

Communities of Christian Caring "Beloved, let us love one another. For love is of God." (I John)

**Caring for our fellow Christian Scientists.** It's the most natural thing in the world: dropping by a member's home to read them the Lesson, visiting a CS friend at a care facility, helping brand new parents with meals. These activities are rewarding, and they are easier, more effective, and more joyful when done as part of a "community of carers."

In the last few years, an organic movement has sprung up among Christian Scientists to support each other. Beginning in a couple of states like New Mexico and Arizona — where Christian Science churches are fewer and more distanced — a natural momentum is creating a network called Communities of Christian Caring (CoCC).

## What does a Community of Christian Caring do?

- Awakens the natural Christian desire to care for one another
- Supports healing! Anything from friendly visits, to tidying up, to fixing meals, to finding on-going care from a Christian Science nurse
- Supplements the efforts of a church care committee, a Christian Science nursing facility, or a visiting CS nurse service if one is nearby
- □ Identifies resources (local or beyond) which an individual or group might not be aware of to meet a specific need
- □ Builds a web of sustainable relationships not solo efforts or one-time events, but on-going partnerships within one's CS community
- Discovers unique ways to meet the needs of Christian Scientists in your own area
- □ Reaches out to knowledgeable sources to build their own capacity to do all of these things if at this time it is not happening for one reason or another
- □ Hosts conversations, meetings and workshops (in person and online) to educate Christian Scientists in understanding and supporting the role of Christian Science nursing in our movement
- □ Clarifies the practicalities (and the ethics) of helping someone in their home

Christian Scientists everywhere can create their own informal networks of carers — whether they are tied to a Christian Science nursing facility or a church . . . or they are more remote and doing things on their own.

If you want to explore what is possible in your own area, contact <u>info@cscocc.org</u> or call the call center (800-930-3797) and ask them to put you in touch with the Communities of Christian Caring.