

# SHARON HOUSE CORPORATION ANNUAL MEETING

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Toronto  
Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012 - 2:00 pm

## *Celebrating the Second Century of Christian Science Nursing in Canada*

Welcome & Hymn # 266

Spiritual Inspiration

Guest Speaker – *Carol Towar, Christian Science Nurse*

2011 – 2012 Board of Directors' Report

Treasurer's Report, including Appointment of Auditors

Hymn # 120

Question and Answer period

Election of the Board of Directors for 2012 - 2013

Comments welcomed from members of The Mother Church  
representing themselves as Christian Science nurses

Announcements

Hymn # 272

Benediction



### ***Church Manual of The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Mass.***

By Mary Baker Eddy: 49:7-16

***Christian Science Nurse. SECT. 31. A member of The Mother Church who represents himself or herself as a Christian Science nurse shall be one who has a demonstrable knowledge of Christian Science practice, who thoroughly understands the practical wisdom necessary in a sick room, and who can take proper care of the sick.***

*The cards of such persons may be inserted in The Christian Science Journal under rules established by the publishers.*

**SHARON HOUSE CORPORATION**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - March 31, 2012**

**Inspirational Address**

**Carol Towar, Christian Science Nurse**

I feel so privileged to be included in the exploration and celebration today of supporting the second century of Christian Science nursing in Canada. Christian Science nursing is such an immanently important activity. Bless you, Sharon House, for recognizing the supreme benefit in launching this campaign, and bless all of you for being here today to honor and defend this Christly activity.

So how do we go about best supporting Christian Science nursing? Aware that all of you have at least a passing understanding of what Christian Science nursing is about and that some of you are intimately acquainted with it, I'm going to be so bold as to suggest we start by examining our concept of the Christian Science nurse.

The by-law in *Church Manual of The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Mass.*, will be our stepping off point.

Article VIII, Sect.31 **Christian Science Nurse**, reads in part: A member of The Mother Church who represents himself or herself as a Christian Science nurse shall be one who has a demonstrable knowledge of Christian Science practice, who thoroughly understands the practical wisdom necessary in a sick room, and who can take proper care of the sick.

Let's look at this a little more closely... 'as one who has demonstrable knowledge of Christian Science practice,' – Mary Baker Eddy's very *first* qualification is a demonstrable knowledge of Christian Science practice, not a mastery of physical skills in moving, feeding, & bathing. Understanding the Science of being, being convinced of the efficacy of Christian Science, able and ready to defend thought

against aggressive mental suggestion – these are *primary* in the role of the Christian Science nurse.

The Christian Science nurse shall be one ‘who thoroughly understands the practical wisdom necessary in a sick room,’ – Note the use of the word ‘wisdom’ here – it implies perception, discernment, intuition, judgment, that’s spiritual maturity, isn’t it?

‘...and who can take proper care of the sick.’ – might ‘proper’ here mean not only to commonly held standards of normalcy but also care that is consistent with the theology of Christian Science?

So far, the Christian Science nurse is depicted as a mature, Christianly scientific thinker, who brings spiritual understanding & expectant reliance on Truth to the aid of the patient. What does that tell us about how Christian Science nursing is to be thought of and supported? That the role of the nurse should be respected? Sought after, even? That those of us who represent ourselves as Christian Science nurses need to hold ourselves to this standard and demonstrate spiritual understanding and wisdom?

Do you remember what Mary Baker Eddy says about the by-laws in the letter that now serves as the frontispiece to the Church Manual?

(Extract from a letter in *Miscellaneous Writings 1883-1896* by Mary Baker Eddy)  
“The Rules and By-Laws in the Manual... were written... as occasion required. They sprang from necessity, the logic of events, – from the immediate demand for them as a help that must be supplied to maintain the dignity and defense of our Cause; hence their simple, scientific basis, and detail so requisite to demonstrate genuine Christian Science, and which will do for the race what absolute doctrines destined for future generations might not accomplish.”

Listen carefully to what Eddy says here: “a help that **must** be supplied **to maintain the dignity and defense** of our Cause.” *Must* be supplied – she obviously felt the role of Christian Science Nurse was a *necessity*. A necessity for what purpose? ‘to maintain the dignity and defense of our Cause’ – is that dignity and defense important for Christian Scientists – to hearten and strengthen at times of challenge? Does it serve to reassure a skeptical public? Christian Science nursing is certainly

an outward symbol of the Christianity of our Church – our Christian caring. It counteracts the common-held belief that Christian Scientists ignore the body and its needs.

