

Lime Tree House

*Winter 2018
Newsletter*



A very warm welcome to our Winter 2018 Lime Tree House Newsletter

We send this with our Christmas greetings as we celebrate all the good here at Lime Tree House during 2018.

We had a wonderful Open Day this year! The sun shone yet again and it was wonderful to see many of you with us. This year we provided a gorgeous buffet after the talks which were enjoyed by all!

Our Inspirational Speaker was Mrs Angie Wallace C.S. who shared a wonderfully inspiring talk, filled with healing, entitled, 'I Felt God's Presence'.

It was also a joy to be able to share lots of the good work and healings, and sing some of the hymns from our new hymnal.

We have included much of these talks in this newsletter, along with news about our last Care Quality Commission inspection and our completed attic conversion project.

The International Christian Science Nursing Day event took place at Scarborough Society in September (see photo on rear cover). It was a joy to be able to share this wonderful event with the east side of the country, and to embrace this area instead of just those who are near Lime Tree House.

If your Church or Society would like us to come and share with you about Lime Tree House and Christian Science nursing please do get in touch with us. We are very happy to travel to you!

We always love to hear from you if you have any questions about Lime Tree House and any ways in which we can support you or your loved ones, so do be in touch 😊.

Enjoy reading, and we hope you feel the loving embrace of Lime Tree House as you read.

We wish you all a wonderful Christ filled time, and a peaceful and happy New Year.

We look forward to being in touch with you in 2019!

With love from us all.

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Open Day Report 2018

Julie Brearley, Christian Science Nursing Manager

Good afternoon, and thank you all for coming to celebrate Lime Tree House, it is wonderful to see you all here today. Whether this is the first time you've been to one of our meetings or not, we extend a very loving embrace to each of you.

Over the last year we have seen some beautiful healings and progress which I will be sharing with you in this report – the best bits!! I will also be telling you about a meeting held at Lime Tree House with the Care Quality Commission last August, our latest CQC inspection and the AOCSN conference I attended in Dallas last month.

It is always precious to be able to respond to calls for care or to enable someone to have a Spiritual refreshment break and Lime Tree House has blessed many in many different ways.

It embraces all the wonderful qualities of home which touches everyone who visits or stays here. The peace, the love and the joy are so tangible and all inclusive. People tell us that they feel nestled safely in God's loving care.

We have welcomed people from all over the UK. Just recently we welcomed a lady from Scotland who flew directly from Inverness to Manchester. She wants others to



Julie Brearley

know how easy it is to get here, and the cost was only £100 each way, cheaper often than the train and so quick, less than an hour's flying time, and we are only 20 minutes from the airport. Assistance was provided at the airport at each end and we collected her from the airport.

We have also been and collected people in our Lime Tree House car and taken them home. For others who need more support on the journey than in a car we work with a private ambulance company.

So you can see that Love meets the needs beautifully.

And once people arrive here they just soak up the wonderful healing and peaceful atmosphere and we see such beautiful healing. What a privilege to our work, I can so highly recommend working as a Christian Science nurse. It's such a wonderful ministry brimming with proofs of God's sustaining and omnipotent care. If you feel touched to want to find out more please call me – I'd love to chat with you!

I love to think that Christian Science nursing helps us all feel the HUG of GOD, it helps us feel His love for us in such a tangible way.

So Christian Science nurses are **trained** to take care of the human needs, while keeping thought focused on the reality and purity of God's creation, and trusting in God's wisdom to provide the care in just the right way.

They come metaphysically prepared to humbly listen and care for patients with skill and grace, standing firmly grounded in Truth to see the perfect Man.

We are very blessed to have such a dedicated and loving team of Christian Science nurses at Lime Tree House. Everyone supports patients, family members and each other. We grow together and witness healing together; it's such a precious place. I am so grateful to every one of the team who cherishes, loves and brings inspiration – thank you; it is a privilege to work with you.



Jutta Hudson

I'm so grateful too to Jutta – our wonderful deputy Christian Science nurse – her unfailing support is a wonderful blessing both to me and to Lime Tree House.

Our team consists of 8 *Journal*-Listed Christian Science nurses and 3 Christian Science nurses in training.

Since the Open Day last year 2 of these students have taken their second level of classes at Charton Manor and are now working towards their third and last level later this year.

3 of our *Journal*-Listed Christian Science nurses are also OJIs to support our Christian Science nurses in training; they love to support growth and progress, and we are so grateful for all their support and work. We are so blessed to have 3 OJIs. Some facilities struggle to have any, but our deep commitment and passion to support Christian Science nurses to be the best they can is a

wonderful gift to the future of Christian Science nursing.

We have 3 chefs, 2 of which are class taught students of Christian Science and they all love to provide gorgeous food, tailoring it to patients' preferences and needs.

Steven and Ralph in our admin department, work lovingly and supportively to ensure that the focus of the house is always on Christian Science nursing and we are so grateful for all that they do.

We are blessed to have such a supportive Board who give so unselfishly of their inspiration and time to support the progress of the house.

We also have huge gratitude to our wonderful volunteer gardeners. The garden is so important. It gives such peace, hope and healing and helps many feel part of the loved beauty of God's creation. It really is looking magnificent this year; do come and see it if you would like to.

