

Exploring the “perfect model” of Christian Science nursing

Christian Science nursing is a practical, spiritual ministry that actively supports the patient’s decision to rely on Christian Science for healing. It’s grounded in our Bible-based theology, which includes Christ Jesus’ commandment to love one another:

“As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love...love one another, as I have loved you.” (John 15: 9, 12)

In addition to the prayer, compassion, skill, and wisdom Christian Science nurses bring to each nursing need, they earnestly work to grasp and demonstrate the omnipresent Love that comprises their ministry. Each day brings new opportunities to deepen understanding of the love that heals.

Sunrise Haven staff and trustees currently are reexamining the model of love provided in the bylaw with which Mary Baker Eddy established the Christian Science nurse as part of her church (*Church Manual*, p. 49). The same Love that guided her in forming the bylaw has brought us a series of workshops to strengthen our practice of it.

This fresh inquiry is the love child of Christine Irby Williams. Closely associated with Christian Science nursing for more than 35 years, including service as instructor, then director, at Tenacre School of Nursing, and president, CEO, and chairman of the board of Tenacre Foundation,

The full amplification of the terms “demonstrable knowledge,” “practical wisdom,” and “proper care,” Mrs. Eddy knew, would be found in the Bible and in her textbook, Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures.



Chris Williams

Christine now serves the CS nursing community and beyond through teaching and workshops across the country. *It’s a joy to have these precious hours with her!*

With Chris’s help, we are looking again at how the bylaw can guide us in our nursing practice, amplify our healing work, expand our sense of ministry, and deepen our love for God and man.

Its simple brevity, in which the qualifications for the Christian Science nurse are found in only 48 words, points us to territory that must be re-explored. The full amplification of the terms “demonstrable knowledge,” “practical wisdom,” and “proper care,” Mrs. Eddy knew, would be found in the Bible and in her textbook, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*.

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You are warmly invited to

Sunrise Haven Annual Meeting 2012

Sunday, April 1st at 2 p.m.

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Mercer Island

Guest speaker Sharon Carper of St. Louis, Missouri will speak about “God’s Universal Family.”

Invitations will be mailed by March 1st.

All are welcome!

**From the
Executive Director**



Robin Banko

One of the joys of working at Sunrise Haven is the opportunity to meet and talk with so many in our Field—getting to know you, hearing about your needs, sharing in your inspiration as you help your loved ones, and describing the various ways we can help. Recently, when thinking about Sunrise Haven, these two lines from our Christian Science Hymnal resonated with me:

“We thank Thee for work in the wide harvest field,...

Made strong with thy goodness that meets every need,”

Hymn 150

The Field we serve is wide! So it surprises me to hear, “but you’re so far away.” The truth is we are as near as God’s love for you, as near as the Christ in your consciousness. Even speaking humanly, we are only a phone call away. If you or someone you know needs Christian Science nursing, we invite you to use the phone to discover how very near we are. We will join you in acknowledging your present perfection. We

will share our assurance that God is meeting your needs. Do you want a Christian Science nurse to come to your home? We’ll give you names of nurses who provide home care. Do you want to help a friend or neighbor in need? We will share ideas about what might be useful. Are you thinking about coming to our facility? We will answer your questions and work with you on the best means of transportation.

What’s waiting when you arrive? No less than 306 years of experienced Christian Science nursing! All but one of our nurses are listed in the *Christian Science Journal* and that one is actively preparing for her listing. The number of years our individual nurses have been Journal-listed ranges from 30 to 3. All Sunrise staff members earnestly strive to bring the healing thought of the Christ to every facet of our haven. Our goal is not only healing, but also living life as Scientific Christians, always bearing witness to what is true about God’s man. We would love to bear witness with you! ■

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... what do we think Joseph of Arimathaea was doing for his beloved Master when he took Jesus’ body down from the cross, wrapped it in new linens, laid him in his own tomb, and secured it with a boulder against the opening? This disciple’s uniquely individual demonstration of omnipresent Love allowed Jesus to work out the final steps of his salvation in quiet solitude, safe from harm. What a deeply inspiring model of Christian Science nursing! (Mark 15:43-46)

Bible research reveals precious models for Christian Science nursing. Jesus obviously, but how about Joseph, Esther, Elijah, Paul, John? And many more. Patriarchs, prophets, and disciples nursed countrymen, neighbors, soldiers, travelers, fellow church members, even Jesus. Wait a minute. Nursed Jesus? Well, what do we think Joseph of Arimathaea was doing for his beloved Master when he took Jesus’ body down from the cross, wrapped it in new linens, laid him in his own tomb, and secured it with a boulder against the opening? This disciple’s uniquely individual demonstration of omnipresent Love allowed Jesus to work out the final steps of his salvation in quiet solitude, safe from harm. What a deeply inspiring model of Christian Science nursing! (Mark 15:43-46)

Science and Health offers Mrs. Eddy’s discussion of imperfect and perfect models (pp. 248-49).

Each line in this passage relates to nursing models and sets the stage for exploring the “perfect model” of Christian Science nursing found in the bylaw itself. We are going through it word for word. Each month we dedicate ourselves to new views that break learned habits, purify thought, nudge us from favored perches, inspire increasingly spiritual approaches, and increase our obedience to God, our Master, and our Leader.

For our nurses, many of whom trained at other CS nursing facilities, this postgraduate study is an opportunity to consider core values together. To support staff, it reveals how their innate nursing qualities contribute to Sunrise Haven’s Christly goals. For trustees, it informs and enhances their responsibility to nurse Sunrise Haven itself. This exceptional opportunity is a great blessing to Sunrise Haven and its Field. Far from being an end in itself, the inspiration gained is serving the higher goal of healing that results from a wise and loving spiritual ministry. ■

My diagnosis? Perfection!