Listen again: ‘**requisite to demonstrate** genuine Christian Science’ - isn’t she saying that genuine Christian Science would not be demonstrated in its entirety without Christian Science nursing? Each and every one of the by-laws is required; they each have a crucial role to play in the demonstration of Science.

She expands this further with ‘will do for the **race**’ – which really speaks to the universal impact of this activity. Christian Science nursing as an example and benefit to the world - not just Christian Scientists - but to all mankind. I think we forget that sometimes. We’re not just practicing Christian Science for ourselves – to make *our* lives better. We’re uplifting thought and demonstrating mastery over mortality for all mankind with every demonstration and healing in Christian Science.

This explanation by our Leader shows the necessity of the office of the Christian Science nurse – in helping maintain the dignity and defense of our Cause, in demonstrating genuine Christian Science, in benefiting the world.

How does this inform the ways in which we support Christian Science nursing? Isn’t it by acknowledging the place the office of Christian Science nurse holds in our Cause? By accepting and cherishing this activity as much as we do our church services, our Sunday School, our Reading Room?

Prior to 1908, when the by-law was added establishing the Christian Science nurse, it was not uncommon for practitioners to care for patients in either the patient’s or the practitioner’s own home. As most of you know, this was the case right here in Toronto, laying the groundwork for what later became Sharon House. Our leader certainly saw the practicality of this role of the nurse in supporting the healing work in which the practitioner and patient were engaged. She knew that physical care in keeping with the theology of Christian Science supports the patient’s spiritual growth while at the same time supporting the practitioner’s treatment.

The mortal concept of care is based on the belief that that the primary need is for physical change or improvement. In Christian Science, we learn that our needs are

actually spiritual, not material – and thus, our needs must be met by Spirit. The Christian Science nurse understands that God’s care of man is His own perfect loving of all that He has made and that the care the nurse provides is the human expression of Love’s loving.

I’ve heard it likened to climbing a set of stairs. One rises higher in conscious thought with each step – rises out of material views and reaches higher spiritual viewpoints. The spiritual breakthrough which is manifested in healing may come on the first step, or the fifth, or the eighth. And sometimes, the climb can be made easier by using the banister. That’s the way it is with Christian Science practice and Christian Science nursing – they are complementary ideas on the way to healing.

The Christian Science nurse does not treat the patient – that’s the work of the Christian Science practitioner. The Christian Science nurse does, however, treat his or her own thought and maintains in himself/herself the spirituality that will help neutralize resistance to healing. A July, 1982 *Christian Science Journal* article entitled “The Theology of Care,” puts it this way: “The pure atmosphere of exact scientific thinking upholds our theological convictions and this is the care we owe each other.” Have you thought about what care you owe your fellow church members? Isn’t it this care that is based in a demonstrable knowledge of Christian Science practice - that intuits the practical wisdom necessary in the sickroom, in keeping with the theology of Christian Science, and supports the sacred work of practitioner and patient in Christian Science healing?

Now some ask, “where does the role of the Christian Science nursing facility come in to all of this?” Should it, even?

Some oppose Christian Science nursing facilities because they’re not specifically provided for in the *Manual*. In 1909, the year after the Christian Science Nurse by-law was created, Mary Baker Eddy sent the Directors a by-law establishing a Christian Science Resort – it was later withdrawn, perhaps because of the financial demands of the newly founded *The Christian Science Monitor*. But Eddy certainly saw a need for such a place. Now we know that Eddy was very particular in her use of language – why ‘resort’? The root of the word means ‘to rebound’ and one of its definitions is “that to which one has recourse for aid or assistance, or in order

to accomplish some end.” The transitive verb, ‘to resort to’ means to return to oneself; to revert to a former condition or custom.” Perhaps Eddy envisioned this facility as a place to resort to one’s true self, one’s true identity. Look at the word ‘facility’ – from ‘facile’ – meaning ‘easy,’ - a facility should literally ‘make it easy’ for the patient and nurse to work together. And that certainly is a noble motive.

