

Peace Haven

INSPIRED TO SERVE

Summer 2022 Newsletter



*"...Like brother birds,
that soar and sing,
And on the same branch bend..."**

—Mary Baker Eddy

* Miscellaneous Writings, p. 387

Introducing Our New Executive Director

AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE PEACE HAVEN BOARD OF TRUSTEES



The Peace Haven Association Board of Trustees is pleased to announce Valerie Hickam's appointment as Executive Director. Valerie is well known to the Peace Haven community and beyond, having served with us in various capacities for 20 years. Most recently, she was our Director of Operations.

The Search Committee noted that Valerie shines in so many ways: first and foremost, metaphysically, and in her great love for God and man. She also has decades of experience supporting Christian Science nursing and serving the Cause of Christian Science, including her work at Fern Lodge in California and Glenmont in Ohio before joining the Peace Haven family. Valerie is a dedicated branch church member who expresses wonderful qualities and practical skills that will benefit Peace Haven as it continues

in its mission to provide Christian Science nursing care to those wholly relying on Christian Science for healing.

Valerie recently shared: "What I love about this work is being part of a community of healers who rely on God to direct their daily activity. As the team works to overcome the limitations of mortal sense by bringing healing solutions to the administration of Peace Haven, we are helping to remove mortal mind's attempted impositions on the patients who have come to this haven of peace for healing."

Please join us in welcoming Valerie in her new role at Peace Haven!

*"...Endless thanks to God belong; Hearts o'erflowing with His praise..." **

"Just wanted to send a big thank you to all of you who gave such fine care to my husband. He and I both felt the tender, loving spirit of the Christ during his stay at Peace Haven." –from a patient's family member

"We are grateful for the spiritual environment Peace Haven provides and for your kind support and thoughtful prayer." –from a patient's family member

"My days [at Peace Haven] were filled with study, reading the *We Knew Mary Baker Eddy* series, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*....My thought became more spiritual as I began to see that God was the only authority and Christ Jesus was the Way-show-

er. Supportive Christian Science nurses came and went, unimpressed with any false picture. What a team!" –from a patient

"Thank you for making room for me in this beautiful new facility. What a joy it has been to witness the camaraderie of your Christian Science nursing staff on the North Wing in tandem with one another so beautifully. All of your staff, including housekeeping, laundry, and the kitchen, have made my stay here extraordinary. I will always be grateful for the love I received while staying here at Peace Haven. Much love to you all." –from a patient

**Christian Science Hymnal, No. 72*

Expressing "Love for God and man..."*

VALERIE HICKAM, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



I have been thinking deeply about a verse from Hymn 273. It reads in part, "Partners of a glorious hope, Lift your hearts and voices up..." (*Christian Science Hymnal*, No. 273). These words have prompted me to consider prayerfully: What inspires our Christian Science nurses and staff, Board members, volunteers, and many others to give so generously of their time, prayers, and financial support—and with such unselfed love for Peace Haven, individually and collectively? The answer is, of course, healing.

Healings in ourselves and others act as waymarks to a higher understanding of God. They dispel the illusion of the material senses, and we each gain a clearer perception of ourselves as God's children. It is our nature to be drawn to the light of Truth, and healing is the natural outcome of that understanding. I love that still sense of peace and humble gratitude that one so entirely feels when healing is realized. Healing gives us an all-absorbing sense of home, heaven—a place we have always known and where our oneness with God is eternally reflected. It is the same "... yesterday, and to-day, and for ever" (Hebrews 13:8). It fills us with unspeakable joy and freedom that encompasses all in the ever-presence of Father-Mother Love. Mary Baker Eddy describes it as follows: "Spiritual living and blessedness are the only

evidences, by which we can recognize true existence and feel the unspeakable peace which comes from an all-absorbing spiritual love" (*Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, p. 264).

In Mrs. Eddy's immense love for humanity, she gave us great comfort in the *Manual of The Mother Church By-Law for Christian Science Nurse* (*Manual*, p. 49). Through the collective demonstration that is Peace Haven, our Christian Science nurses and staff answer calls from those earnestly relying on Christian Science for healing. Our Christian Science nurses are always ready to meet the need, welcoming dear ones to our doors with the light of Truth and the presence of the Christ.