So do we see healing?

We most certainly do, in fact at our inspection by the CQC last August the inspector commented that one thing that stood out to her was that people progressed here. She could see it through our care plans and she commented that that is so refreshingly different to see in a care home environment!

One person wrote after their 3 week stay with us.

1 As promised, here is my testimony regarding my stay at Lime

Tree House, which resulted in my complete recovery from a fall in my flat. One morning I had been found on the floor after a fall. I was helped to a chair but I was still unsteady on my legs and unable to support myself properly. Lime Tree House was called and a private ambulance was arranged and came and took me to Lime Tree House. I was very lovingly greeted and put in a comfy bed. What a transformation during a day which began with me lying on the floor! It was a wonderful proof of divine Love's care and provision ... and that continued during the whole stay.

The following day I was given a shower. I felt very loved and cherished. The Christian Science nurses often encouraged me with metaphysical truths I knew, and encouraged me in many other ways. I thought they all had Degrees in Encouragement! Clearly that was part of their training, and in that and every other way they were certainly very well trained. So much so that I could always rely on them to be there when I needed them ... and often before I did! One night I was just about to buzz when the night nurse appeared at my elbow before I could buzz. A clear case of, 'Before they call, I will answer'!

The Christian Science nurses worked very harmoniously, both

collectively and individually. They slotted into different roles seamlessly, as the occasion demanded, and despite the demands on them they were always cheerful and willing. Together with their unfailing desire to care and help, they contributed substantially to the atmosphere of love which permeates the whole house and makes it such a healing environment in which healing is inevitable. In my case, after still wobbling about for a few days, I regained enough strength in my legs to walk again and in a few more days I was walking unaided again. To walk around the garden on my own was a great thrill and joy, and I am most grateful to all that helped to make that possible. I will be forever grateful for Love's provision of Lime Tree House and all the staff that make it such a healing home from home.

2 Another healing was a lady who arrived at Lime Tree House having not been eating or feeling able to eat and unsteady on her feet. She says, 'With care, love and support the mesmerism was broken. I was able to eat again and walk about better. When a friend met me at the airport on my return journey home, she had to ask me to slow down as I was walking so fast!' You may have heard this testimony on

The Mother Church online testimony meeting a few weeks ago.

3 We had a call one day from someone local needing support at home. They hadn't been eating or able to do much but be in bed. We don't currently have Visiting Christian Science nurse service but we do try to give support where we can and we also know of Christian Science nurses who might be available to help. After just one visit from a Christian Science nurse, there was progress and it was a joy to receive a letter of thanks.

It reads 'When you came to see us I was unable to negotiate the stairs. I now go up and down freely. I am eating normally and am able to do the shopping too'.

4 We had a call one morning from a local church member who was supporting a fellow member after an accident in the Reading room. They drove them to Lime Tree House and we were able to give all the practical care that was needed to attend to the wounds. They returned a few times for Outpatient care and beautiful healing was evidenced.

5 Other healings we have witnessed have included a lady who became unwell and unable to eat and needed all her care in bed. We were only really able to get her to

take small amounts of liquids. We continued to refuse to accept that this picture could be God's man. We nursed her with such tenderness, love and strong metaphysical care. She is now eating her meals herself, getting up every day and demonstrating lovely progressive freedom. Her large family have expressed deepest gratitude for the healing. She requested her family to put a small picture and note of thanks in her local paper, expressing gratitude for the loving and prayerful support she has been given at Lime Tree House, and this they did!

- 6 It has been a joy to witness another lady's progress. She came from a medical nursing home where she had been told that there was nothing more they could do for me, she wasn't able to walk, talk or care for herself. She came to Lime Tree House and she is now walking, doing lots for herself and continuing to progress with her speech.

Aren't those beautiful? We are so grateful for every evidence of God's care we see, each precious demonstration however small sustains us and inspires us .

So you may know that every care home, nursing home etc is regulated and inspected by the Care Quality Commission.

Last July a meeting was held at Lime Tree House where the Area and local CQC Inspection Mangers were invited. The meeting was arranged by the Committee on Publication London Office in order to keep communication channels open, something that we have been doing for some years since the introduction of the Care Act and Christian Science houses being inspected.

We spent much time preparing for the meeting both prayerfully and practically, having conference calls together with colleagues at The Mother Church, and the Committee on Publication.

We had the most wonderful 3 hour meeting together. There were 3 of us in the meeting at Lime Tree House: Robin Harrigan Hussey and Peter Sisson from the Committee Office and me and Bonnie Castroman who joined us via video skype from Mexico. The inspectors asked lots of questions with great respect and interest, and listened to our sharing about Christian Science and Christian Science nursing. They were very supportive and engaged. After all we are all coming from the same place of wanting the highest standards and the best outcomes for P's.

Everything we raised was very successfully met.

They could not have been more accommodating, helpful and understanding.

To give you some sense of the rapport established, when the Regional Inspection manager was leaving she virtually would not let go of Robins hand as they shook hands to say goodbye! And as I showed her round Lime Tree she wanted to reassure me that she is always available to support us and if we have concerns regarding Christian Science nursing and how we deal with some of the regulations that I must be in contact with her so they can help us with them. They asked to take away with them copies of *Science and Health*, and *Christian Science Journals* and *Sentinels*.

