

## 2020 EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE

2020 was a different year with new rules and regulations. Online programs were successfully implemented at four of the six camps. In-person camp was held for youth at two of the camps, and family camp during the summer was held at three of the camps. Even with these temporary changes, gratitude for a Christian Science camp experience overflowed.

### ON-LINE CAMP

"Online camp really turned my summer around...we were always so excited to "go to" camp every day and afterwards we would feel very refreshed and ready for another camp day!"

"My favorite memory was making a flower drawing in nature camp with each petal representing a "treasure of Truth". My favorite treasure of Truth is, "a higher and more permanent peace." I like this one because it helps me be calm when I get excited. Even online, I could still feel the love from my counselors. I looked forward to camp each day."

"I was so excited to learn that I would be able to connect with people I had previously met and new people on the online camp. I was not sure how camp would feel being online and for only a few hours, but it was always the highlight of my week."

"Like many other families, our summer camp plans were put on hold in 2020. As the summer now comes to a close, our family has been reflecting on what we're grateful for. The online experience our kids had for two weeks in July is at the top of our list. The program was richly engaging, the counselors were invested in the kids and their experience, and Bible Lesson reading and discussion brought a welcome lift to their day. Thank you for making it possible for our kids to attend this virtual Christian Science camp experience."

### FAMILY CAMP

"Thank you is not enough to show our family's gratitude for the amazing and wonderful blessing bestowed on our family. A collective sense of gratitude and a greater understanding, and appreciation of grace, is what we left with and will return to in the future."

"I am beyond grateful for the opportunity to attend Family Camp. My girls had the best time and I was able to watch *them* build confidence and really bloom at camp."

"We have been struggling with harmony in the household this year, and all the sibling squabbles just melted away. The uplifted spiritual sense and love that surrounds you at camp was needed more than ever this summer."

"My daughter and I are especially grateful for the financial assistance that enabled us to come to camp and be given the opportunity to connect/reconnect with Christian Science, to live in the moment in this extraordinary environment (both physical and spiritual), and to rest and reboot during these unprecedented times."

"My family was able to participate in 10 days of family camp and day camp this summer due to your generosity. With 3 children (16 months, 6 and 8) we could not have been able to attend if it weren't for the campership and we are truly grateful for the financial help. God bless you!"

### FINDING TRUE FRIENDSHIP:

"I don't only go to camp just because it's fun, but also the brotherhood and brotherly love that you get at camp is unlike anything else. The friendships I make at camp are unbreakable and the bond we create with each other are stronger than most of the friends I have at home."

"Thank you so much for financially supporting me in my love of God and being with close friends. I have made the best friends of my whole life in these past years at *camp*. I have also met some of the most wonderful role models both older and younger at camp. I was so happy that *camp* decided to open. We felt so safe and protected there. I have found my best friends at *camp* that I will always treasure."

"I also always love the brotherhood I experience at camp. You can never feel alone or left out and your brothers are constantly around you, helping you up when you're down, physically or mentally."

"Thank you for helping me go to camp. Camp is such a good place and I got to meet so many great people. These friendships will be forever! Camp taught me about Christian Science and I am able to use these lessons throughout my life."

## HEALINGS

"I had so much spiritual growth this year and learned more about healing. I had a healing when I was about to go on an intense camping trip and needed a lot of persistence when praying and fighting error telling me what physical problem I seemed to have. I had a great time on my trip and didn't let a physical problem affect me. I thought about the idea "God rests in action" a lot."

"This was one of my best summers because I learned how to be a leader. I was able to lead the younger boys by helping them in activities and around camp. I learned that I don't need to rely on sleep and food as much as I thought. Instead, I relied on God to give me more energy."

"A healing I had was during the middle of the session I thought I was going home and didn't know I would be staying for the full summer. I was sad and homesick. I had the love and support of my counselors sharing truths with me and finding the good all around me. Within a day or two, I knew I was still in my right place and finished the summer strong."

## GROWTH

"I know that the thank you is supposed to come at the end, but I was so excited, I wanted to write one now. Because of the global state, we are struggling, and I would not be able to go to camp if we didn't get help. I love camp so much. Thank you for this opportunity to go to camp and to grow as a person and Christian Scientist."

"This year as a whole has been filled with changes as we all know. Each and every Christian Science camp was affected differently this summer and had to make drastic changes in day to day routine. I was beyond blessed to be able to attend camp this summer especially with how covid has affected our world. Although camp was not how it is normally, I felt like I had the most

fulfilling summer yet. I connected with my peers in a completely different way and it created a strong desire for all to brainstorm on how to make the most of our current situation. I want to thank the entire crew for working day and night to make sure the CIT's would have a fulfilling experience and gain the most possible from the course. I loved every minute of it and wouldn't change a thing."

"What I got out of going to my first ever Christian Science camp was not only the amazing brotherhood, but their faith in God. They knew that no matter what, they are perfect children of God and God will guide them."