There is no one, best, model for supporting Christian Science nursing – each local field needs to demonstrate what the highest form of supporting Christian Science nursing and healing in their community is at any particular point in time. And this is an ongoing demonstration. What was right yesterday may be different from today and will probably be different from tomorrow. But it is always *progressive*. We must be ready to resurrect our thought of it on a daily basis. And we’re limited only by the capacity of our thought to behold it. As God said to Abraham, “All that thou seest, to thee will I give it.” (Genesis 13:15) God also said, “Walk through the land in the length of it, and in the breadth of it...” (Genesis 13:17) Isn’t this instruction to acquaint ourselves so thoroughly with the divine idea that we know it intimately, so we can then make it our own? We must make sure we’re seeing with our spiritual perception. Are we allowing ourselves to get bogged down in the minutiae? Or are we striving to familiarize ourselves with the perfect model and holding it before our thought? We want it to be a *demonstration* – the spiritual ideal conceived in thought and then manifested in our human experience. “Seek ye *first* the kingdom of God and all these things will be added unto you.” (Matthew 6:33)

Let’s remember, too, that a Christian Science nursing facility is not parallel but alternate to a medical facility, but a completely different activity – on a different plane altogether. We’re not in the business of merely “serving” mankind, but awakening mankind to their sonship with God. The aim of Christian Science and thereby by extension, Christian Science nursing, is the progressive mastery of mortality for all mankind.

When Christian Science is systematically applied to every aspect of the work of a facility operating in the name of this religion, it provides an example for all mankind. Every activity can be divested of the limiting mortal concepts typically associated with such human endeavors and can be brought forth on a divine model. If the whole enterprise isn’t an expression of Christianly scientific thinking, it

makes no contribution to the world that isn't already being made by other human organizations. If we meet the challenges of the organization and meet the beliefs associated with nursing care within the framework of scientific Christianity, we're demonstrating over the problem of being – if not, we're adding to the problem.

The mere existence of Christian Science nursing facilities doesn't guarantee the fulfillment of their spiritual purpose. The spiritual understanding of the Christian Science nurse, staff, patients, and supporters form the actual structure of a Christian Science nursing facility and determine the success of it. We need to transcend our own competence in order to see the operation of the higher spiritual law at work, governing the situation. There is only one Ego – it's ours, *by reflection*, only when we align ourselves with the one Mind. Only as we let go of personal sense and all the opinions, experience, and fears that go with it. When we are successful in thinking and acting selflessly, this is when we *begin* to be productive and helpful to each other and our organizations.

I love the imagery of Sharon House – its name and its logo. It's so singularly appropriate for the activity of Christian Science nursing. In Biblical times, a sheep fold was a structure - usually walls with no roof - that surrounded the sheep at night, separating them from predators so they could rest fearlessly and safely. This is exactly what the Christian Science nurse and Christian Science nursing facility do - they provide shelter from world beliefs that would prey on the babe of healing. Someone always kept watch; they didn't just count on the walls of the fold to do the work at keeping the predators out. We must watch, too and not just expect that Christian Science nursing is going along fine and will be there when and if we need it.

What are some of those predatory thoughts that we need to watch for? Maybe a turning to forms of treatment other than Christian Science? In an age when medical procedures have become less invasive through the use of lasers and sound technology, when body parts are now being grown to replace unhealthy or damaged ones and in a country that practices socialized medicine where there is no out-of-pocket cost to the individual for medical treatment, we must guard against the attitude of mortal mind that would take the easy way out. We must be sure we have given up the theory of *materia medica* and not merely give up its remedies. We must remember that disease is never a material condition, but a false mental

state. And therefore, the only true cure is the Truth that changes our mental standpoint.

In *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, our Leader says, “Only through radical reliance on Truth can scientific healing power be realized.” (167:30)

Now days, the most common definition of the word ‘radical’ is ‘extreme’ – and we usually think of this statement as referring to *extreme* reliance – to the exclusion of relying on anything else - and stop there. In Eddy’s day, however, the word referred to that which proceeds from a root, thus ‘rooted’ – also native, primitive, underived, original, fundamental. So our reliance must be rooted in our understanding of man’s origin as God’s spiritual idea – such that we can’t be tempted to believe that any merely physical treatment can do anything for us. We’re after the healing that goes to the very root of our being.