Refreshingly the CQC Inspection Manager reassured us that there isn't a requirement for us to fit into a 'CQC box', but that the onus is on CQC to understand the service, and then to ensure that the care being provided is consistent with our *Statement of Purpose*.



Pool and Fountain: He turned the desert into pools of water and the parched ground into flowing springs; (Ps 107 : 35-36)

Our experience has shown us how we need to continue to work fearlessly with these people, whose motive is to ensure standards are high and stay that way. We need to talk in a language that they can understand and not with any Christian Science jargon. We need to reassure them that we don't neglect people, that we love to give the absolutely best care and always strive for excellence as that is the nature of our faith and basis of Christian Science nursing. These opportunities are so precious in enabling us to show the practical, loving and effective arm of our Church.

Well the following week a CQC inspector arrived to conduct an announced inspection, not our local one as she was busy working in local services that needed support, but an inspector came from Stafford. It was a day filled with joy and appreciation and a desire to understand our ethos.



The Clavinova: Gifts Galore! The Clavinova was given by First Church of Christ, Scientist, Tunbridge Wells in April 2017, while a guest's relative shared her talents playing it for us. What blessings, indeed!

The inspector was impressed and said that several times. So another person was touched by this Christly care and its effectiveness.

We have again been awarded good in all areas and outstanding in caring.

We have so much to be grateful for!!

In May this year I was blessed to be able to attend the AOCSN conference which was held in Dallas Texas. There were over 100 people there, comprising of Administrators, Directors of Christian Science nursing and board members. The conference was over 4 days and the agenda included metaphysical talks, and workshops. This was such a wonderful time to come together to strengthen, and inspire and share in unity for the good of Christian Science nursing and Christian Science around the world.

Sessions included

- Leadership and development training
- ‘Nourished by God to heal the Nations: Biblical Models of caring with divine Authority’ This was given by a professor from Principia College who has recently been voted teacher of the year
- There were speakers from the Government Relations Counsel at the COP office at TMC, and Bonnie Castroman, the Manager of Christian Science nursing activities at TMC

- I was invited to give a presentation on Christian Science nursing in the UK and Europe. Our colleagues in the USA love to hear how we are working with regulators as they on the whole haven’t had to do this as much as in the UK and they are always heartened to hear the good work we are doing.

We also discussed ways in which we can inspire and train the future managers of Christian Science nursing facilities around the world.

We continue to pray about our Visiting Christian Science Service.

Please be assured that if you do have a need for a Christian Science nurse to visit you at home you can always call a Christian Science nurse listed in the *Christian Science Journal*, or you can call Lime Tree House for advice, we do sometimes have a Christian Science nurse who could visit you at home, or we know of others who may be available.

You can also talk with a Christian Science practitioner and they will be able to guide you too.

Please do be in touch with us if you need help with a situation and we will support you as much as we are able to. Please do not feel isolated; our earnest desire is to continue to support our community.

Would you like to come and be part of this family of Lime Tree as a volunteer, perhaps you have a little

time and would like to share it with us?

Perhaps music and singing are your gift, or arranging flowers or a craft activity or maybe you could come and read the Bible Lesson, or perhaps conduct a testimony meeting occasionally...

Just an hour once a month could make all the difference and be a great gift us.

Those who have helped have said how the blessing has been 2 way and they have felt enriched by helping us.

We would love to hear from you if you feel able to support us in this way.

I'd like to share with you now some comments from letters of gratitude we've received.

- 'Thank you for caring for my Mother, she is clearly at peace and I have not seen that for 2 or 3 years. Your atmosphere is quite wonderful. You are a great team working in harmony, working for harmony and **producing** a healing and peaceful harmony.'
- 'To feel the uplifting thoughts and the peaceful expectancy of good expressed by you all, helped me so much.'
- 'After nearly twelve months of care before she came to Lime Tree House this is the first place she felt safe, secure and loved by all staff, I cannot express how grateful I am for this oasis, my heart is over-

whelmed, with the love expressed by everyone.'

- 'Thank you for all your loving care, I feel like a new woman!'
- 'Wow this place is incredible, no smells, peaceful and such welcoming staff!'
- 'Thank you, I felt enveloped in Love the whole time.'

It's such a joy to receive every message of gratitude and love.

So to bring my report to a close I'd like to add that if you have any questions just call us. Many times people have called and received such loving support that it has given them the strength to manage better at home whether they have needed to come to Lime Tree House or not or other care has been arranged.

We are also very happy to come to your church and talk about the work of Lime Tree, please contact us if you would like us to visit your church.

And if you have not seen Lime Tree House before and you would like to look at it today please speak to one of us after this meeting, and we would love to show you around, or give us a call and visit at another time.

Lime Tree House truly is **your** place of refuge, your special place of peace, inspiration, joy and healing. Do call us if you want to come and share in it.

We very much look forward to welcoming you!

Administrator's Report 2018

Greetings!

It's great to see so many of you gate crashing this party... when you could be enjoying yourselves elsewhere with our new national pastime... the General Data Protection regulations...which have nearly created a new job role at Lime Tree House!

