



Desert View News - Summer 2024

The 2024 Association of Organizations for Christian Science Nursing (AOCSN) conference is still fresh in our rear-view mirror, so we thought, “let’s share.” But first, we realize since it’s been awhile that many of you have heard us talk about this organization, a reminder of its purpose would be helpful. AOCSN fosters communication and mutual support among Christian Science nursing organizations by gathering and disseminating information about Christian Science nursing standards, Christian Science nursing education, Christian Science nursing management, and organizational administration and governance. Now that’s a mouthful, isn’t it? But it certainly gives a feeling for just how important it is to all of us.

This year’s conference, *Make Radiant Room*, was hosted by AOCSN member, Twelveacres, an organization serving individuals with special needs located in Campbell, California. Our staff management and Board Vice President attended in-person while the majority of the board attended online. The Desert View team participated in this important worthwhile event and brought home much food for thought.



Make **Radiant** Room
AOCSN Conference
April 29 - May 2, 2024

When the “call to conference letter” was received, Administrator Chris Radel says, “right away I began to ponder Mary Baker Eddy’s words from her Communion Hymn, ‘*and for you make radiant room/midst the glories of one endless day.*’ What was that saying to me about our upcoming conference? I knew Love was calling the Christian Science nursing community together; that Love would go ahead to prepare the way. I knew that Love would be present, filling the room, and we would feel that embrace. And I knew Love would guide each of us home, spiritually armed with fresh inspiration and new views of the healing work. The anticipation was immediate, and my expectations were met.”

After 54 years in Christian Science nursing, Director of Christian Science Nursing, Priscilla Root thought, “what am I going to get out of a conference about Christian Science nursing? Haven’t I heard it all before? Having said that I can say I got a lot out of the 3-day meeting in surprising and inspiring ways.

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Radiant Room ***continued from page 1***

First, to see so many Christian Science nurses from different states and worldwide and to hear their questions and solutions was deeply inspiring. To see a huge room filled with dedicated Christian Science workers, healers, and ambassadors for Christian Science was very moving and important to me. Most folks may not realize this but most Christian Science nurses work alone on many if not most of their cases. So, for me to hear how other's in the DCSN role are working through the challenges was very helpful."

Both Chris and Priscilla spoke of the strong bond uniting the Christian Science nursing community. It does not matter where a facility is located or how big/small it is, we are facing most of the same challenges and we are collaborating with each other as we seek solutions. Everyone appreciated the admonition, "Don't take ownership of the suggestion of limitation," and "remember we manage growth, not decline."



The AOCSN conference was a wonderful opportunity for nearly all the Executive Board to experience the direct benefits from the great fellowship and community of like-minded, dedicated volunteers in the field of Christian Science nursing. Here are some valuable takeaways for us . . .

What did we bring?

Our participation contributed to the supporting atmosphere for all. Also, we brought a thirst for a greater appreciation of Christian Science nursing, and a desire to put new ideas into practice.

What did we get from the conference?

Inspiration - Being on the Board can feel like a heavy responsibility – meeting the needs of Christian Scientists in our community. This conference was a reminder that God is the only Cause and Creator, expressing His will through the Christ consciousness. Our role then is to recognize our true responsibility is to the process, and not for the outcome, since divine Love will provide the ultimate resolution. And to let Christ be the way, the how, the why. The most important responsibility Board members have is to *pray*. Healing, not just loving care, is central to Christian Science nursing.

A sense of the constant unfolding of what Christian Science nursing is - a very informative historical sketch of Christian Science nursing was shared, culminating in an appreciation of the sense of unity and collaboration that is continuing to grow and spread through our organizations. We are all in this together!

Affirmation that Desert View is an important contributor in the development of Christian Science nursing - as Desert View keeps listening to see how to develop Christian Science nursing opportunities that divine Love is providing, it becomes clearer that we are willing to do our part to support both the Christian Science nursing field and the Christian Science community. Part of this process is to reach out to our community to better understand what are the current needs – both simple and more involved – and how can we contribute to meeting these needs and support healing.

Desert View is part of a wonderful, supportive network that not only cares for Christian Scientists in the community but cares for those that are caring for others.

A peek into AOCSN's Radiant Room



Keynote Speaker, Peter Tyner, CS
 “Divine Wholeness Fulfilled as Man.”



Twelveacres Executive Director, Lauren Peters, welcomes the AOCSN family and guests.



Panel discussion moderated by Tony Lobl, CS
 “Christian Science Worldwide –Embracing Emerging Ideas and Opportunities.”



Audrey Sentinella and Vanessa Campbell, Manager and Assistant Manager of Christian Science Nursing activities for The Mother Church share with AOCSN members.

***Make Radiant Room
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What is the value of community (i.e., gatherings like the AOCSN conference)?

