



Desert View News - Fall 2019

Valuing Christian Science Nursing - Cherishing our facilities

Gearing up for a newsletter means asking ourselves, do we have a specific focus right now? What do we want to share? At a summer Board meeting, with the Fall newsletter on the agenda I suggested to the assembled team, why don't we each respond to why we feel it's important to have a Christian Science nursing facility (presence) here.

Are you perhaps thinking, What? You posed that question to Board and staff management? It's true, we are all engaged in supporting Desert View, but first and foremost, we're Christian Scientists, members of Arizona branch churches. And that's the basis for the responses you will read in this newsletter.

As I was considering the question, I decided to ask a few "friends" of Desert View. They quickly responded:

"You will find genuine love and support borne of divine Love which is the essential atmosphere in which to facilitate Christian Science healing."

"Christian Science nursing and the prayer that empowers it bless the whole community by defending thought against medical authority."

"It is a tangible and necessary sign that Christian Scientists do provide care for their own in a demonstrable way. It really represents Love in action."

As I thought about it, it occurred to me that just like prayers at a church service are offered for all of the congregation, certainly the prayers of the Desert View board and staff, house practitioners and all those who support our activity encircle our field and beyond that, too. A Christian Science nursing facility supports healing....

We thank you for thinking with us about the importance of Christian Science nursing, answering the question for yourself, and for supporting the presence of a facility with your prayers and with your donations which enables Desert View to be of service.

Chris Radel, Administrator

To my Desert View friends: This letter is a small token of my sincere thanks for the wonderful healing I had while at Desert View. I felt love, and support from the Christian Science nurses and administrative staff. I had fallen at home when they first arrived to lift me up and support my progress at home. Then for a short time, I was given that support at Desert View. When the "full" awakening to my Christ-given dominion, joy, and normal harmony came, I was immediately able to go home and resume my normal work. I am so grateful for this experience with Christian Science nursing at Desert View.

A recent patient

“A spiritual cocoon...”

That’s what she told me, while cupping her hands as though she was holding a baby bird, tenderly. Through her interpretation, she was trying to describe Desert View Christian Science Care, from our conversation about the services provided and the atmosphere that we share with our friends, who stay with us during their time of demonstration and healing. This woman with whom I was visiting while I was exploring other resources in our community, was in a position in her organization that is the first contact with the public when giving a tour of her own facility, which is not related to Christian Science nursing. She was very sure that although she felt her facility was meeting the needs of the individuals who were living there, with very high standards and tender compassion in all of the care being given, she recognized the fact that they did not have a “spiritual cocoon” to offer their patients.

In each inquiry into Christian Science nursing, whether it is to receive support during a challenging time or as someone who has a deep desire to minister unto those seeking healing through prayer and dedicated study of Christian Science, we are expecting the Christ presence to minister to every human need. We expect healing. We see healing daily and in every moment of our ministry.

Recently, I was able to witness this ministering first hand in a very special experience. I heard the beautiful sound of an instrument playing in a room of a patient. A Christian Science nurse who is quite musically gifted, had brought his special talent into the room to share and give of his heart’s rich overflow. He played for the patient, and as the music flowed throughout the house in its beauty and grace, it brought the peace that was needed at the moment for all. This was an expression of listening to divine Love meeting every human need through Soul and its manifestations.

The patient, and the whole house were blessed. And so was I. Healing was felt and seen with very significant results.

***Cindy Snowden, Director
of Christian Science Nursing***



“In atmosphere of Love divine”

Hymn 144 in our Hymnal, describes Desert View Christian Science Care here in Arizona, as well as all Christian Science nursing facilities, wherever they are located. They offer a refuge from all the cares of a household. When facing a challenge, one can come and let go of the human everyday “busyness” that tries to divert one from REALLY KNOWING their true identity that God made, maintains, and sustains. Being in this healing atmosphere is so conducive to demonstrating the power of the Christ, Truth. It gives one a feeling of peace and that there is nothing more important than to know God’s all presence, power, and wisdom. It is just God and you being able to listen, and this blesses us. This is why it is important to have Christian Science nursing facilities available.

We are grateful for the metaphysically inspired staff at all Christian Science nursing facilities for their dedicated support of this loving activity.

Mary Baker Eddy says in Science and Health p 259:26, “Immortal ideas, pure, perfect, and enduring, are transmitted by the divine Mind through divine Science, which corrects error with truth and demands spiritual thoughts, divine concepts, to the end that they may produce harmonious results.”

***Kathleen Lundquist,
Board Member***

In my profession,

I often get calls from long-time Christian Scientists who are now in medically-based nursing facilities and asking for help. They are constantly being encouraged to take medicine and physical therapy, and the atmosphere is filled with fear. This is materially-based healthcare. On the other hand, we have our Christian Science nursing facilities where you are met with an expectation of healing. The atmosphere is filled with love. Nothing is pushed on you, but you are supported in every way in your metaphysical work for healing as well as the work of your practitioner. This is spiritually-based healthcare. It is an easily recognized difference between thinking materially and thinking spiritually. You are expected to be healed and go home.

I recently looked over the Admissions packet for Desert View, and it includes a list of what Christian Science nurses do for you, as a patient, and a list of what they will not do. This second list includes some things that might make you think, why not? That would feel good (like a massage for example). And I realized we did not do this because of creed or church dogma but because it isn't necessary. We do not work in the material. We work in the spiritual. We get our healings spiritually, not materially.

Instead of being brought into an atmosphere potentially filled with fear, we are brought into a house built upon a rock with a foundation, God, and we are surrounded in an indestructible bubble of love.

*Derek Swire,
Board Vice-Chairman*

In choosing a metropolitan area now in which to live,

having a Christian Science nursing facility would be an important plus. Since I am not seeking employment, in addition to being near family and in a compatible climate, I would want to know that if I needed care while

working on an acute or chronic problem, I could find a practical healing environment in which to focus on healing with Christian Science practitioner support. I would prefer not to travel out of state to a facility but to be in a place where my family and friends could visit. At a facility, you are not bothered with house-keeping chores or being a burden to family members. You know that the Christian Science nurses aren't impressed with your symptoms, likely to make dire predictions, or suggest material remedies. They know that healing is possible and expect it to happen.



I speak from experience for my Mother received wonderful Christian Science nursing care for three years at El Dorado Vista, the predecessor of Desert View. Our family visited her regularly and saw how she flourished there. They were always ready to help her get ready for outside visits, to share a meal with us or go to the hairdresser or dentist. They also taught me how to get her in and out of a car and assist her when in our home. At all times we always felt secure that she was receiving proper and loving care that supported her prayers. The quality care provided by that facility allowed us to feel comfortable if we left the state on vacation or for business travel.

*Joy Mee,
Board President*



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