This falls under administration so I will be brief... which some will say is a contradiction in terms!

However, big thanks to all of you that have completed our contact consent form. From these we will compile a completely new up to date mailing list.

I would like to mention here that this year the three UK Christian Science Nursing facilities did a joint Christmas Calendar for the first time; that is Charton Manor, Lime Tree House and Springfield House. There are some of these on the table if you did not get one. If you want to be on our mailing list for next year's please complete one of our mailing consent forms.

I think you know by now that Ralph and I are the administration team. This year we are very grateful for the added help of Arlene Cousins when needed.

I would like to mention that in 2016 the CQC inspector was sufficiently impressed to note that our administration totally supported the



Steven Brearley

care we provide and blended seamlessly with it, which is as it should be.

Our inspirational talk today is 'I felt God's Presence'. Well, we certainly felt HIS presence guiding us through our recent Attic Project.

We are particularly grateful to the Aid Fund and to First Church of Christ Scientist, Tunbridge Wells whose financial support in equal terms enabled this project.

Here is a good place to express our gratitude to the Aid Fund for the dedicated work they do in supporting Christian Scientists to have Christian Science nursing care. This support indirectly helps the three UK Christian Science Nursing facilities to be here ready to provide the care needed. Please support the Aid Fund and the Facilities so this can continue.



*Two photos of new sleep-over/Board Room:
A modern chamber transported from Shunem for the
Elisha's of today... Fancy a lie-in, anyone?*

As I have mentioned in previous reports we 'felt God's presence' all the way through our Meadows Project. One such time was a solution given us for a severe problem with the existing roof. This enabled us to have an upstairs in the new extension... giving us more much needed space. But crucially for today's report it opened the door to using the existing previously inaccessible attic roof space.

Under divine Mind's guidance we did not rush to convert the attic as part of the Meadows Project but listened patiently for what was needed. The answers came clearly early last year resulting in the following ideas that greatly benefit the practical operation of Lime Tree House.

a A Board Room: The trustees are extremely grateful to have a boardroom with tables upon

which they can put their papers. This leaves the lounge and conservatory (where they previously met) free for guests to enjoy.

- b** The Board Room is also an en-suite bedroom with a foldaway bed. This is for our Christian Science nurses to use to save travelling. Sometimes it is used during the day when a Christian Science nurse is on consecutive night duties. Hence it has total black out blinds and a sound proofed floor.
- c** This room is also used for staff training and as a staff quiet room again freeing up the lounge and conservatory for guest use.
- d** It gives a much needed office for the Deputy Christian Science Nursing Manager and the On the Job Instructors.

- e** Air-conditioning to the attic rooms, admin office, lounge and conservatory; very essential with the recent weather!
- f** Solar panels to improve our carbon footprint and reduce electricity costs.
- g** Roof-lights in the administrators' office and the staff room in the 'Meadows' part of the attic.
- h** Bespoke store areas that make it much easier to access the stored items.
- i** Mechanical window opening winders fitted in an easy reach position to 6 high opening transom windows in guest rooms. These remove the need to stretch or stand on a stool to open the windows.
- j** Replacement Fire Alarm system consisting of a new and more advanced panel that shows each detector in every room.

We used the same architect and contractor who did the 'Meadows Extension Project' because of the excellent service they gave then. These are Barry Ford of Byrom Clark Roberts and Paul Smith respectively. We originally engaged Byrom Clarke Roberts because we saw they had designed this Life Centre building we are in now and managed its construction, a building just across the road from Lime Tree House!

Using the same architect and contractors, gave us key construction staff that had worked at Lime Tree house before. We had two joiners and two electricians that did the bulk of the work and two plumbers when needed. Whilst we had an overall design that was approved by Trafford Council building control, the project was fine-tuned as we went along to maximize the space used in a sloping roof environment.

To achieve this, discussions often took place between myself and the guys on an hour to hour basis as my office was adjacent to, and sometimes in, the new work!

The joiners and electricians were outstanding and contributed much to the developing design in terms of what could be done practically and in suggesting their own ideas within the framework of the architect's structural design. They demonstrated Mind in action.

We are all, including the architect and contractors, amazed with how much has been fitted into this attic space and how useful the spaces are.

We are profoundly grateful to all who contributed to this project and express our gratitude for the provisions of Divine Love and Divine Mind in meeting our need and supplying the human means to achieve it.

If you have time after this meeting please go have a look at our completed Attic Project and share our joy.

Inspection by the Care Quality Commission

In August we had an unannounced inspection by CQC. We are grateful that it went so well, and the inspector commented on the great care we provide.

One of the comments that the Inspector made was that it is so wonderful to see that patients make

progress here; she said that she could see this through reading care plans and talking with patients.

We have again been judged to be 'outstanding' in caring.

If you wish to read our full report you can find it on the CQC website and search for Lime Tree House.

Comments about our Care

'Thank you for caring for my Mother, she is clearly at peace and I have not seen that for 2 or 3 years. Your atmosphere is quite wonderful. You are a great team working in harmony, working for harmony and producing a healing and peaceful harmony.'



'To feel the uplifting thoughts and the peaceful expectancy of good expressed by you all, helped me so much.'

