

Noontide NEWS

Summer 2023

Fresh information and fruition from

Noontide Visiting Christian Science Nurse Service of Michigan



Annual meeting board report

By Natalie Wright, President, Board of Trustees

Noontide's trustees have been listening for our Father-Mother's voice to shepherd us in many ways this year. Noontide is a vessel filled up so full with blessings, it's running over! The most recent blessings are our new employees.

Last December we had lovely proof that supply and demand coexist in God's plan. Our longtime business manager had to step away from her position. We weren't surprised when we quickly found someone who had served on our board in the past, was very qualified for the job, and a perfect fit—our **new business manager, Michelle Irish!**

Michelle and her husband live in Owosso and are members of the Greater Lansing Church. When serving as one of our Noontide trustees, Michelle chaired a board project, where prayer led her to pick two citations as standards of measurement for our Board of Trustees yearly self-assessment.

The first standard is from *The Manual of the Mother Church* by Mary Baker Eddy: "Christian Science Nurse. Sect. 31. 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 sick room, and who can take proper care of the sick." (*Man*, 49:7)

The second standard chosen for our assessment is from the Christian Science textbook: "The nurse should be cheerful, orderly, punctual, patient, full of faith, receptive to Truth and Love." (*Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, Mary Baker Eddy, 395:18). Our board continues to discover how rich these two standards are in meaning and application.

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With great news comes a need and matching funds.

Won't you donate now?

Now that we have two nurses available to care for the needs of Christian Scientists in Michigan, we must have a second car to insure that the nurses each have reliable, all-weather transportation. There is an immediate need to raise an additional \$30-\$40,000 for this second vehicle and its upkeep. We welcome your contributions, and we have an opportunity for matching funds of up to \$3,000—10% of the cost of the vehicle. Thank you so much for your generosity toward your fellow Christian Scientists! ●

INSIDE:

- Janet Horton talk excerpts
- Our new full-time Supervising Christian Science Nurse is here!
- Trustees needed

"Doing unto others as we would that they do by us, is immortality's self. Intrepid, self-oblivious love fulfils the law and is self-sustaining and eternal."

(The First Church of Christ, Scientist, and Miscellany, Mary Baker Eddy, 275:24-26)

Testimony following a phone inquiry

To Noontide Christian Science visiting nurses:

Thank you for your help recently via telephone to advise on options for types of bandages to properly dress a deep cut on my foot. I was able to purchase the items at a local store.

Knowing I had help from a Christian Science nurse and that you would provide more assistance if I asked was a relief to family members to see Christian Scientists have such practical and loving ways to meet immediate needs. They witnessed the complete healing and freely credited God and Christian Science.

There was no infection, the wound closed quickly, and pain was gone almost immediately upon my turning to God for divine help through Christian Science.

Thank you for all the good you are and do. It's a comfort to know you are there as God calls, showing, "The divine Mind, which forms the bud and blossom, will care for the human body, even as it clothes the lily;..." (SH 62:22). ●

Noontide's new visiting Christian Science nurse team

We'd like to introduce to you Noontide's new full-time Supervising Christian Science Nurse, **Carol Towar**. After a career in teaching, she served as a Christian Science nurse, mentor, and administrator in homes and facilities, and has served the Christian Science field in Michigan as



Carol Towar, our new full-time Supervising Christian Science Nurse.

a self-employed private duty Christian Science nurse and relief Christian Science nurse for Noontide. Carol is a native Michigander, and is a member of First Church of Christ, Scientist, Traverse City. A client whom Carol served in her home shared: "Carol expresses all the Christian Science nursing qualities that a nurse should express!" We are delighted to welcome Carol in this new role.

Jeanne Troutman has moved into the position of Noontide's part-time Christian Science nurse. Jeanne is a member at First Church of Christ Scientist, Greater Lansing. Many of you have been served by her Christian Science nursing ministry. A client commented, "Having Jeanne play the piano during her home visit was the highlight of my day."

Jeanne says, "What a gift God has given me. This schedule harmonizes with my ability to babysit for a granddaughter, and soon there will be play-time with the other two visiting grandchildren. In the fall I look forward to volunteering at our branch church's Reading Room. Life is full and glorious.

"Carol and I have known each other for many years, and I look forward to the new directions that God will take us in as we expand thought to meet needs in Michigan."

Please call the Noontide Christian Science Visiting Nurse number with questions at any time: (517) 582-0575. ●

Annual meeting board report *(continued from page 1)*

In 2022 our full-time Supervising Christian Science Nurse requested to move to a part-time nursing position.

