

TWELVEACRES

Summer 2020

Unbounded Love

BY MARK FLEMING, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



A volunteer with a Twelveacres resident.

When I ponder the all-power and all-presence of God, I often turn to the attributes that define Him, such as the ones found in this sentence by Mary Baker Eddy in *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, “God’s being is infinity, freedom, harmony, and boundless bliss” (481:3–4). At any time, but especially this year, they have provided the direct counter fact to any claim of contagion, disease, or inharmony.

These attributes of God, especially “boundless bliss,” reverse the suggestions of confinement, restraint, and limited activity seemingly imposed upon us. They replace the false beliefs with the spiritual fact of boundless Life and the expectation of endless possibilities for good to be seen in our lives. They also reveal the impossibility of any obstruction or delay preventing bliss from being experienced right now.

At Twelveacres, we are so grateful for the continuous progress and unbounded Love witnessed in our four homes.

Staff’s Overflowing Love and Care of Residents — In mid-March, due to state regulations, all of the offsite day programs that our residents attend closed, and we immediately asked the Twelveacres staff to work extra hours to provide in-home day programs at all four houses. Since then, staff have tirelessly worked overtime supporting the residents with 24/7 coverage of Christian Science nursing care, life-skills learning, and a wide range of enriching activities. Our staff has been a beautiful expression of dedication and divine Love in action!

Expanded Ways to Connect — For many years, individual residents have used FaceTime to stay connected privately with their families. Starting in March, we set up video conferencing in the living rooms, which allowed us to visually integrate communication among all four houses. We’ve used this technology for resident learning activities and as a way for them to join the many Christian Science events and webinars being offered each week. This new step of progress has strengthened the Twelveacres family bonds.

Community Lovingly Supporting Our Needs — Our hearts overflow with gratitude to our growing family of Twelveacres supporters who have provided needed resources during the recent months. (See page 7)

Our residents are also expressing unbounded Love with each new experience. They patiently adapt to changes and place their trust in God, good. There has been no barrier to the progress and healing taking place. Nor can there be, since “God expresses in man the infinite idea forever developing itself, broadening and rising higher and higher from a boundless basis” (SH 258:13–15).

We send our deepest appreciation for your dedicated support of Twelveacres and Christian Science healing.

**“God’s being is
infinity, freedom,
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boundless bliss.”**

From Our Board of Directors

Over the past year, our board and management have reflected deeply on mission, strategic direction, and assessment of existing and expanded care services for current and new residents, as well as for their families. While the staff has remained focused on the Christian Science daily care and operations for the Twelveacres residents, we all continue to prayerfully discover how the Twelveacres mission can be most accessible to families anywhere.

Early in our strategy work, the board identified three key values to guide the organization's decisions and actions: Trust in God, No Limitations, and Importance of Family. Each concept applies to everything we do and continues to serve as the foundation of our operations.

As we carry out the Twelveacres mission to provide an environment for progress, spiritual growth, and healing, we trust God governs every individual, communication, and action. We rely on God and Christian Science in all ways. We provide Christian Science family support services when families need help for loved ones. Residents are part of the larger Christian Science community through church and events. Staff and residents have a sense of family as each individual supports the other in "growth in grace, expressed in patience, meekness, love, and good deeds" (SH 4:3-5).



Back row, L-R: Mike Ritter, Nancy Battey, Francesca Karpel, Tim Ames*
Front Row, L-R: Jeannie L'Heureux, Jane Faller, Kristin Messer, David Schmidt, Jean Wehren

Friends like you, who value the importance of Twelveacres' Christian Science care, help make it possible for us to successfully fulfill our mission. Each year, government funding pays only half of our annual expenses, which means Twelveacres must raise more than \$800,000 in donations each year to sustain ongoing operating costs. Every gift makes a difference.

We truly appreciate your prayers and support of our mission.

Please consider including Twelveacres in your charitable giving. Your gift, whether regular, one-time, or part of your estate planning, enables us to provide a healing environment for residents; attract, retain, and train staff; maintain our homes; and welcome new residents. Our staff, management, and residents join us in expressing heartfelt thanks for your loving support. Together we continue to progress.

With gratitude,
Twelveacres Board of Directors

*Tim Ames and Heather Beck (not pictured) have stepped down from the board to work on special projects and as Director of Christian Science Nursing, respectively, to continue serving Twelveacres.