'After nearly twelve months of care before she came to LTH this is the first place she felt safe, secure and loved by all staff, I cannot express how grateful I am for this oasis, my heart is overwhelmed, with the love expressed by everyone.'

'Thank you for all your loving care, I feel like a new woman!'

'Wow this place is incredible, no smells, peaceful and such welcoming staff!'

'Thank you, I felt enveloped in Love the whole time.'

'The standard of care couldn't be higher; healing care and help at every level, I am witnessing real progress being made.'

'Thank you for making my stay so memorable and loving.'

Inspirational Address 'I felt God's presence'

Good afternoon Friends,

How wonderful to see you all here this afternoon, at the LifeCentre in Sale – in this beautiful leafy suburb of Manchester.

Some of you have travelled a long way to come and celebrate this OPEN DAY with Lime Tree House. Thank you!

When I was first approached to give this Talk for Lime Tree House at their Open Day, I felt honoured and grateful for this opportunity, but at the same time I felt a little anxious as this was my first public Talk. I had no idea what the subject or the theme might be, but I knew that my Father-Mother God had all the ideas already prepared in Mind – I just need to listen for His angel messages – then, this Talk would be a blessing for everyone.

These words from the Apostle Paul came to thought – (II Timothy 1:7)

... God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

At the beginning of Spring this year, whilst out walking, I was aware of all the new growth on the trees and plants. This reminded me of these words from a hymn in our *Christian Science Hymnal*:



Angie Wallace

Hymn 197:

sweet and fair the leaves unfold,
Of Love's immortal waking.

This was the message I needed, and I knew that divine Love was unfolding the ideas for this Talk.

Then, the words of another hymn came to mind:

Hymn 141:

Fruitful shall our tillage be,
Known the work of perfect Mind,
Leaves be gathered from the tree
For the healing of mankind.

I said 'Thank you Father' as I acknowledged that the right ideas would be in abundance – like all the new leaves on the trees – and that

these ideas would have a healing message.

I would like to share a poem, published in the February 14, 1942 issue of the *Christian Science Sentinel*:

'The leaves of the tree'

Within the realm of light,
Outshining error's night,
There is '**the tree of life**,' celestial,
fair,
Whose leaves heal wounds of
earth,
Reveal immortal worth,
And silently remove earth's dark
despair.

Dear sufferer, dry thy tear,
Turn here from darksome fear,
Oh, turn to shining peace, from
evil's snare!
Take of '**the tree of life**'
That heals the heart of strife;
And with thy brother man
Love's freedom share.

MARY HOYT LOVELAND

Mary Baker Eddy, the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science, writes in '*Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*' (p234:4):

'Whatever inspires with wisdom, Truth, or Love – be it song, sermon, or Science – **blesse**s the **human family** with crumbs of comfort from Christ's table, feeding the hungry and giving living waters to the thirsty.'

We are all gathered here together as a '**family**' – witnessing God's presence and power, and I am going to share accounts of healing as a direct result of **feeling God's presence** by claiming my perfect, spiritual identity.

In Genesis chapter 1:26 we read:
And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness:

Genesis chapter 1: 31:
And God saw every thing that he had made, and behold, it was very good.
God's perfect, spiritual creation was complete.

So, why are we sometimes **tempted** to believe in two opposite creations, both 'seeming' to be real? We find ourselves being lured – by that subtle 'serpent voice' – from beholding God's almighty power and presence and man made in His likeness abiding under the '**tree of life**' – into the mist and shadow cast by the '**tree of knowledge**' – struggling with the duality of man created both good and evil!

In this mortal dream, we may even find some sort of comfort under those branches of the '**tree of knowledge**' – even finding temporary nourishment from those forbidden fallen apples!

In this dream, we are oblivious to the fact that the '**tree of life**' bears all the healing fruit of joy, health, love and harmony in abundance!

Genesis. 2:9:

And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; **'the tree of life'** also in the midst of the garden, and **'the tree of knowledge of good and evil'**.

Genesis. 2:17:

But of **'the tree of the knowledge of good and evil'**, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

Resting under those branches of the **'tree of knowledge'**, mortal man could be beguiled into believing that the false claims of sin, sickness and death, are the realities of his being.

But God would never tempt His beloved child to experience or suffer ill effects from any power or claim that He did not create. God's perfect creation is complete. He is All-in-all. Therefore, anything unlike God, good, is false, is a lie and can never ever be true. It is a misrepresentation, a distorted picture, a mortal dream – from which we need to awaken, to behold the reality that God's spiritual universe is immortal and perfect, and that man is the image and likeness of his Creator, immortal and perfect too.

In *'Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures'* Mary Baker Eddy explains the difference between 'the

tree of life' and the **'tree of knowledge'** (p. 526:17):

'The **'tree of life'** stands for the idea of Truth, and the sword which guards it is the type of divine Science.

The **'tree of knowledge'** stands for the erroneous doctrine that the knowledge of evil is as real, hence as God-bestowed, as the knowledge of good.'

But spiritual consciousness can never be deceived, when human thought is spiritualized, through yielding to the facts of Spirit – the allness of good and the nothingness of evil.

