break, may be eligible to leave that loved one with us for a few days.

Remember, this is *our* facility. Feel free to stop by any day of the year or call us at 651-379-0100.

Development Committee Report

by Sharon Hansen, Board President

The Development Committee meets for several hours every week to focus on the job of friend raising and fund raising for Beacon Haven. We have a three-year strategy that includes developing a viable operating model, retiring the existing mortgage, addressing the issue of affordable care and assuring consistent top notch nursing services.

1. Our first priority: *Support the operating fund* with a continuous stream of income from patient fees and donations to cover the cost of being ready to provide proper care. We are grateful to the Isabel Foundation for their \$30K grant to support our operations. The Development Committee has alerted people to Beacon Haven's need through an organized annual appeal which kicks off on

Give to the Max Day, November 16.

2. Second priority: *Pay off the mortgage.* The interest on this loan costs us \$4K per month—roughly the cost of a week of intensive CS nursing care. During this year, we were able to reduce the mortgage by \$115K. We have appointed a subcommittee chaired by Kim Korinek to work on Phase II of the Capital Campaign to pay off the mortgage.

3. A constant priority: *Keep care affordable.* We are so grateful to finally be accredited by Medicare. This should help many people. We've also sought and received grants to help us offer some financial assistance. As Terri reported,

continued pg 3.

Visiting Christian Science Nurses Report

Visiting Christian Science Nurse Report—Our Visiting Christian Science nurses, Susie Smeyers and Darnell Hancock, reported on their activity this year:

This past year has been filled with home nursing activities. We have come to your homes in the wee hours of the morning, set up regularly scheduled visits for baths, showers, and nail care; prepared meals; dressed injuries; rented out nursing equipment; trained families in care of their loved ones; and shared the Christian Science Bible Lesson. We answered hundreds of consultation calls. We continue to work closely with Beacon Haven to support patients who need more care.

We conducted a two-day Home Helper class that was the largest one we have held so far.

At the annual meeting, the following poem, She Was There for Me, was shared:

She Was There for Me

(A tribute to a Christian Science nurse)

By Jan Kassahn Keeler, Christian Science Journal, May 1994

In a dark moment, perhaps one of my darkest,
she was there for me.

She, at a crazy hour, left her home
to stand by my side.

Practical? Yes, she had solutions.
Wisdom? Enough to share quietly when I was
ready to hear.

Like Aaron, she was there to uphold
my mental stand
when I was no longer prepared
to do it alone.

Like John the Baptist, she was there.
Expectant, full of praise, and ready
to usher in the healing activity of the Christ.

She was motherhood with its most gentle,
tender touch.
She was fatherhood in strength and confidence.

She was joy.

She took my home under her care
and embraced my child
with such love as though she were her own.
She fed us meals.
She fed me truths of God—persistently.

Though trying not to be, I was scared.
She was unimpressed.
She was undaunted by the antics of mortal mind
that had put me in such a mess.
She had seen divine Love overcome
much more than this.

I was not at my best.
Yet, no personal opinions or judgment slung
recklessly from her lips.

Straight from our Leader's revelation of care,
she was there.

Together, we witnessed God's healing presence.

It could have been a he, but this time it was a she.
This Christian Science nurse.
A concept I had supported for others' care.
But this time,
this time—oh, thank you, Father—
she was there for me.

Development Committee report continued -

we instituted a new level of care that is much more affordable—"light care" for those people who don't want to be alone when they are not feeling well. We also offer gift certificates for care, including rest and study. We adopted a financial care policy that allows our administrator to work with families to ensure that the care they get is affordable by setting up payment plans, applying for Medicare and insurance benefits, trying to find other funding sources, and through financial assistance.

4. Lastly: It's important to *value and strengthen our staff*. Elizabeth Harned has instituted regular in-service training sessions for our staff. We are grateful to the Cacioppo Foundation for the grant they gave us to help pay for the extra staff time these training sessions have involved. At this time, we're also looking for donations to the staff Christmas Fund.

Yes, the harvest truly is plenteous. It is now and our laborers are many—it's all of us and friends around the country, too! Thank you for your wonderful support.

BEACON HAVEN Annual Meeting Summary

The theme of the Clifton House Inc./ Beacon Haven Annual meeting held on Sunday, October 30 was "The harvest truly is plenteous." During the meeting several reports shared in this newsletter were given, the By-Laws were amended, and trustees Penny Tonry and Bruce Bicknell were re-elected for three-year terms.

GIVE TO THE MAX Results

Beacon Haven kicked off its annual appeal drive with its participation in the third annual Give to the Max Day on November 16. This big fund-raising day is an online giving blitz through GiveMN.org. It was a very exciting day as we saw donations earn a \$15K matching grant from an anonymous donor and the Clearway Foundation. Total raised that day was \$59,085.

In addition, we earned a \$7,500 special prize for being one of the top fund raisers of the day. 3,800+ non-profit organizations were involved that day, so we were pleased to be near the top of the leader board.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED GET US OFF TO SUCH A GREAT START!



A Beautiful Gift

After helping decorate Beacon Haven for the holidays in 2010, Cindy Commer decided to create a lighthouse sculpture for the niche on our fireplace wall. She spent about six weeks carving, assembling pieces, and painting this lighthouse. It even has a working light!

Many thanks to Cindy for using her many talents to create this beautiful symbol of Beacon Haven.

Beacon Haven is aptly named!

~from a recent Guest

WISH LIST

- **CDs**
We're looking for CDs of the Bible, *Science and Health*, any of Mrs. Eddy's other writings, or CDs from the Christian Science Publishing Society.
- **Anthology of Classic Articles Vol 1 and 2**
- **Christmas tree ornaments**
We have a new taller tree this year and need more ornaments to complete its decoration.

Contact Bonnie at Beacon Haven if you can help with any of the above. 651-379-0100

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