Spiritual regeneration separates those who are looking for a quick remedy and those dedicated to real spiritual growth through redemption of character and thought. We *want* to grow, understand and better express God, mature our thought, uplift mankind. We need to nurture – to nurse – this natural desire for ourselves and cherish it for our church members and all mankind.

Isn’t another predatory suggestion division within our ranks? But God is indivisible! If we’re seeing a division, it’s *our concept of God* that needs correcting! Principle and its idea cannot be divided. Man cannot be separated from his source and therefore from his wholeness. That is what Christian Science nursing and Sharon House exist to help demonstrate – for the patient, for the staff members, for the board, for the field, for the world. Eddy warned us that “The tempter is vigilant, awaiting only an opportunity to divide the ranks of Christian Science and scatter the sheep abroad...” (*Retrospection and Introspection*, page 85:22-24) We need to be vigilant as well.

Remember, our work is not to unite a bunch of mortal minds around an idea; our work is to correct *our vision* until we see the unreality or nothingness of evil, division, lack, fear - which in turn allows us to see the unity and reality of good that already exists.



A last predatory thought worth mentioning today would be the failure to appreciate the role of Christian Science nursing. I hope our brief exploration today of the *Manual* by-law for the Christian Science nurse has enlarged our understanding of and appreciation for Christian Science nursing. And I hope you continue to consider and cherish its place within our Movement. Our Leader expected us to; consider what she says here: “Of this I am sure, that each Rule and By-Law in this Manual will increase the spirituality of him who obeys it, invigorate his capacity to heal the sick, to comfort such as mourn, and to awaken the sinner.” (*The First Church of Christ Scientist and Miscellany*, page 230:10)

What does it mean for each of us to be obedient to this by-law? Obedience requires yielding, being tractable, submitting to direction; it means being dutiful, carrying out or performing what’s required. Supporting Christian Science nursing then, isn’t really a personal choice, is it? Christian Science nursing, as we’ve seen this afternoon, is essential in demonstrating Christianly scientific care for ourselves, our fellow church members, and our community. Our Science requires it. It’s the care we owe ourselves. It’s the care we owe each other.

Thank you.

**SHARON HOUSE CORPORATION**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - March 31, 2012**  
**Board of Directors Report**

We are here today because we value Sharon House as an expression of ever-present Love: a visible and tangible way that divine Love meets the human need when one is relying on Christian Science for healing. Sharon House facilitates Christian Science nursing. For close to half a century it has provided a homelike, spiritual atmosphere conducive to healing, an opportunity for Christian Science nurses to grow professionally, and a legally-recognized means of receiving tax-deductible donations to further Christian Science nursing.

This past year the Board sought out a legal opinion on how we might support Christian Science nursing at the current level of giving. At the present time, Sharon House does not employ Christian Science nurses, but rents nursing rooms to independent Christian Science nurses, who care for their patients there. The facility is open on an as-needed basis, and Sharon House has no direct relationship with the patient. This has been considered a temporary mode because it departs from the way Sharon House was set up by the field over forty years ago. Now it is once again up to the field to decide the future of their nursing facility and its services. The Board is committed to raising awareness about Sharon House and Christian Science nursing through our advocate program and contact with our members and churches. *This awareness is key to the continuance of a facility presence in eastern Canada.* Proportionately as we grow in our understanding and valuing of these services, we will see these services expand, providing employment for nurses, nurses' training courses, and field nursing.

Raising awareness is just one function of a board of directors. Others include furthering the activities of the organization, providing vision and direction, securing the resources necessary to achieve our goals, ensuring accountability and the efficient use of resources, and reporting both progress and detours to our field.

A board of directors is part of the legal structure of a non-profit corporation, so it is essential that directors be informed about their legal duties and responsibilities. This past year, three of our directors, Doreen Leigh, Denis Hall and Rob Sherman attended the annual Charity Law Seminar put on by Carters, a law firm that advises churches, charities and not-for-profit organizations on developing trends in the law.

Directors are held to a high ethical standard. By law, they must avoid any conflict of interest. A director must give undivided loyalty to the corporation he or she serves. Directors should not put themselves in a position that would create a conflict between their duty to act in the best interests of the corporation and their own personal interest or the interest of another group or organization.

