

LYNN HOUSE Letter

A Haven for Spiritual Healing, Rest & Renewal

A REFUGE FOR VICTORY

It is such a joy and a privilege to work at Lynn House, to see the love and effectiveness of Christian Science healing. Sometimes, I think about the name of this healing refuge—"Lynn House." I marvel at the inspiration of those who chose the name.

The original Lynn House mirrored the strong fortress of thought that the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science was establishing herself in as she met the challenges of completing the first edition of the Christian Science textbook and having it published. Here, in Lynn, Massachusetts—in the first residence that she owned—the woman soon to be known to the world as Mary Baker Eddy found the peace, quiet and support of home needed for her mission as "...a scribe under orders ..." as she referred to herself (*Miscellaneous Writings 1883-1896*, p. 311). Here, as she once told a reporter, "...I apprehended the spiritual meaning of the teaching of Jesus and the Principle and the law involved in spiritual Science and metaphysical healing—in a word—Christian Science" (*Pulpit and Press*, p. 35).

Likewise this safe haven, Lynn House of Potomac Valley is a



place for immersion in the Principle and Love of Christian Science. Here, we find our individual inspirations and demonstrations—daily witnessing to the metaphysical healing of Christ, Truth. Here, we feel the Gabriel touch of "...the ever-presence of ministering Love" (*Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* by Mary Baker Eddy, p. 567). The faithful work, witness and ministry of each Christian Science nurse and practitioner helps everyone here feel more fully the

presence and embrace of divine Love. Our heartfelt thanks go to all who contribute to maintaining the healing mission and provision of this Lynn House.

"Christian Scientists Home" read the sign that once identified Mrs. Eddy's original house in Lynn. This home served our Leader and early workers living, practicing and learning the teachings of Christian Science. We each bring our spiritual concept and demonstration of home to our Christian Science nursing and healing practice. In this sense, we work together to establish, through the modern-day Lynn House in Virginia, a supportive sanctuary which aids us all, especially the guests we serve, to gain each victory necessary to successfully fulfill our healing mission as Christian Scientists.

You are warmly invited to come to Lynn House—to this haven—for spiritual rest, restoration and renewal. Here you may more readily experience the proof of practical divine Science.

We look forward to seeing you!

Carolyn E. Hill
Executive Director

COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Lynn House welcomes your family and friends who are looking for ways to fulfill school requirements and/or give back to the community by providing the means and opportunity to complete Community Service hours at our facility.

We have lots of ways available for these hours to be obtained:

- Assisting in activities with our residents
- Helping with seasonal activities
- Assisting in the Business Office with filing, scanning and special projects
- Weeding and pruning in one of our gardens, or
- Designing your own unique service "gift" based on your skills and talents and our needs.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please call us or send an e-mail to info@lynnhouse.org and we will see what we can put together!!



Volunteers from George Mason University help with gardening.

THE POWER OF HOME

In an ongoing conversation to deepen understanding and demonstration of Christian Science nursing and healing, Cassie Coston interviewed Lynne Darnell on the topic of home and being in our right place. Jesus' promise "I go and prepare a place for you" (John 14:3) was the theme for the 40th Anniversary 2013 conference of the Organization of Residential Homes for Christian Scientists (ORH). Throughout 2013, Lynne has been serving as Secretary and Executive Coordinator on the ORH Board, and has contributed to people working together to explore and follow Christ Jesus' promise more fully. A trained Christian Science nurse and Director of Residential Services at Lynn House, Lynne brings a valuable perspective to this ministry.

Cassie: As metaphysicians, we know that the place the Christ prepares for each of us is a divinely mental position—a recognition of each individual being connected to God and God's spiritual creation and not limited to a physical location. The understanding of our right place—the infinite idea of home and harmony within us—is expressed in consciousness anywhere and everywhere we go, particularly in what we humanly call home. Lynne, you've long been active in this collective demonstration of Christian Science with Lynn House. Would you share with us some ideas on how you see home, metaphysically regarded, as a benefit to people who come here? What enables them to feel "at home" at Lynn House while they realize more of their true home with Christ in God?

Lynne: When I think of home, I am reminded of an idea Mary Baker

Eddy originally shared with members of her household: "Home is not a place but a power..." (*Twelve Years with Mary Baker Eddy Amplified Edition* by Irving Tomlinson, p. 211).

I love the idea of home as a power. It leads me immediately to the quote "There is no power apart from God" (*Science and Health*, p. 228:25). Since God is the only power, we already and always are included in a right sense of home—that All-power and completeness that is God. Because we reflect God, omnipotent Mind, we can feel and know that we eternally dwell in this Christ consciousness. Spiritually speaking, we coexist with a perfect sense of home and always are in our right place. We can prove this and be led to a full expression of this truth as we see divine Love meet our every human need at any given moment. The Christ-power is all around us and within us; at Lynn House, these lovely homelike qualities of peace, serenity, joy, and love are expressed and defended by the Christian Science nurses and other staff. Guests are thereby nurtured and encouraged to cherish their spiritual sense of home, too. This is integral to the ministry of Christian Science nursing.