Healing of Pneumonia

A few years ago, I found myself slipping and sliding between **'the tree of life'**, standing for everything good and man made in the image and likeness of God, and the **'tree of knowledge'**, tempting me to believe in both good and evil, in sickness and death. Fear clouded my vision and I struggled to clear the mist surrounding me. I was not alert to how I was slowly being consumed by darkness. I yearned to feel the presence of God. I felt very alone, very frightened and found even breathing difficult. Of course I knew intellectually that God was good, omnipotent and ever present, but, whilst I was abiding under this **'tree of knowledge'**, I felt

separated from God. I did not or could not – *feel* His presence!

I had returned to the UK from spending a holiday with my family in South Africa. Soon after returning, I became ill with what appeared to be a severe cold, which gradually worsened.

I have been a Christian Scientist all my life and have had all my healings from prayer alone. But this time, instead of immediately turning to God in prayer, I focused on work in our Reading Room that had been waiting since my return from holiday. I worked long hours, despite feeling poorly. My health deteriorated rapidly. I had a persistent cough, felt weak, couldn't sleep, and was thoroughly discouraged.

My family in South Africa became very concerned as they could hear over the phone that I was having difficulty breathing, and my sister in particular was fearful and urged me to get a medical diagnosis, which at length I agreed to, despite never having been to see a doctor before.

The doctor I visited ordered that X-rays be taken, which indicated a severe case of pneumonia. The specialist he referred me to, insisted that I remained in hospital and be put on a drip for urgent treatment.

I knew I had just a few moments in which to decide which avenue of healing I was going to take. Despite the clamouring of all these medical verdicts, I knew that spiritually, it

was impossible for me to ever be separated from God's loving presence and care, my divine source of life.

God would guide my footsteps through this 'valley'.

I knew I had to rise above this material picture in order to see my true spiritual nature as the perfect reflection of God. I was praying to really comprehend that it is not what we think we know about matter that saves, but what we know about God and our spiritual perfection made in His image and likeness.

I remembered Paul's words (Acts 17:28):

'For in him we live, and move, and have our being'

Mrs Eddy states (*S&H* p390:7):

It is our ignorance of God, the divine Principle, which produces apparent discord, and the right understanding of Him restores harmony.

I needed to stand firmly on the Rock of Christ, never doubting God's perfect creation, enabling me to be a witness to God's goodness and His divine, perfect Creation.

Isaiah (43: 10):

Ye are my witness, saith the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen.

Hymn 19:2:

They worship Him in spirit new,

God's messengers of Love and
 Life,
**They do His will, they speak His
 Word,**
 That stills all pain and strife.
 They show an ever clearer light,
 Like stars they shall forever shine;
They witness truly to His Word,
 And God saith, These are Mine.

I needed to be God's witness.

With this conviction, I stood up and thanked the Doctor for all he had done and for being so attentive and caring, whilst affirming that it was my decision to go home and rely on prayer for my healing. I did however reassure him that I would be sensible and stay at home for a while in a warm environment, as it was in the middle of winter. Reluctantly, he agreed to release me, and then gave me his private telephone number for me to call if at any time I felt worse. I thanked him, but I knew that I would put all my trust in God's loving care. I had done what my family wanted me to do. I now needed to go home.

I drove home and contacted a Christian Science practitioner, who agreed to pray with me straightaway. I also called a Christian Science nurse, who came to help me to care for my practical needs. She also lovingly read the weekly Christian Science Bible Lesson to me, helping to allay my fear.

The practitioner and I prayed together every day, acknowledging

and affirming my spiritual perfection. He pointed out to me from the start, that I did not have to wait for any healing to take place! I was made in God's image and likeness and that His creation was perfect. I began to behold once again that this picture of illness was **not** my true identity—which I knew to be entirely spiritual, made in God's image (see Gen. 1:27). I made a firm commitment to walk in the pathway guided by Truth and Love enabling me to move away from the '**tree of knowledge of good and evil**', to the '**tree of life**', where I was loved and protected.

The mist of confusion started to lift as I reasoned:

- that our loving Father-Mother God could not cause suffering of any kind,
- that my true identity as God's expression had never changed, and that God was right there with me.

I glimpsed this truth, from '*Science and Health*' (p.473:8):

'God is everywhere, and nothing apart from Him is present or has power.'

With the practitioner's prayerful and loving help, my breathing became less laboured, the fever gradually subsided, and I slept better, but I was still fearful and impatient for complete healing.

I had always found hymn 134 very helpful:

I look to Thee in every need,
And never look in vain;
I feel Thy touch, eternal Love,
And all is well again:

Mrs. Eddy affirms in *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, (p.417:20):

‘sickness is a dream from which the patient needs to be awakened’

And then instructs us to (p.393:12):

‘Rise in the strength of Spirit to resist all that is unlike good.’

Ten days after my consultation with the doctor, I needed to get out of bed to go to the Reading Room to do the end of the month banking reconciliations. I telephoned the acting Librarian to let her know I was coming. This was the first time I had been out of the house, and I found the whole experience physically exhausting. When I arrived back home again a few hours later, I still needed to climb a flight of stairs and when I opened my front door, I collapsed in a chair, struggling to breathe.