Good governance requires a breadth of knowledge and experience. It is good practice to include on a board, individuals who come from different backgrounds and have varied work experience and skill sets. It would be rare that you would find in one individual all the skills and knowledge required to run an organization. Ideally, boards should be made up of individuals who, together, bring a wide array of skills and expertise to the task of governing a not-for-profit corporation. For example, you might want to include someone who is particularly knowledgeable about investments or financial matters, another with experience in the non-profit world or in small business, still another who has been through change in an organization or who understands employee matters. This ensures the board composition is balanced.

The newly elected board will have the task of working out the next steps of progress, keeping the field informed, fundraising, and reinstating services as the funding allows.

But what about you? What is your role in Sharon House's progress? A *vital* one! As each member deepens his or her understanding of Christian Science nursing and appreciates more fully its importance to our movement, we lay a sure foundation for progress on which the board can build.

In your meeting package you will find a sheet called “Christian Science Nurse Scope of Services.” For those of you who have never worked with a Christian Science nurse, this provides a clear and practical outline of what Christian Science nursing is and what it is not. Now I’d like you to take out your copy, turn to the second page and just quickly scan through the first set of bullet points.

Okay, now did you recognize yourself anywhere in there? Have you ever offered spiritual reassurance to somebody, “faithfully and consistently acknowledging man's spiritual perfection?” That’s the 3<sup>rd</sup> bullet. Well, that is, in part, Christian Science nursing! Have you ever read aloud to a friend from *Science and Health*? Or been asked to contact a Christian Science practitioner on behalf of a family member? Or given encouragement to a fellow church member who was working out a challenge through Christian Science? Those are bullets 4, 5, and 6. If you have ever done any of these things, then in those moments you were doing Christian Science nursing!

The term “Christian Science nurse” identifies first and foremost an office of thought. It is a holy state of consciousness—expressed. Its purpose is to nurse the Christian Science thought. Because the Christian Science nurse is an office of thought, it cannot be stereotyped. It is never the exclusive possession or domain of any one individual. It cannot be reduced to a job title. It does not confine itself to one specific form; therefore we should not think the Christian Science Nurse by-law can be given expression only in a nursing facility or only through an independent practice. The spiritual idea called “Christian Science nurse” is unlimited in its scope and application. Its activity is the human manifestation of divine Love’s infinite operation. In truth, it applies to and includes all mankind. It includes you!

Mrs. Eddy placed the Christian Science nurse by-law in *Church Manual of The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Mass.* under Article VIII, *Guidance of*

*Members.* This infers that Mrs. Eddy intended the by-law to apply to all members of her church, and not solely to those who have chosen to pursue it as a profession.

Later today, we'll hear from some Christian Science nurses who have chosen the ministry of Christian Science nursing as a profession and a calling. We are very blessed to have individuals who are dedicating their lives to this holy calling. But we need to remember that the Christian Science nursing practice, like the Christian Science healing practice, is natural to all of us. It unfolds, expands, and takes practical form in our life as we nurture and cherish our native spiritual qualities and understanding of the Christ Science. As we each claim the uninterrupted manifestation of divine Love's infinite operation in our lives, we are establishing the thought-foundation for Sharon House's uninterrupted progress.

Did you know that we are in the *second* century of Christian Science nursing in Canada? In fact, in the 1890s, a decade before the Christian Science nurse by-law was enacted, Christian Science nursing was being practiced in Toronto! Two local Christian Scientists, Emily Shanklin and Daisette Stocking, began taking patients who required nursing care into their home, and their friend, William P. McKenzie, soon dubbed the house "Sharon," after the plain of Sharon referred to in the Bible as a place of rest, renewal and healing. The first Sharon House actually predated Mrs. Eddy's instruction to her board of directors to pass a *Manual* by-law for the establishment of a Christian Science nursing facility.

Although this early "Sharon House" was quite informal and did not outlive the involvement of its founders, a more formal concept for a Christian Science nursing facility in Toronto unfolded around 1953, when practitioners, Florence Hamilton and Ethel Goss, began holding informal meetings to discuss the idea of establishing a Christian Science "nursing home." One of these ladies, most likely Mrs. Goss, had had some connection with the early "Sharon," and suggested the name "Sharon House" for the new facility. By the end of 1968, Sharon House Corporation had been founded and registered as a charity. Since then, Sharon

House's progress has been continuous. To be sure, there have been challenges, both big and small, along the way, but a clearer and stronger manifestation of the idea that is Sharon House has steadily emerged.

