

# Morning Light Foundation

*MISSION: To express Christly love and practical assistance that nurtures and establishes Christian Science healing.*

Autumn, 2019

## Why give?

## What are we giving to?

## What are we nursing?

*“...Love fills that well.”*

*(Mary Baker Eddy  
Christian Healer)*



## EXPECTANT GIVING What can I bring to the table?

Have you ever asked yourself, “Why would I give to Christian Science nursing? What does my giving have to do with real Christian Science healing, which is mental? What do I even have to offer?”

You’d be amazed! There are so many ways of caring for each other, and each of us has so much to give! Of course, every organization gladly welcomes financial contributions. But giving (and caring) doesn’t stop there. Each of us, for instance, is a loving, giving nurse when we search out a fellow church member who has ‘fallen through the cracks.’ This happened recently for a local church member who hadn’t been seen in a long while – and with the aid of church members and Christian Science nurses, resulted in the establishment of a clean, safe home at an assisted living facility where wonderful healing and rejuvenation took place! (You can be a ‘first responder,’ and you can also let a Christian Science nurse know if you’re aware of someone in need.)

Imagine what more could happen if two devoted Christian Scientists moved into the same assisted living home! Morning Light Christian Science nurses witnessed how the residents and staff (not Christian Scientists) were truly blessed by the presence of two such individuals. Daily study of the *Christian Science Bible Lessons*, sharing, living and loving Christian Science, hugely impacted that community. **Everyone there was nursed, thanks to the love and generosity of Morning Light supporters like you! THANK YOU.**

### YOU CAN GIVE BY...

- Nursing and caring for each other (for free!)
- Sending a check to *Morning Light Foundation*
- Using a credit card on the Morning Light website: [morninglightcs.org](http://morninglightcs.org)
- Making online purchases on Amazon Smile: [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)

# Dear Morning Light Family,



## Happy Autumn!

It's a joy to be greeting you with news of the rewarding activity Morning Light has witnessed in 2019! We were especially glad to spend a recent half-day with so many of you at our Annual Meeting. What a wonderful indication of how much we all value Christian Science nursing – based on the teachings of Christ Jesus, and the healing application of these teachings – as established by Mary Baker Eddy in our *Church Manual* (Article 8, Section 31). We are truly blessed by your loving support. You can't imagine how much we value this partnership!



Christian Science nurse Elizabeth O'Berry cares for a little guest at our recent Annual Meeting

On a monthly basis, Morning Light nurses report remarkable instances of outreach and healing. You'll be interested to learn that at the Parris Island Marine Recruit Depot in South Carolina, attendance at Sunday services has jumped to as high as 107 recruits at one time. One recruit shared that he prayed about pneumonia and was healed. He prayed about other challenges and they were healed as well. He told everyone to pray about their challenges, saying "What do you have to lose? It works." Another regularly-attending recruit was heard telling a first-timer, "You'll find something within this service even if you don't believe in God." What joyous fruitage! We thankfully acknowledge the work of our Christian Science nurses and others who generously dedicate themselves to this special ministry.

**What else?** In 2019, Morning Light's *Community Care* outreach program – which began at First Church, Decatur – held six workshops in the Carolinas and in Georgia. This extended concept of nursing includes church members *caring for each other*, taking people to church, calling on those unable to get to church, and so on... simple and pure expressions of Christly love! In September, our Mother/Baby program welcomed a new little one into the Morning Light family. This summer, Morning Light Lodge underwent extensive grounds work, and renovation needs are being assessed. We're particularly excited about an expanding model of Morning Light work through the establishment of a Christian Science Visiting Nurse Service in North Carolina. Our Accountant reports that Morning Light Foundation is debt-free, and all monies received go directly to daily operations. We very much value your ongoing contributions which are necessary to maintain Morning Light's financial position.

**What next?** What we look forward to most is witnessing, with all of you, more of the Christ in action – with prayer, love, and practical steps guiding the way!

**LOVINGLY, The Morning Light Board**

## Morning Light's 2019 Annual Meeting

Friends of Morning Light recently came together to support Christian Science nursing and to hear a wonderfully-inspiring speaker. A remarkable highlight was the sharing of testimonies, by both staff members and guests, which involved the healing touch of a Christian Science nurse. One family expressed the following gratitude:

*"A recent opportunity to take a short-term job surfaced, meaning I could replenish my savings after a home-remodeling project. How timely and exciting, right? But wait, how would I also continue to support my mother, living in a retirement community, with the daily care she seemed to need?... Anyone who knows my mother knows she has a high propensity for independence. Trying to balance her desires with the mortal picture were in direct conflict. I started reaching out to various options – Christian Science nurses were number one on our list.*

*I had encountered Morning Light and the Christian Science nurses several years ago and knew their spiritual healing and excellent nursing care. Since then, we have called on them for home care on various occasions. This time seemed different – we needed daily care for at least three-four weeks straight. We were not sure if the "supply would meet the demand..."*

*...We experienced the unfoldment of supply, met with the most dedicated team of Christian Science nurses that I could ever have imagined. Their love and dedication to Mother's spiritual and nursing needs led to healing and overwhelming gratitude. We tag-teamed every day, ensuring that every nurse, practitioner and I knew exactly the daily occurrences, and what to expect the next day or evening. I appreciated the leadership and love shown by the Christian Science nurses in understanding and listening to my mother's need for nursing, nourishment, driving here and there, and spiritual guidance for her complete care."*