Seeing and hearing how others do things was/is a tremendous support in what and how we approach and view our work. Also, coming together and sharing in this way (person to person) was a good reminder of our Christian Science identity, and of the critical importance of the “christian” in Christian Science.

How is Desert View supported by the “AOCSN community”?

Through our realization that collaboration – everyone working together – is so important and strengthening. As the African proverb says, “If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.” This conference was a noteworthy opportunity to see and acknowledge the incredible resources out there – all kinds of people with extensive practical knowledge – to help others as we navigate the difficult waters of these times.

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Let’s Get Together - Priscilla Root, DCSN

Recently it was my pleasure to give a Care Committee Workshop at First Church of Christ, Scientist, Mesa. We shared ideas, new and inspired ways that churches are reaching out and meeting the needs of their membership.

For instance, one church has made a list of community outreach programs that deliver food to individuals and have made this list available to the members. Others spoke of sharing their talents... art, dancing, music, reading, etc., that they share with those who could use some company.

When I asked what spiritual tools did they bring to the workshop one dear lady said, “I like to bring Love.” Wouldn’t we all cherish that visitor to our house?

We also discussed all of the services that Desert View offers. If you would like to consider a meeting for your church community, or a Care Committee workshop, please give us call (480) 299-2504.



The Christian Science Provider Network

Have you heard of the Christian Science Provider Network or CSPN?

The CSPN was created by The Mother Church as a non-profit organization to help individual Christian Scientists and Christian Science nursing facilities navigate the complexities of filing claims for Medicare and other health insurance benefits. In recent years, The Mother Church shifted its financial support of the Provider Network to the field, with the CSPN tasked with managing its fundraising efforts. Relying on the financial support of the field, the Provider Network has been able to continue to serve you, your loved ones, and Christian Science nursing facilities. Your donations measurably help this work.

To learn more about the CSPN -- its history and value to the Christian Science field -- please click on <https://www.csprovidernetwork.org/individuals>. The Network is most grateful for your continued support.

Gratitude Abounds

We would like to thank Marcella Lehr for her service as President at Desert View. In December of 2022, she stepped up to the plate to steer Desert View through new waters: Desert View began training its first local CS nursing student, In-house Christian Science care resumed, and Desert View hired a new Director of Christian Science Nursing. Marcella's dedication to Desert View's forward progress in providing high quality CS nursing care to the community is greatly appreciated and we wish her well in her new employment opportunity.

We have recently welcomed John Babcock to the Board. He comes to us from Fourth Church of Christ, Scientist in Tucson. John has jumped right in to fill our need for a Secretary on the board and brings a background of tremendous service to the Christian Science movement. His work experience in environments where collaboration and understanding were vital to success is making a positive and immediate contribution to the Board.



A family says thank you

Our mother received 24-hour nursing care at Desert View for almost 3 months. Her transition to Desert View was seamless and the nurses and administration took great care to be sure my mother was comfortable from the very first day. Her room was all set up for her and she immediately rested comfortably. Every day, one of the nurses read the weekly lesson to her and spent time with her during her meals and engaged her in thoughtful conversation around her wide range of experiences. Everyone was very accommodating with her specific needs for foods that she would enjoy eating. In fact, I found the nurses went above and beyond to feed her some very scrumptious meal offerings. The communication was excellent on all accounts whether it was a call to the practitioner or a call to me to update us on mom's progress. We visited a few times and were greeted warmly and could feel the love and support for mother in this beautiful setting. We are very grateful that our mother spent time in this wonderful Christian Science setting.



We add our Thanks!!

A thank you to our community for your active support. Many of you receive our monthly prayer email and join us in focused prayer. If you are not receiving this communication and would like to join the prayer team, just let us know (mail@desertview.us).

Your metaphysical work, assistance with projects, and financial gifts support the healing work of Desert View and Christian Science nursing and are certainly examples of Christ's charity, of "Love reflected in love" (Science and Health, p. 17).



Desert View Annual Meeting 2024



This year's meeting is currently under construction.



It will be online only this year.



**The title is
Conversations about Care.**



You will recognize familiar faces, as church members from around the state will be participating.

Also joining us will be Vanessa Campbell, Assistant Manager of Christian Science Nursing Activities for The Mother Church and our good friend at Bible Roads, Madelon Maupin.



Watch for updates regarding our meeting date.

Wash Them Clean

It's time to replace the washing machine at Desert View and we are making the need known. We have opened our ***Wash Them Clean Fund***. If you would like to participate, please send a check and indicate washer. To donate online, you can also go to our website, www.desertview.us, and find the yellow Donate button in the upper right hand corner of each page. Just click it and follow the instructions. Just indicate the donation is for the washer. **Thank you!**





Desert View

Christian Science Care

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