As the historical record shows, this progress is divinely impelled, and it is unstoppable. We witness it to the degree that we understand and appreciate Christian Science nursing and its importance to our movement. We witness it to the degree that we cherish the Christian Science nurse within each of us. We witness it as we affirm the uninterrupted manifestation of divine Love's infinite operation in our lives. Those early workers and others who have caught the vision have done their part. Now, it is our collective thoughts and actions that will determine whether we witness the continuance of a Christian Science nursing facility in eastern Canada.

Our Leader cautioned: "If spiritual conclusions are separated from their premises, the nexus is lost, and the argument, with its rightful conclusions, becomes correspondingly obscure" (*Retrospection and Introspection*, pages 21-22). The spiritual premise of Sharon House is clearly divine Love's unfailing support of its own idea: Christ-healing. By reasoning spiritually from that premise, the only rightful conclusion can be and is continued unfoldment and progress for the idea that is Sharon House. Error would always try to separate the spiritual premise from its inescapable conclusion. It is our job to maintain in thought the essential unity of the spiritual premise and conclusion.

Mrs. Eddy once told her students: "We, to-day, in this class-room, are enough to convert the world if we are of one Mind; for then the whole world will feel the influence of this Mind; as when the earth was without form, and Mind spake and form appeared" (*Miscellaneous Writings 1883-1896*, pages 279-80).

We, today, in this auditorium, are enough to ensure the progress of Sharon House if we are of one Mind; for then the whole field will feel the influence of this Mind; as when Sharon House was without form, and Mind spake and form appeared. Let's come together with one Mind to raise awareness and deepen understanding of this precious, spiritual idea.

Thank you!

Stephanie Bonnell  
Chairman of the Board of Directors

## CHRISTIAN SCIENCE NURSE SCOPE OF SERVICES

Christian Science nursing is a practical, spiritual ministry that actively supports the patient's decision to rely on Christian Science for healing. It is grounded in the Bible-based theology of Christian Science, which includes Christ Jesus' commandment to love one another. (see John 15:12) This ministry is carried out with prayer, wisdom, compassion and skill.

The founder of Christian Science, Mary Baker Eddy, established the authority and standard for the Christian Science nurse in 1908 in *The Manual of The Mother Church*. (Page 49, Article VIII, Section 31):

*Christian Science Nurse. SECT. 31. A member of The Mother Church who represents himself or herself as a Christian Science nurse shall be one who has a demonstrable knowledge of Christian Science practice, who thoroughly understands the practical wisdom necessary in a sick room, and who can take proper care of the sick.*

*The cards of such persons may be inserted in The Christian Science Journal under rules established by the publishers.*

Individuals advertising in *The Christian Science Journal* have presented satisfactory evidence that they fulfill the requirements in this By-Law.

This *Scope of Services* is intended to clarify for patients and other interested persons what they may expect when engaging the services of a Christian Science nurse. It touches briefly on the main aspects of those services.

*Continued on the other side*



**The care of the Christian Science nurse includes:**

- Accepting a case with the expectancy of complete and immediate healing;
- Giving care that is consistent with the theology and ethics of Christian Science;
- Loving reassurance of God's tender care, ever-presence, and omnipotence; faithfully and consistently acknowledging man's spiritual perfection;
- Christian encouragement of an individual's expression of normal activity and natural vitality;
- Reading to or with an individual from the Bible, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* and other writings by Mary Baker Eddy; also, additional literature published by The Christian Science Publishing Society;
- Communication: maintaining an ethical, moral, and loving manner in all communications with the patient, family, friends, Christian Science practitioner, and others; observing ethical and legal requirements with regard to private information about the patient;
- Surroundings: maintaining an atmosphere that is conducive to spiritual healing and supportive of harmonious care;
- Personal care and bathing: assisting with all necessary care to meet the needs of cleanliness and comfort;
- Mobility: assisting with mobility including assisting with standing, walking, moving and settling with or without mobility aids or comfort items;
- Nourishment: preparing and modifying food; assisting with feeding; giving appropriate encouragement to eat;
- Cleansing/bandaging: cleansing, covering and bandaging, to provide for cleanliness, protection, support, and comfort;
- Instructing the patient or others in providing care for meeting individual needs;
- Being obedient to the laws of the land.