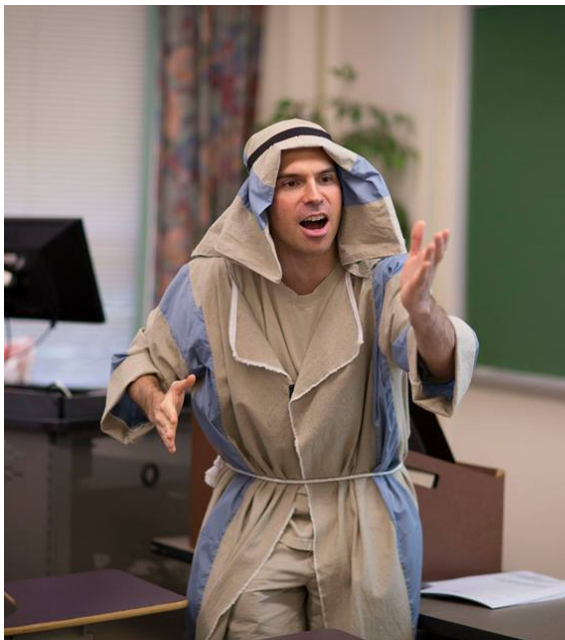
# “Nourished by God to Heal the Nations: Biblical Models of Caring with Divine Authority”

The opening chapter of the Bible calls us to care with divine authority as the image of God (Gen 1:26). The author of Genesis 1 tells exiles, who have been deported to Babylon, that they are not dominated prisoners of war. They are the image of God, and they have dominion (Gen 1:26). Mesopotamian texts describe the king as the image of a god to designate the king as “a special representative of the god or gods, possessing a divine mandate to rule” and divine power. So, in addition to the concept of image as reflection, another nuance of image is the agent of God, appointed and empowered to do God’s will in the world. The author of Genesis 1 draws upon the royal traditions of the ancient Near East to assert that all humans are created as God’s royal agents in the world, “the kings and queens of God’s estate,” responsible for caring for God’s good creation.

Subsequent books of the Bible reveal that each of us is called and able to care with divine authority due to God’s greatness and grace. While Moses initially says, “Here am I,” when God calls to him out of the burning bush, as soon as he receives his job description, Moses’ “Here am I” turns into “Who am I?” (Exod 3:4, 11 RSV) “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” (Exod 3:11 NRSV) God’s answer: “I will be with you.” (Exod 3:12 NRSV) In other words, we are competent because God is present. Moses continues to raise numerous concerns about his “awesome new vocation,” but while Moses’s objections often point to the past, each of God’s responses “moves Moses to a new future.”

Several biblical texts portray nursing as grounded in God’s grace. Ruth shines as a model of steadfast love in her care for Naomi. Paul portrays himself as a nurse, tenderly caring for the Thessalonians, working night and day, and proclaiming God’s word to them with purity, uprightness, blamelessness, and gratitude (1 Thess 2:7-13)...

To read the entire summary, with footnotes, visit the Morning Light website at [morninglightcs.org](http://morninglightcs.org)



**Dr. Barry Huff**  
– Bible scholar and professor at Principia College – spoke at Morning Light’s Annual Meeting on September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019



## MORNING LIGHT IS NOW FULL-TIME IN NORTH CAROLINA

For many years, Morning Light has served a 5-state area (GA, the Carolinas, AL and TN) – sending Christian Science nurses out to meet the need wherever that may be. Now, thanks to a generous grant, we have established a full-time Christian Science Visiting Nurse Service in North Carolina. Our Manager of Christian Science Nursing Activities in NC, describes what a typical day is like:

***“An idea emerged: let’s have the service embrace true Christianity, expressing it through fellowship, brotherhood, and genuine care.”***

...I try to devote one day a week to what I call “supportive phone calls.” I identify and call 5 people – sometimes folks I know would be uplifted to hear from me, or individuals I’ve been told would like a call. What has surprised me most is that this is the day when I get the most phone calls from others. It’s as if they know this is my dedicated phone day and they call. What an example of God’s goodness and tender care! ...A fellow church member told me about a Christian Scientist who was unable to get to church but wanted our church to visit. Until recently this gal had lived her whole life in a small NC town with no Christian Science church. She always longed to be close to other Christian Scientists and now, as a nonagenarian, she has that opportunity. I am privileged to be her special friend. ...I was called to the home of a fellow church member. Her mom had recently moved in with this family and was having mobility challenges. We had a fun get-together and were able to come up with practical ideas on how the house could be arranged to be more accommodating to her needs. The whole family got involved, and what seemed like a big job was accomplished quickly and easily. The non-Christian Science family member felt so much better and less fearful. ...Our ACORN chapter meets monthly – moms, dads, and grandparents spend a couple of hours exploring ideas on raising children in Christian Science homes. In September they invited me to chat with them on the role of the Christian Science Nurse and children. The main idea I wanted to share was confidence – how Art. 8, Sect. 31 of our Manual was an inclusive article, and that as they prayed, they would be led to take the correct human footsteps. Love would never let them make a mistake or endanger their lovely children. I assured them that I’m just a phone call away and am always glad to help.



Christian Science nurse, Deb Watford is based in Charlotte, NC

I’m confident that this service will flourish and grow as our wonderful Christian Science community experiences the positive impact that Morning Light has had on the individuals we’ve served. Thank you for this opportunity to ‘lead the charge!’

***Morning Light Foundation, Inc.***

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