Through this work, together we are privileged to see challenges surmounted. We witness pure demonstrations that are cause for heartfelt and humble thanks to God. Every day, I am grateful to witness God's infinite blessings for those seeking healing *and* those standing ready to meet the need metaphysically and practically. This, to me, is a perfect way to define "...partners of a glorious hope...." We are united in this work through our love for God and man. Our prayers are powerful in claiming the right! We are of one accord in our purpose of healing and establishing our right to see and experience God's

**Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures, p. 454* CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Peace Haven Withdraws from Medicare

AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE PEACE HAVEN BOARD OF TRUSTEES

It is with great love for our community, patients, and staff that Peace Haven discontinued participation in the federal Medicare program as of April 1, 2022. This move came as a prayerful, gradual unfoldment and desire to uplift the atmosphere needed to keep Peace Haven a pure beacon of light for healing.

The decision to withdraw from Medicare does not, in any way, change the availability of Christian Science nursing for any individual who comes to Peace Haven for care. Financial assistance continues to be available, as needed, through Peace Haven's Benevolence Fund and the National Fund for Christian Science Nursing (NFCNS).

Administered by The Principle Foundation, the NFCNS provides financial assistance for costs associated with Christian Science nursing, such as private duty Christian Science nursing care, Visiting Christian Science nursing care, as well as care in Christian Science nursing facilities. We are deeply grateful for the availability and generosity of this charitable organization. More information about NFCNS can be found at <https://nfcns.org>. If you have further questions, please contact Valerie Hickam, Peace Haven's Executive Director.

This move away from Medicare frees Peace Haven and its patients from any encumbrances from outside directives and federal guidelines, reporting requirements, describing symptoms, and the like. It more fully allows Peace Haven to maintain the purest sense of spiritual unfoldment and uplift.

As we seek to provide a refuge for those seeking spiritual refreshment, spiritual healing, and practical Christian Science nursing care, this separation from government oversight removes medical thought and intrusion for patients and staff, and ensures the pure spiritual atmosphere at Peace Haven that is so needed for our mission to support Christian Science healing. As we sing in a cherished hymn, "The Healer by Gennesaret/Shall walk the rounds with thee" (*Christian Science Hymnal*, No. 96).

We joyfully share this news with confidence that this decision will infinitely bless all who come to Peace Haven. "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:" (Eph 1:3).

We also extend our heartfelt gratitude to our generous supporters. The love the Christian Science field has shown to Peace Haven throughout its nearly 70 years of serving Christian Scientists continues to be a blessing. It is a privilege to continue this work of Christian service.

Metaphysical Theme 2022: "Of One Accord"

Mary Baker Eddy writes in *Retrospection and Introspection*, "The spiritually minded meet on the stairs which lead up to spiritual love...This just affection serves to constitute the Mind-healer a wonder-worker, – as of old, on the Pentecost Day, when the disciples were of one accord" (*Ret.*, p. 76).

We invite you to join us as we continue to explore our 2022 metaphysical theme, "Of one accord." **A year-long study of the *Manual of the Mother Church*** is also supporting this work and has already been a blessing to our staff.

Special Teacup and Saucer Gifted to Peace Haven

"LOVE IMPARTS BEAUTY" *

Recently, one of Peace Haven's friends donated a unique teacup featuring a portrait of Mary Baker Eddy and a saucer painted with the Cross and Crown.

The donor writes, "...Peace Haven would be the perfect home for this very special gift the artist, Birgit Porter, gave to me.

"We know Birgit from our friendship with Adelaide Oost Schindler, her aunt who was a student of Christian Science from Berlin, Germany.

"Birgit trained at the Royal Porcelain Factory KPM in Berlin and now lives in the United States. She is one of the top artists with the Georgia Organization of China Painters and travels the globe giving art lessons in oil, porcelain, watercolor, illustrations, sculpture, and other mixed media. It's my pleasure to share this with you!"

In a recent communication with a Peace Haven staff member, Birgit recalled only painting one or two of these teacups and saucers. She also mentioned that early in her career, she shared her talents with Longyear Museum (Chestnut Hill, Mass.), painting Mrs. Eddy's historic houses on French Limoges porcelain boxes.

We're delighted to display this Soul-inspired gift at Peace Haven.

**Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, p. 516



New Exhibit Features Mary Baker Eddy's Houses



We are grateful to have worked with Longyear Museum (Chestnut Hill, Mass.) to design and display an exhibit featuring Mary Baker Eddy's historic houses. Artist Jodie Maurer painted each house that is featured in the exhibit. This is the third and final Longyear exhibit installation at Peace Haven.

A friend of Peace Haven writes, "thank you for the gracious tour of the Longyear exhibit as well as of the gracious, lovely, uplifting atmosphere of Peace Haven.

What a true embodiment and expression of Christ healing. It was such a joy to be with you and to see everyone at work with so much love. It was deeply touching to see the result of the dedication, clear devotion to Principle, and integrity all made manifest in each detail. The story that this exhibit tells of our Leader's experience and mission will no doubt continue to be an inspiration and reminder that all we can experience is God's law of progress and the dominion that accompanies this law of progress."