**The care of the Christian Science nurse does not include:**

- Making a medical diagnosis or prognosis;
- Assuming responsibility for making health care decisions for the patient;
- Administering medication, drugs or using medicated, herbal, or vitamin-based products and remedies;
- Using and administering medically oriented techniques or technology;
- Manipulation, massage, physical therapy;
- Intravenous or force-feeding;
- Assuming responsibility for a patient's financial or household business transactions;
- Intruding on the private relationship between the patient and the Christian Science practitioner, or between the patient and his or her family;
- Giving personal advice and counsel.

Fundamental to the ministry of a Christian Science nurse is an active, prayerful confirmation of man's innate spirituality and responsiveness to God's harmonious government. This spiritual witnessing undergirds each aspect of the care a Christian Science nurse renders.

**Sharon House Corporation**  
**Annual General Meeting – March 31, 2012**  
**Treasurer's Report**

Thank you Madame President.

Dear friends,

The audited financial statement for the 2011 fiscal year is in the information package that you were given today. Excerpted from that report are these key pieces of financial information representing the 2011 year-end.

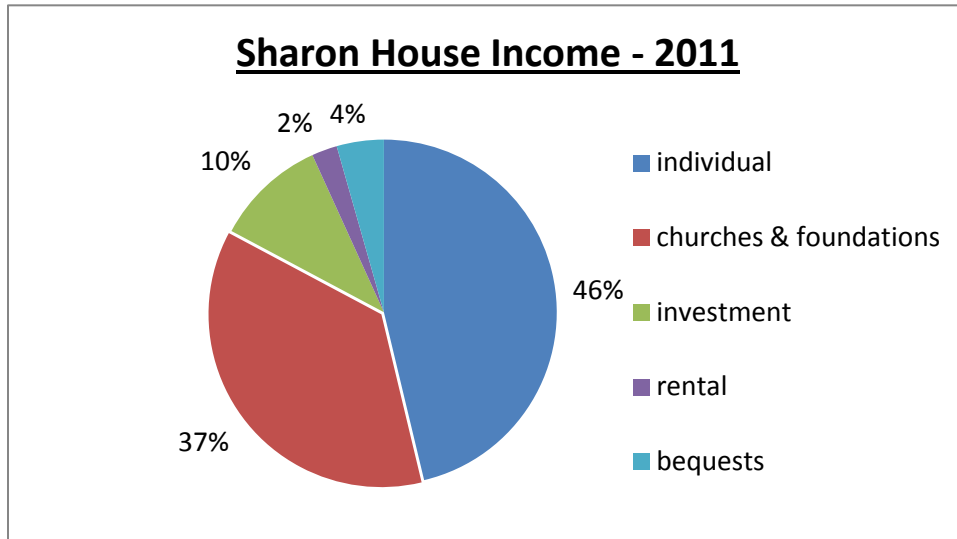
2011 financial highlights:

- Total revenue       \$197,068
- Total expenses     \$200,667 (ignoring depreciation)
- Endowment Fund value     \$406,792
- Cash available       \$17,668

While the actual cash available at year-end was \$17,668, the amount of cash available on a month by month basis for the last few months has hovered at around \$25,000.

