# **HOUSTON VISITING** CHRISTIAN SCIENC NURSE SERVICE

May 2020

# Who is in Control?

The constant barrage of inflammatory media reports foments more heat than light, more fear than calm, and more opinion than wisdom. As Christian Scientists, our individual responsibility to God is to magnify the good, purify our thoughts, and love our global neighbors.

Mary Baker Eddy provides such guidance in the following article.

Contagion. (Miscellaneous Writings, p. 228-229)

Whatever man sees, feels, or in any way takes cognizance of, must be caught through mind; inasmuch as perception, sensation, and consciousness belong to mind and not to matter. Floating with the popular current of mortal thought without questioning the reliability of its conclusions, we do what others say. Common consent is contagious, and it makes disease catching.

People believe in infectious and contagious diseases, and that any one is liable to have them under certain predisposing or exciting causes. This mental state prepares one to have any disease whenever there appear the circumstances which he believes produce it. If he believed as sincerely that health is catching when exposed to contact with healthy people, he would catch their state of

**66** Common consent is contagious, and it makes disease catching. 99

feeling guite as surely and with better effect than he does the sick man's.

If only the people would believe that good is more contagious than evil, since God is omnipresence, how much more certain would be the doctor's success, and the clergyman's conversion of sinners. And if only the pulpit would encourage faith in God in this direction, and faith in Mind over all other influences governing the receptivity of the body, theology would teach man as David taught: "Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High thy habitation; there shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling."

The confidence of mankind in contagious disease would thus become beautifully less; and in the same proportion would faith in the power of God to heal and to save mankind increase, until the whole human race would become healthier, holier, happier, and longer lived. A calm, Christian state of mind is a better preventative of contagion than a drug, or than any other possible sanative method; and the "perfect Love" that "casteth out fear" is a sure defense..

# *Caring for Christian Scientists* — A Pilot Program from The Principle Foundation:

Endeavoring to serve the needs of Christian Scientist during the temporary government-ordered containment, The Principle Foundation is initiating the first phase of a pilot program, **Caring for Christian Scientists**. Prayerful guidance as to how to source information about forms of housing, care, and assistance consistent with the practice of Christian Science have been active since effect April 20, 2020. According to Bruce L. Jeffrey, Executive Director of The Principle Foundation, "Inquires to this service will be answered by experienced Christian Science nurses



who can provide information to Christian Scientists, their families, and/or friends regarding care, assistance, and even possible housing options."

#### Caring for Christian Scientists

Current National Hours 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time (1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Central Time) 7 days a week Toll-free phone number: 800-930-3797 Caringforchristianscientists.org

"This service — being run by a contractor partnering with us — will be in a pilot phase to launch a more extensive informational website in just a few months, followed by a call center later in the year," writes The Principle Foundation.

The <u>Houstonvcsns.org</u> <u>Resource page</u> will include updates from The Principle Foundation as they become finalized.

### Meet the Board

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We would *welcome* a board presence from churches not currently represented.

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Our service is grateful for the financial support from area Christian Science churches and individuals. Their contributions help us pay for our contracted staff and operating expenses.

BANKING CONTRIBUTIONS: To set up recurring donations to be deducted electronically from your checking account, please call our service at (713) 304-8384 and leave your name and contact number. Our treasurer will return your call and will be happy to assist you or answer questions.

CONTRIBUTIONS BY MAIL: We welcome checks mailed to us at: Houston Visiting Christian Science Nurse Service, Inc. 1834 Columbia Street, Houston, TX 77008-4348

# "Take my life, and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee" Christian Science Hymn 324