(From a staff member)

A few months ago I awoke with a severe pain in my leg. When I tried stretching it out, the pain increased. Fear suggested I wouldn't be able to walk. But I responded immediately with, "No! I am a spiritual idea of God. **Yes, I can** walk because God walks with me every step of the way." Hymns flooded my thinking, beginning with "Mother's Evening Prayer" by Mary Baker Eddy (*Christian Science Hymnal*, #207). I shut out the painful thoughts as best as I could and focused on the words "O gentle presence. . . ." I reasoned, "Since God is Presence and Presence is everywhere, Presence is right here." I called a Christian Science practitioner, left a message, and knew God was holding and supporting me.

As I tried standing, my daughter assisted me. She informed me that her PE teacher had the same condition, and it took several months to heal. I firmly told her I am spiritual, and so is she, and I had no intention of accepting the limitations of matter. She said I had a point and let it go. The practitioner called back and we spoke about witnessing only the absolute Truth.

I read the Bible lesson and stayed close to the angel messages that were constantly telling me

how complete and perfect I was. I expressed gratitude. The next day the practitioner and I continued to pray and I was able to go up and down stairs as needed, but with difficulty.

During these days at home, two other family members suggested strongly that a physician examine me. I quietly affirmed that I am examined in the light of Truth. Later, two more angel messages came to me: "*The only physician is God*" and "I **have** had a diagnosis" and "the diagnosis is PERFECTION!"

The third morning, although I was still having some difficulty, I felt impelled to go to work. My job as head cook requires a great deal of standing and moving around, yet I had to do what God was telling me to do. I was able to fulfill the required duties, while being completely cared for—someone even washed the dishes! Near the end of the day I felt more freedom and, from there, the problem simply dissipated. I am so grateful to God, Christian Science, the practitioner, and for this grand opportunity to serve God at Sunrise Haven. ■

Double your financial gift to Sunrise Haven!

We are thrilled that the Clearway Foundation has offered Sunrise Haven a Matching Grant in the amount of \$7,500. The Foundation will match, dollar for dollar, every donation during the next four months, up to \$7,500. Donations to our General Fund and our Financial Assistance Fund, as well as donations for special purposes, will qualify for the matching grant.

To donate by credit card, go on-line to www.sunrisehaven.org. Go to the Support/Giving tab, and click on Donate. Or call our Business Manager at 253-813-2096 and she will take your information over the phone.

If you recently donated, we thank you! We are deeply grateful for the wonderful response to our November funding appeal. Thank you for considering this second request in so short a time.

Sunrise Haven is a non-profit organization under 501(c)(3) of the IRS code. All donations are tax-deductible.

From our kitchen—the aroma of harmony

Sunrise is graced with two cooks whose diverse talents compliment each other to provide nutritious and appealing meals for patients and guests. Head cook Liz Schmidt finds joy in culinary creations from traditional Sunday dinners to delightful new cuisines. Pam Greene's specialty is baking; she fills the kitchen with the tantalizing aromas of cakes, pies, and bread fresh from the oven. Even more noticeable is the

fragrance of love and harmony that wafts from the kitchen into the Day Room and down the halls, blessing all who come here.

What are the ingredients for working together so seamlessly?

Liz: "An open, free communication and trust in Love's provision. Our goal is to please God—to keep up to God's standard. We want to fulfill God's plan in the kitchen in a way that supports all at Sunrise Haven. We share ideas, and then we leave our thought wide open to God and, finally, just go for it! Through prayer, God's angel messages show us the way."

Pam: "Each plate that goes out of the kitchen is an expression of God's love for man."

Taste for yourself! Try our chowder recipe on p. 4. ■



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Our Mission

In the spirit of the Good Samaritan and Christ-healing, Sunrise Haven provides Christian Science Nursing care consistent with the *Church Manual* bylaw to those relying solely on God for healing through the practice of Christian Science

- 24-hour nursing care, including in-patient, outpatient, and relief care
- Consultation by phone or in-home
- Equipment rental
- Study and Renewal accommodations

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. We'll give you directions over the phone or mail them to you. Call 253-813-2096 or email executivedirector@sunrisehaven.org.



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Sunrise Clam Chowder



½ lb. thick-cut bacon, cooked, chopped, and set aside	2 cups half & half or whole milk
2-3 Tbs bacon fat, reserved	2 8 oz bottles clam juice
1 cup onions, chopped medium to fine	2 medium potatoes, peeled & diced (about 1/2 inch square)
1 large rib of celery, chopped fine	8 oz bag frozen corn
1 large carrot, chopped fine	12 oz canned clams with juice
1½ tsp garlic, minced	½ tsp crushed thyme
½ tsp salt	½ tsp parsley flakes
¼ tsp pepper	1½ tsp Old Bay Seasoning
1 heaping Tbs flour	½ cup heavy cream

1. In a large pot, cook bacon. Drain on paper towels, chop, and set aside.
2. In the reserved bacon fat, sauté onions, celery, and carrots. Cover and cook on low heat until cooked through.
3. Add minced garlic, salt, and pepper to the veggie mixture. Stir, cover, and continue cooking on low.
4. Stir in flour until mixture becomes thick.
5. Add half & half, and whisk constantly until no lumps of flour remain. (Mixture will be lumpy with veggies.)
6. Add clam juice, and continue to stir.
7. Add potatoes and stir. Cover for about 10-15 minutes, or until potatoes are nearly cooked through. Stir occasionally.
8. Add bacon, corn, and clams. Stir well.
9. Add thyme, parsley, Old Bay Seasoning, and heavy cream. Stir well.

Serves 6; freezes very well.