Springtime Activities



students from The Principia School sing to patients



staff and family picnic



delicious picnic buffet



family fun



a sunshine-filled day



serving up Italian cream sodas



haute couture springtime bonnets

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"From sense to Soul..."*

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE NURSE ON STAFF

I have made many beds since I started working at Peace Haven. Occasionally I am asked how many beds I make in a day. I have decided not to keep track of how many beds I've made, and instead, to focus on how well I've made them.

At first, I would try to make the beds as neatly as I could—preparing a space in which I would have wanted to rest (thinking along the lines of "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."). Then, while making the beds, I began to think of the spiritual qualities that our patients expressed and that I expressed. Finally, I made them with the love and care I would take if the Christ himself were to lay his weary head on them after a long day of holding unswerving thought over the world for God.

One morning while making a bed, the person occupying the room and I began an uplifting conversation that led to my sharing my method of making beds. That person's comment was "that's the reason last night was my first night I felt such complete rest."

How grateful I am that God took such a mundane process and lifted it to such a lofty place.

**Christian Science Hymnal, No. 64*

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harmonious kingdom here and now. You, me, and each of Peace Haven's Board members, Christian Science nurses, staff, metaphysical supporters, volunteers, and friends partner in support of something higher at Peace Haven and in Christian Science branch churches. This glorious hope strengthens each of us. We demonstrate and witness healings that, in turn, are beacons of light that bless our community and world with a higher idea of God and man's spiritual identity. Through our growing concept of Church, we are "of one accord" in loving our fellow man "with a pure heart fervently" (I Pet 1:22).

Thank you for partnering with us at Peace Haven in our collective demonstration of wholly loving God and our fellow man.

Support the Permanence of Christian Science Nursing

BRIAN WEBSTER - DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

Christian Science nursing is demonstrated daily in your heart and outward expressions of good, and in the hearts and activities of Peace Haven's staff. Our individual and collective demonstrations of nursing qualities are a blessing to our world and a wonderful expression of Church (*Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, p. 583).

Christian Science nursing is part of Church. It became so when Mary Baker Eddy added the last By-Law to the *Manual of The Mother Church*, "Christian Science Nurse" (Art. 8, Sect. 31). Thus, it is part of the Church Mrs. Eddy declared was designed "...to be built on the Rock, Christ; even the understanding and demonstration of divine Truth, Life, and Love, healing and saving the world from sin and death; thus to reflect in some degree the Church Universal and Triumphant," (*Church Manual*, p. 19).

As long as there is a need for church, there is a need for Christian Science nursing. For this reason, Peace Haven's newly established Board-Designated Sustainability Endowment provides an opportunity for the Christian Science field to help ensure that Christian Science nursing, just like church, is available for generations to come.

Unlike Peace Haven's Operating Fund, which covers day-to-day expenses, the Board-Designated Sustainability Endowment is invested so it can grow in value over time. The intent is for Peace Haven to access the interest the fund generates to offset future major expenses—over and above what the existing Operating Fund typically supports. Such future costs might include significant building and grounds repairs; helping with replacement, additions, or needed restructuring; maintaining competitive salaries, retirement plans, and other benefits for Peace Haven's dedicated staff; sustaining Christian Science nurses' training opportunities (e.g., student tuition, room and board, travel expenses); and more. All of this will help ensure the permanence of Christian Science nursing for years to come.

It is essential to our worldwide Church that Christian Science nursing remains available to all who seek it. Peace Haven's Board-Designated Sustainability Endowment will help ensure that those who choose to rely on Christian Science for healing will have access to the watchful and tender care of students of Christian Science who are skillfully and prayerfully ready and who want to help them.

We are grateful that Peace Haven's services support the healing efficacy of Christian Science. What a blessing to ponder this as we read our Leader's comments on page 154 and 155 of *The First Church of Christ, Scientist, and Miscellany*, "Communing heart with heart, mind with mind, soul with soul, wherein and whereby we are looking heavenward, is not looking nor gravitating earthward, take it in whatever sense you may. Such communing uplifts man's being; it makes healing the sick and reforming the sinner a mutual aid society, which is effective here and now."



The New Board-Designated Sustainability Endowment

Please join us in supporting this new endowment.

It is an additional opportunity to contribute to Christian Science nursing for the long term beyond helping to meet daily operational needs.

Both are vital to sustaining Peace Haven's mission.

We thank you for your continued dedication to this healing work.

Learn more at www.peacehavenassociation.org/endowment.