

## CHRISTIAN SCIENCE NURSING – THE CHRIST-SPIRIT IN ACTION

*A message from our Executive Director*

“... whatever we meet that is hard in the Christian warfare we must count as nothing, and must think instead, of our poverty and helplessness without this understanding, and count ourselves always as debtors to Christ, Truth.”  
– *Miscellaneous Writings*, 281:18

Our “helplessness without this understanding”—the understanding of the Christ, Truth—is something we strive to keep in mind as we go about our work here at Lynn House. It is work that blesses those we care for and that reaches the wider human family as well.

As a colleague here said to me recently: “Everyone has a right to the quality of care that is available in a Christian Science facility.” How true that is! It is a realization that brings a deeper dimension and meaning to our work. We are part of this endeavor, not only to meet the immediate needs of those entrusting us with their care, but also to establish a standard of care that stands out in the world and that shines as an example of the Christ-spirit in action.

Mary Baker Eddy observed that our work well done in Christian Science “would dignify angels” (*Miscellaneous Writings*, 111:3). The care and



*Snowy back porch at Lynn House*

comfort brought by the Christian Science nurse to those seeking healing through spiritual means alone, represents a standard of care that is a very high one indeed and one that is destined to be recognized and appreciated by a much wider segment of humanity.

So, as modest and humble as our present accomplishments and scope of action may appear, they are anything but inconsequential. For this work represents the advance guard for humanity — telling of a bright tomorrow for the human family and heralding the dawn of the spiritual era. Hence the importance of appreci-

ating our debt to Christ, Truth.

Each one of us, each one of you, supporting this work, whether near or far, has the special honor of contributing to those “calm, strong currents of true spirituality” (*Science and Health*, 99:23) that bless not only those we care for but all those hearts and minds hungering and thirsting after the things of the Spirit.

It is a rare privilege to work in this vineyard and humbling and heart-warming to have the steadfast support of so many devoted Christian Scientists in the field. Thank you one and all. —*David Sand*



*Ralph Copper, C.S. with David Sand*

**O**n November 9th Lynn House hosted a special talk by Ralph Byron Copper, C.S. His talk was entitled, “Healing: Our First Christian Duty.” With a sense of warm fellowship, he discussed our “mutual love of the truth—and faithful practice of that truth.”

To hear an audio recording of the talk or download a written version, visit our website: [www.lynnhouse.org/events](http://www.lynnhouse.org/events).

**NFCSN - NATIONAL FUND  
FOR CHRISTIAN SCIENCE NURSING**

We are grateful for the generous support that the NFCSN offers to individuals receiving Christian Science nursing care—whether at-home or in a facility.

For more information about this resource, please visit their website: [nfcsn.org](http://nfcsn.org).

## WELCOME TO EMILY REYNOLDS SMITH, DIRECTOR OF THE VISITING CHRISTIAN SCIENCE NURSING SERVICE

**W**e are delighted that Emily Reynolds Smith has joined Lynn House as our new Director of the Visiting Christian Science Nursing Service. To introduce herself to our field, we asked Emily to write about her Christian Science nursing experience and what brought her to Lynn House. When you read her article (below) you will see why we feel truly blessed to have her with us!

### A Joy and a Privilege

It would be impossible to overstate my joy at being welcomed into the Lynn House family as Director of the Visiting Christian Science Nursing Service. Cassia and David have assured me from day one that my being called to Lynn House is an answer to their prayers — and I assure them right back that their enthusiasm in hiring me is actually the answer to mine!



*Emily Reynolds Smith*

I’ve rarely experienced such a complete demonstration of supply and mutual blessing that was also entirely unambiguous from the moment the inspiration came. “You are going to work at Lynn House,” God said as I read the Bible Lesson and prayed for guidance one morning this September. “You are going in the next few months, and you cannot allow any human consideration to limit this demonstration.” Wow ... ok!

This message was so clear that I felt no fear or uncertainty, despite the many human considerations which attempted to derail me in the following weeks. I was often reminded of my first years in the ministry of Christian Science nursing and the training program which beautifully prepared me to represent our Leader’s Manual By-law “Christian Science Nurse.” In January 2010 I moved to Boston quite suddenly, obeying a similarly direct, wholly spiritual call to enter the Christian Science Nursing Arts program at the Chestnut Hill Benevolent Association. This had not been part of any human plan I had formed for myself, and yet the timing and circumstances could not have been more perfect.

I began classes that same month, and knew immediately that despite the challenges to human will and personal sense I would need to overcome, I was in just the right place, doing exactly what God had made me to do. I was not, however, entirely free of fear and doubt. Periodically during those three years of working and completing the training program, mortal mind would whisper that I could “leave Christian Science nursing and do



something easier.” I laugh a little at that now. We learn all the time that attempting to resist divine Love’s leading never makes things “easy” — hello Jonah! Also, Love’s reply to my request to be relieved of duty always held a note of amusement: “Sure you can leave ... but you’ll just come back!”

I’m so grateful I decided not to waste any time. By January of 2013 I was listed in *The Christian Science Journal* and thanking God each day for the opportunity to supervise on the nursing floor as well as be trained in the Visiting Christian Science Nursing Service. Reading *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* by Mary Baker Eddy as well as the Bible had become a delightful opportunity to see Christian Science nursing described in concept and practice throughout our Pastor, and this translated to recognizing it as part of the omnipotence, omniscience, and omnipresence of God represented all over the world. My life had truly been transformed by entering this ministry and striving diligently to fulfill the By-law requirements as faithfully as possible, and it is indeed a “pearl of great price” to me.