It was at this point that I heard God’s voice speaking to me – ‘instructing’ me to study the weekly Bible Lesson. I was very surprised as I thought God knew everything – that I was not feeling at all well and that I had already read the lesson twice

that morning!! I was sorely tempted by that ‘serpent voice’ to disregard God’s command and crawl into the comfort of my warm bed, but God spoke to me a second time! This time I thought it best if I were obedient, so I reached for my Bible and my copy of ‘*Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*’ by Mary Baker Eddy, and started again, for the third time that day, to study the weekly Bible Lesson – which was on the subject of LOVE.

This time – it was as if I were reading every citation for the very first time! The words in both the Bible and *Science and Health* seemed to be lit up, and, it was as if each statement I was reading had been written especially for me!

The first passage I read in the Bible was from Isaiah 41:10:

‘Fear thou not; for I am with thee’

Up to this point, I had been extremely fearful, but now – **I felt His presence**. I realised that there was absolutely nothing to be afraid of, because God was right there with me! I felt my fear melting away and I was back, abiding securely under the protection of ‘**the tree of life**’, affirming that sickness was no part of my real identity.

I then read this passage from *Science and Health* (p520:3):

‘The depth, breadth, height, might, majesty, and glory of infinite Love fill all space. That is enough!’

What more could I possibly ask for? I *felt* completely surrounded by God's Love.

In this atmosphere of Love divine, I carried on studying the lesson, and I glimpsed the meaning of this next citation (*S&H* p476:32:) as I had never done before:

'Jesus beheld in Science the perfect man, who appeared to him where sinning mortal man appears to mortals. In this perfect man the Saviour saw God's own likeness, and this correct view of man healed the sick.'

I saw myself as God saw me, as God had created me – spiritual and perfect.

(*S&H* p447:27):

'the sick are not healed merely by declaring there is no sickness, but by knowing that there is none'

I knew I was healed.

It was as if a great, big heavy coat had been removed, and I stood up completely free. The incessant coughing just stopped, and my breathing became normal. Filled with inspiration and deep gratitude to God, I continued in prayer and gratitude, affirming that there was nothing aside from God and His perfect goodness, and that His perfection was my identity too. I was free!

S&H p. 481:3:

God's being is infinity, freedom, harmony, and boundless bliss.

For the first time in months I slept right through the night, and the next morning, when giving my gratitude to the practitioner, I realized that my normal voice had returned too.

A brief account of this healing can be found in the *Christian Science Sentinel*, dated 6th April 2009.

But this was not the end of the account of this healing ...

At the request of my sister, I registered with a local doctor. I was required to fill in a questionnaire about my health advising the doctor that I had recently been healed of pneumonia. She was very sceptical and recommended that I had my lungs X-rayed again as she wanted to see just how much damage had been done.

When the X-rays arrived at the surgery, the doctor and I looked at them together on the light box. She went very quiet and said – 'I just don't understand, there has not been any damage to your lungs whatsoever, it is as if you have never had pneumonia!'

The doctor could not explain what had happened, **but I *felt* the presence of the Lord** right there, in that surgery!

This healing – an unquestionable proof of God's care – has been

permanent, and an inspiration for my family and friends.

Hymn no. 342:

This is the day the Lord hath made;

Be glad, give thanks, rejoice;
Stand in His presence, unafraid,
 In praise lift up your voice.
 All perfect gifts are from above,
 And all our blessings show
 The amplitude of God's dear love
 Which every heart may know.

The Lord will hear before we call,
 And every need supply;
 Good things are freely given to all
 Who on His word rely.
 We come today to bring Him
 praise
 Not for such gifts alone,
 But for the higher, deeper ways
 In which His love is shown.

For sin destroyed, for sorrow
 healed,
For health and peace restored;
 For Life and Love by Truth
 revealed,
 We thank and bless the Lord.
 This is the day the Lord hath
 made,
 In praise lift up your voice.
 In shining robes of joy arrayed,
 Be glad, give thanks, rejoice.

Finding Christian Science

During the Second World War, my mother was notified that my father had been captured in Italy and

was missing. Needless to say, my mother was extremely upset and worried. She found little comfort in the church she had been attending. Her best friend suggested that my mother speaks to her mother who was a Christian Science Practitioner. My mother then started attending the Christian Science Church and began her earnest study of Christian Science. She told me that she always **felt such peace and Christly presence** at church, and loved the messages in the hymns, especially hymn 9:

He knows the angels that you need
 and sends them to your side,
 to comfort, guard and guide.

Three years later, my father returned, and within the next few years my sister and I were born. As soon as we were old enough we were enrolled into the Christian Science Sunday School. My mother introduced her sister and her three children into Christian Science, and my cousins were all enrolled in the Christian Science Sunday School too. That dear Practitioner who rescued my mother from anxiety and fear, became a life-long friend and the Practitioner for the entire family, and we can all testify to many healings over the years.

We are deeply grateful to the Discoverer and Founder of Christian Science, Mary Baker Eddy for her Discovery and for revealing this

divine Truth for us all to study and apply.

Healing of severe stomach cramps

This reminds me of another healing I would like to share with you all.

One **Saturday** – I attended a Christian Science Association at First Church of Christ, Scientist, London, and the title of the Address was 'Viewing Man through the Lens of Spirit'. It was inspirational.