## Income

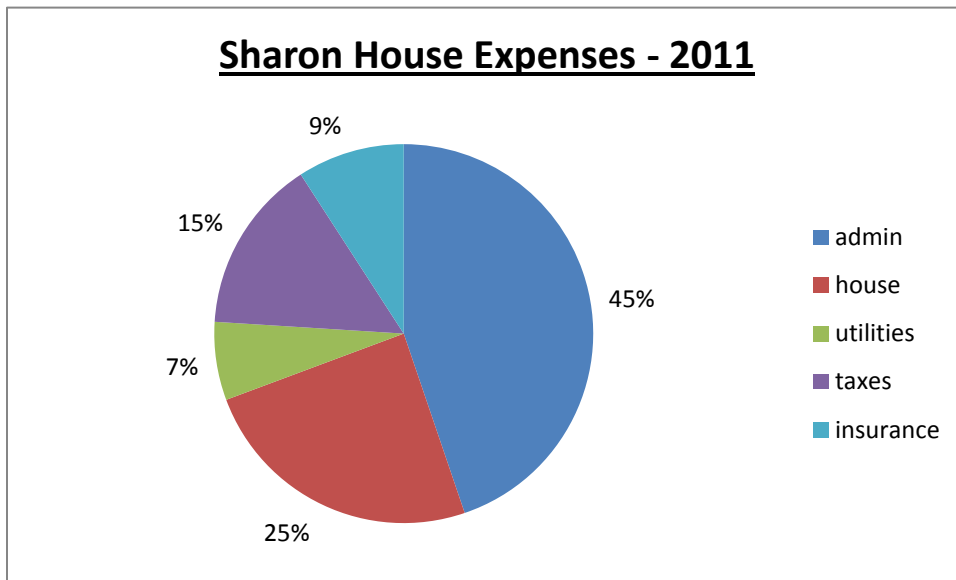
Our revenues consist of donations from individuals, churches and foundations, investment income and – in 2011 – from rental of rooms. The breakdown is illustrated by the accompanying chart.



Approximately 50% of the donations received from all sources are gifts that are scheduled, generally on a monthly or quarterly basis.

## Expenses

With minimal staffing and with minimal costs for provision of services, our costs have been primarily those associated with maintaining the house and grounds, and paying for utilities, taxes and insurances and any other costs associated with running a corporation. The chart below illustrates the details. A special note is that this breakdown excludes the costs associated with the legal settlement described in Note 8 of our Auditor's report. The reason for this exclusion is that the details are confidential and the event is non-recurring. Also, a significant portion will be reimbursed to Sharon House by our insurance company.



### Endowment Fund

The Endowment Fund was established in 2008 in order to generate income that would support the operations of Sharon House by supplementing donations and income from services. The Fund's income is primarily in the form of dividends. Last October we withdrew the amount of \$14,644 that had accumulated over the previous 12 months. Of course, as the Endowment grows with new donations, so does the yield that is available.

### Audit process

At audit time this year an investigation was carried out regarding the audit cost. This was done through questioning of our traditional audit firm, Withey Addison, as well as a competitive firm. The findings were that audits conducted in accordance with today's generally accepted auditing standards on charities the size of Sharon House would be expected to cost from \$5000 to \$7000. The competitive firm representative stated his view that our cost of \$5085 is fair and he also gave a sound commendation of Withey Addison as an excellent firm.

A Treasurer's report presents a picture of what has happened. It can be seen that, in our present situation, we have been able to reduce costs to the point where we are holding our own. This puts us in the position of determining where to go from here, just how to do it and what the costs will be.

Sharon House is a vital part of the Canadian Christian Science community in that its sole purpose can be distilled into supporting Christian Science healing through its support of Christian Science nursing. As a charity, we depend almost entirely on the generosity of our donors to enable us to fulfill our mission.

We want to thank you and all of our other donors, including the Vint Foundation for your continued love of, and support for, Sharon House and all that it stands for.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Vaughan,

Treasurer

# SHARON HOUSE CORPORATION ANNUAL MEETING

First Church of Christ, Scientist, Toronto

Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012

## *Board of Directors for 2012-2013*

In alphabetical order by last name:

Bob Cooke – First Church, Etobicoke

Denis Hall – First Church, Etobicoke

Doreen Leigh – Barrie Society

Marilee Marshall – First Church, Toronto

Rob Sherman – First Church, Toronto

Kathy Shuff\* – Fifth, Toronto

Don Zacher – Fifth Church, Toronto

\*immediately after the AGM, Kathy Shuff was elected President of the Corporation and Chairman of the Board



### ***Church Manual of The First Church of Christ, Scientist, in Boston, Mass.***

By Mary Baker Eddy: 49:7-16

*Christian Science Nurse. SECT. 31. A member of The Mother Church who represents himself or herself as a Christian Science nurse shall be one who has a demonstrable knowledge of Christian Science practice, who thoroughly understands the practical wisdom necessary in a sick room, and who can take proper care of the sick.*

*The cards of such persons may be inserted in The Christian Science Journal under rules established by the publishers.*