My heart goes out to this field — to branch churches and their members, especially — for joining me in cherishing this pearl of great price as represented by Lynn House and its services to the region. It is clear that Christian Science healing is dear to you all, and we take very seriously our responsibility to make Christian Science nursing available in the moments when it is needed.

## VOLUNTEERING



*A sing-along with our residents and patients*

**W**e are so grateful for all those who share their time and talents with us! Sharing your musical talents ... bringing photos and stories from your travels ... leading an art project ... reading the Bible Lesson with our patients and residents ... helping in our garden ... taking photographs.

Whatever your talents and interests, please consider sharing them with us. Volunteering is a mutual blessing in the light of Love.

### **\$125,000 MATCHING CHALLENGE THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2019**

Thanks to the generosity of several sponsors, every contribution that we receive through the end of the year will be matched dollar-for-dollar. Reaching our goal will mean \$250,000 of support.

- To make a donation by credit card, visit our website ([lynnhouse.org](http://lynnhouse.org)) or call us.
- To contribute by check, you may use the enclosed remittance envelope.
- To make a donation by stock/securities or other ways, call us at 703-379-6000.

Each gift is deeply appreciated.

## GOD GIVETH THE INCREASE

In his letter to the Corinthians, the apostle Paul, referring to a fellow compatriot of Christ, said:

I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.  
So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.

*(1 Corinthians 3:6, 7)*

That God-given increase is the point. The knowledge that God is the source of all of the good that we could ever want or need, is certainly the deepest and wisest knowledge that we have. Here at Lynn House we trace our expanding sense of service, our growing capabilities, and our deepening commitment to the ministry of Christian Science nursing, right back to its divine source.

Along with this growth comes an increase in our gratitude to all of you for your support of our work and services. As we all strive to fulfill in our daily lives the high calling of Christian Science nursing, we are buoyed up and heartened by every word of encouragement, thoughtful financial donation, and conscientious prayer on your part. It is indeed God's increase to us to see the steadfast love and support that we have from you our devoted friends and donors.



### LYNN HOUSE

#### 2020 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Cassia Schuck  
*Director of  
Christian Science Nursing*

Emily Reynolds Smith  
*Director of the Visiting  
Christian Science Nursing Service*

#### Ways to give:

- Throughout the year, we welcome contributions by check, credit card, or stock/securities.
- By joining our Sustainer program, you can support us with a monthly pledge of any amount that is comfortable for you.
- Designate Lynn House in the United Way/Combined Federal Campaign. (Our United Way code is 8495, and our CFC code is 69892.)
- Consider including Lynn House in your estate plans. Over the years, we have been greatly blessed by individuals who have included Lynn House as a beneficiary in their will or living trust.

To explore these options, please visit our website or call Susan Orttung, Assistant Executive Director, at 703-379-6000. Every year we count on more than \$1 million in gifts and grants to meet our expenses. Your support, both prayerful and financial, is invaluable.

#### KEEPING IN TOUCH...

To let us know of an address change (or to be removed from our mailing list), please email us at [mail@lynnhouse.org](mailto:mail@lynnhouse.org) or call us at 703-379-6000.

#### SERVICES

Inpatient and Outpatient  
Christian Science nursing care

Visiting Christian Science  
Nursing Service

Residential / Assisted Living

Rest & Study

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

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A Christian Science nursing facility supporting Christian Science healing and accredited by  
The Commission for Accreditation of Christian Science Nursing Organizations/Facilities, Inc.

## GRATITUDE FOR HEALING

### From a recent patient:

“With the healing prayer of my practitioner and the loving care of the nurses, I have recovered from [a serious injury]. I thank each and every one of the wonderful/beautiful nurses. They were fantastic. Mindful of every detail. God bless you all.”



### From a staff member:

Recently as I was on my way to work, I fell very hard in the garage while walking to my car. I was unable to stand up, and two very kind residents from the apartment building stopped to help. They thought I should go back to my apartment, but I said no. I felt it was right to continue on to work. There seemed to be much pain throughout my body, but I was able to drive. When I arrived at Lynn House, I mentioned what happened and was offered a room where I could rest quietly, but I said no. What came to mind was something a practitioner had said to me years ago: a mattress never healed anyone.

I sat quietly for some minutes and then started working. The word “unfallen” came to thought, and I looked up this citation: “Through discernment of the spiritual opposite of materiality, even the way through Christ, Truth, man ... will find himself unfallen, upright, pure, and free ...” (*Science and Health*, p. 171). I worked with those words — and then I felt something and wondered what it was. A short time later, I realized all pain from the fall had disappeared. I knew then it was the Christ, Truth that had come so quietly, swiftly and completely. I was healed. I am very grateful for realizing man has never fallen from God’s care.



## REST AND STUDY SPECIAL

December 27, 2019  
to  
February 16, 2020

As the new year begins, we invite you to enjoy some quiet, prayerful time at Lynn House at a special half-price rate:

**\$53 per night (including meals)  
for up to four nights at this price.**

Please call 703-379-6000  
for reservations.

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### REYNOLDS SMITH CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Truly, the office of Christian Science nurse is already present, ever-available. One of my favorite aspects of Visiting Christian Science Nursing involves representing that readiness to respond, that immediacy of proper care, and witnessing just how effortless the demonstration can be of those nursing qualities written of in *Science and Health* (p. 395): “cheerful, orderly, punctual, patient, full of faith, - receptive to Truth and Love.”

What a joy and a privilege to be called to Lynn House, and please know that we eagerly await *your* call as a unique and precious opportunity to witness Christ’s promise of healing as described by Mrs. Eddy on page 92 of the *Manual of The Mother Church*: “I recommend that each member of this Church shall strive to demonstrate by his or her practice, that Christian Science heals the sick quickly and wholly, thus proving this Science to be all that we claim for it.”