We took the human footsteps, placing employment ads in Christian Science nursing on-line news sites. Diligently expressing the nursing qualities described in *Science and Health*, we saw the human need met. Today our new Christian Science nurse team of two is now in place and in operation. ●

Noontide needs you!

Three of our devoted Trustees are nearing the end of their terms and are ready to move forward with other activities. We need your help in filling these vital positions. If you're a branch church and Mother Church member, have had class instruction, and have an interest in Christian Science nursing, you may find out more about serving on our volunteer Board of Trustees by contacting our business office at (734) 459-5850 or email office@noontidecs.org.



“I will listen for Thy voice”*

Some notes from a talk given by **Janet Horton, Col. (Ret.)**, our Annual Meeting keynote speaker. And what a keynote she gave us—“Come to a position of attention!! Listen up!!” Thus began her riveting talk.

“**A**fter 28 years in the military one thing you really know is **coming to a position of attention!** In a spiritual sense, it afforded me many insights into the meaning of a line from my favorite childhood Hymn, ‘Shepherd Show Me How To Go,’— *I will listen for Thy voice.*”*

Horton explained the importance and value of the military discipline of coming to a position of attention. She related an experience she had while investigating the charge of sexual harassment by a Marine, and his threat to kill Horton.

He was an enlisted man, and she was a commissioned officer. One day he barged into the chapel annex in an enraged state of mind, poking her in the chest so hard he propelled her backwards. Seeking spiritual guidance, the thought came to Horton, “Bring him to a position of attention.” She did so, and was struck by how powerful a discipline it was for him. Disregarding what else was going on in his world, the moment he was ordered, “Marine, come to a position of attention,” he came to attention, and yielded to that supreme command.

Horton continued that Mary Baker Eddy states emphatically we can experience the “scientific man and his Maker...if [we] would subordinate the fleshly perceptions to the spiritual sense and source of being” (*Unity of Good*, Mary Baker Eddy, 46).

She indicated that obedience to God’s law of harmony enables man to say to the material body, corporeal sense, or anything that would be insubordinate to Spirit’s absolute dominion and unopposed spiritual power, “I don’t have to listen to your voice, your lying arguments! You can’t intimidate me, impress me, or command obedience from me. The carnal mind must be put off by obeying only the voice of divine Mind.”

Our textbook says: “The immortal divine Mind takes away all its supposed sovereignty, and saves mortal mind from itself” (*SH*, 152). Thus, the only way the mortal



Janet Horton, Col (Retired), keynote speaker

is dropped for the immortal is for Truth to rebuke error. Only Truth can save mortal mind from itself, its own sense of self will, or the carnal mind.

Horton’s experience showed the Christ of Christian Science is a full-service Savior who saves all from sin, disease and death. The voice of pure Truth guides, directs, and saves as no other voice can. “Listening for Thy voice” is intimately connected with measuring the validity of any voice presenting itself to our consciousness, against the all-important correct definition and understanding of God.

A final thought from Horton’s talk: We’re not just praying to acknowledge this proper order of government only for ourselves, but for all those whom we see. By listening only to “Thy voice” we get the concept of God and man right. The order of perfection is expressed and the fruits are significant!

A special thank you to First Church of Christ, Scientist, Jackson, Michigan for sponsoring Janet Horton’s talk. ●

To purchase Janet Horton’s book, *Cracking the Camouflage Ceiling*, email her at jhhomeofjs@aol.com. Cost will be around \$20.00, plus shipping and handling.

* *Christian Science Hymnal*, Hymn 304

Financial report

By Dick Arlen, Treasurer

The annual independent CPA examination of our books shows that our accounts are in order. Here's a snapshot of our financial position:

Considering the market conditions, we can be grateful our portfolio is down only about 1½ to 2%. This is a result of our conservative investments, which are holding steady. This is after we had to draw \$75,000 dollars from our investments this year to cover current expenses. In 2022 our operating expenses exceeded contributions by \$73,000.

We very much appreciate the donations that make Noontide a viable Christian Science nursing resource. A very special thanks to the Farmington Church for their generous donation of seventeen thousand dollars. We deeply appreciate contributions from individuals, an extremely important portion—25 to 30% of our budget. If you would like more detailed information regarding Noontide's finances, please contact our office. ●



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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.

Portraits on pages 2 & 3 © Veronica Dearborn