When people come to Lynn House, they come for a variety of reasons—for healing and the love and peace that this homelike setting offers them. It is a haven where they can pull the "comforter" up—and where they have excellent resources to learn more of their relationship to God. At Lynn House we cherish the idea of quick and whole healing. For Christian Science nursing or

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ACTIVITIES AT LYNN HOUSE

By Lowry Martin

As Activities Coordinator, I have an opportunity to witness the wonderful gifts that many contribute to make Lynn House activities so special for our guests and residents. As I was quietly thinking of what to share with you, "I love Thy way of freedom, Lord" from a favorite hymn came to me.

I love Thy way of freedom, Lord,
To serve Thee is my choice,
In Thy clear light of Truth I rise
And, listening for Thy voice,
I hear Thy promise old and new,
That bids all fear to cease:
My presence still shall go with thee
And I will give thee peace

(Words by) Violet Hay, *Christian Science Hymnal*, No. 136. © The Mary Baker Eddy Collection. Used with permission.

It's such a liberating thought, "I love Thy way of freedom, Lord." This led me to select words from lines of the first stanza that characterize our service. Each word describes in some way the activities program here at Lynn House.

Freedom: exploring the beautiful garden and grounds expresses freedom here. Many of our guests share the feeling of freedom and joy that pondering the Lord and His way of freedom brings. Freedom is expressed in simply strolling the grounds or being assisted in a wheel chair or walker to see all of the beautiful flowers and foliage.

Choice: drawing closer to God brings inspiration and happiness. Monthly visits from People Animals Love (our PAL visitors such as Sammy, the Labrador retriever) draw people into common areas and loving interaction. Sitting by the fireplace, reading or listening to music or a Sentinel audio chat are also favorite pastimes.



Clear light: the clear vision of love that we all share in this consciousness of home—the harmony of Mind being expressed in thought and activity comes as we truly know that home is within us, in our relation to God, wherever we are.

Listening: hearing Christ's communications and expressions of Truth—thoughts with one another during our weekly *Christian Science Monitor* discussions and Lynn House Library readings help promote love and healing.

Promise: as promising ideas are cherished in activities, they are discussed among guests and intertwined with fulfilling projects. The joy of living what we learn and working together is truly expressed and demonstrated.

Love's All-presence: wherever you go at Lynn House Love's presence is always active ruling out fear and welcoming in really happy smiles and peace. God gives us something to smile about! ■

THE POWER OF HOME

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Rest and Study Plus guests, that doesn't mean settling in and viewing Lynn House as a human sense of home for the remainder of their earthly days.

Cassie: So tell us more of why it's important that we see the demonstration of home included in our healing work and Christian Science nursing ministry.

Lynne: We take our spiritual sense of home with us. We live it. It grows in expression as we grow spiritually. It does not belong to a location. Whoever comes to a Christian Science facility, knowing that each one of us dwells within the Christ consciousness, can see home as always spiritually intact. It is complete. Witnessing the fact that everyone truly has this God-given inspired spiritual sense of home, we see it evidenced in tangible strength, harmony, order and peace. It is this sense of being spiritually loved and belonging that facilitates healing. It is felt by everyone responding to the presence of Soul, God, and His goodness, love, tenderness, and continuous care for each of His children.

We encourage and support residents in our assisted living program in realizing Love's perfect care, their God-given dominion, and in demonstrating a spiritual understanding of home.

Mrs. Eddy wrote, "We find home when we arrive at the full understanding of God. Home! Think of it! Where sense has no claims and Soul [God] satisfies" (*Twelve Years*, p. 211). ■

\$100,000 MATCHING CHALLENGE IN PROGRESS

Heartfelt thanks to all who have responded to our sponsors' pledge to match every gift up to \$100,000 dollar-for-dollar! As this newsletter goes to the printer, we are pleased to report that contributions so far total over \$40,000. Now through December 31, your gift made by check, credit card, or online (by going to www.lynnhouse.org/giving) is needed so we receive the match! Stock gifts or IRA distributions also qualify. A successful Challenge means at least \$200,000 in support of Lynn House's healing mission. Thank you for responding as generously as you can to help fill the current need—which is around twice that amount. To see the 2013 Matching Challenge flyer, please visit our website: www.lynnhouse.org.

If you contribute through the Combined Federal Campaign or the United Way, remember that Lynn House is a designated beneficiary. For CFC contributors the number is 69892 and for United Way it's 8495.



INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN SCIENCE NURSING

Find out if you're ready to attend our next class.
It begins March 3, 2014.

Qualified students begin on our payroll immediately. Two weeks of classroom instruction may be followed by paid on-the-job training for eight weeks under the guidance and supervision of a *Journal*-listed Christian Science nurse.

Questions? Check out our website www.lynnhouse.org for more information and an application.

Please call Mary Ladson, Director of Christian Science Nursing: (703) 379-6000 or (800) 283-4325 to learn more, even if you are only interested in taking the two-week classroom portion of the course.



LYNN HOUSE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE NURSING & VISITING C.S. NURSE SERVICE

*You are welcome to call
24 hours a day, seven days a week.*

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NEWSLETTER CREDITS

Cassie Coston
Editor

Lynne Darnell
Photography

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4400 West Braddock Road, Alexandria, Virginia 22304-1010 • phone (703) 379-6000 • (800) 283-4325
fax (703) 671-8897 • mail@lynnhouse.org • www.lynnhouse.org

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