But, on **Sunday** night I was unable to sleep because of severe stomach cramps, and I tried to pray as best I could to get some relief from the pain.

On **Monday** morning – I could not even stand upright without feeling violently ill. I decided it would be best if I crawled on my hands and knees to the lavatory. My husband was aghast to see me crawling along the passageway, and remarked that I could not possibly work in the Reading Room that day, when I could not even stand up! When I reached the lavatory, my aim was to try to get rid of whatever it was that was causing these severe tummy pains. As this did not prove to be possible, I remember sitting slumped on the floor next to the lavatory, breathing heavily and sweating profusely – when suddenly I recalled what was shared with us at the Association:

The speaker was asked to look through a microscope at a little brown spider which at the time

was thought to be extinct. At first, he resisted as he had no interest in spiders, but his friend insisted – so he looked through the lens of the microscope and to his utter amazement, instead of that insignificant little brown spider, he saw a resplendent, opalescent creature, shining in exquisite detail. Perfect in every way!

At that moment, I knew that God was not seeing me as this pathetic person (an insignificant brown spider), but He saw me as He created 'man,' as complete and upright, whole, fetterless and free.

I felt God's presence right there with me – and I was healed at that very moment! I got dressed and ready to go and open the Reading Room. My husband was stunned to witness this transformation and offered to drive me to the Reading Room, but I insisted on walking. In fact, I do not even remember my feet touching the ground, singing these words from Hymn 139:

I walk with Love along the way,
And O, it is a holy day;
No more I suffer cruel fear,
I feel God's presence with me
here;
The joy that none can take away
Is mine; I walk with Love today.

The patient and the Christian Science nurse both *felt* the presence of the Lord.

We are all gathered here today, to give gratitude to all the healings taking place at Lime Tree House, as well as in our other Christian Science Houses. I would like to give special mention and gratitude to all our loving and dedicated Christian Science nurses for without you, our CS Houses would not function!

A few months ago, I received a telephone call from a nurse at a Christian Science Nursing facility, advising me that one of the patients I had been supporting was passing away. She asked if I would please pray for her. I went on my knees in humble prayer to our Father-Mother God for inspiration. Immediately I heard this angel message:

'I am right there, I am everywhere.'

Of course, our loving Father-Mother God was tenderly caring for each one of His beloved children, wherever they may be! How could I ever doubt this fact?

As I turned to God in prayer for inspiration, I recalled this passage from *Unity of Good* (p.37:11), written by Mary Baker Eddy:

'Because God is ever present, no boundary of time can separate us from Him and the heaven of His presence; and because God is Life, all Life is eternal'

I do not know how long I was in deep prayer affirming man's inseparability from God and claiming man's true identity as indestructible, but when the phone rang again, it was the same nurse reporting that the patient was fine and back in her room. I shared with the nurse the ideas I had been working with, and she confirmed that the patient and the nurses had **all *felt* God's presence** during this time.

I felt the need to continue in prayer after this phone call, affirming that God's perfect man was forever reflecting and expressing Life.

I recalled this passage – from *Miscellany* p5:10:

Wholly apart from this mortal dream, this illusion and delusion of sense, Christian Science comes to reveal man as God's image, His idea, coexistent with Him – God giving all and man having all that God gives.

I was at peace.

This healing was complete, and the patient continues to actively enjoy *'life'*.

I hope the ideas shared this afternoon enable you to *feel* His all-power, healing and setting you free.

We read so many accounts of healing as a direct result of 'feeling God's presence' in the *Christian Science Journal*, the *Christian Science Sentinel*, the *Herald* and on-line, and I would have liked to have shared some of

these with you, but time does not permit. You can discover them all for yourself!

The following prayer describes how God is caring for us every step of our 'journey'.

Footprints

I dreamed I was walking along the beach with God,
and across the sky flashed scenes from my life.
For each scene I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand;
One belonged to me, and the other to God.

... I noticed that many times along the path of my life,
There was only one set of footprints.
... and I questioned God about it.
'God, you said that once I decided to follow you,
You would walk with me all the way;
But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life,
There is only one set of footprints.
I don't understand why in times when I needed you the most,
you should leave me.'

God replied,
'My precious, precious child.
I love you,
and I would never, never leave you during your times
of trial and suffering.
When you saw only one set of footprints,
It was then that I carried you.'

Let us all pray in quiet reflection, affirming that:

Deut. 31:6:

the Lord thy God, he it is that doth go with thee;
he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

Where we are

Lime Tree House is easily reached by road, rail and air. We are on the main A556/A56 road link that runs from Junction 19 on the M6 to Manchester City Centre. We are 10 minutes' walk from Brooklands Metro station which links the city centre to the National Rail stations at Piccadilly, Stockport and Altrincham. We are only 8 miles from Manchester International Airport which has good road, rail and Metro links.



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Mountlands Trust Ltd at Lime Tree House is registered, and therefore licensed to provide services, by the Care Quality Commission (Provider ID: 1-101668691).

Lime Tree House is Accredited by the Commission for Accreditation of Christian Science Nursing Organisations/Facilities Inc.

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An inspiring workshop at the ICSND in Scarborough

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