



(ROSS COLLINS, PRESIDENT)

Good morning,

Today we celebrate High Oaks' long love of and commitment to Christian Science nursing! How meaningful it is that our keynote talk will be given by Lois Herr who very early in her career served as a Christian Science Nurse at High Oaks!

Looking briefly for a moment at our beginnings, brings gratitude for where we are today.

In the late 1930s, a group of Christian Scientists in Philadelphia was led to open a small facility, referred to then as a "Sanatorium", on Walnut Street to provide Christian Science nursing care. Growth led to the need for a larger building which was purchased in the Mt. Airy neighborhood of Philadelphia where a full scope of CS nursing services was offered. This new facility got its name from the tall oak trees on the property.

As time went by, three other Christian Science nursing facilities were established in our region. These were Lynn House, Tenacre and High Ridge House. As these facilities grew, in the 1980s, High Oaks elected to sell its property and re-establish as a philanthropic organization devoted to providing benevolence to "individuals who are relying on Christian Science for healing and to supporting the activities of the Christian nurse" in accordance with Article VIII, Section 31 of the Manual of The Mother Church, by Mary Baker Eddy.

Over the 36 years of serving Christian Scientists in our region, High Oaks has steadily grown, strengthening and expanding its ability to live up to its mission.

During calendar year 2025, High Oaks gave 259 grants of benevolence to adults and young people in our region that stretches from New York to Virginia and the District of Columbia.

While some of these grants helped pay for treatment from Christian Science practitioners, tuition for Christian Science campers, and daily living expenses on a temporary basis, 87% of the total \$337,000 of benevolence given by High Oaks was given to individuals seeking financial assistance for CS nursing in a facility or at home, tuition for CS nursing training courses, and for direct grants for operating expenses to CS nursing facilities.

As a result of your generous contributions, and the income from our investments, we are grateful to report that the financial position of the High Oaks is very strong.

With the guidance of our High Oaks Finance Committee and the expertise of our professional investment advisors, we can report that our assets have grown to \$6.4 million dollars. And I would add that High Oaks is debt free!

We are mindful of our need to keep pace with increasing costs of Christian Science nursing services. To this end, we are so grateful to all those that have supported our mission both financially and prayerfully. Each gift to High Oaks, no matter its size, is essential and deeply valued.

Going forward, our goals include the stewardship of these funds, to ensure the perpetuity and growth of High Oaks, Inc.