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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

JHN Publishes Spirituality Themed Issue

The American Holistic Nurses Association (AHNA) in their Journal of Holistic Nursing (JHN) released a 164-page Spirituality themed Issue filled with research articles on spirituality and their relationship to nursing practice.

This special edition coincides with the World Health Organization’s (WHO) designation of 2020 as the “Year of the Nurse”, marking 200 years since the birth of Florence Nightingale, and AHNA’s 40th anniversary.

“In today’s complex high-tech healthcare landscape, the role of spirituality in Florence Nightingale’s nursing practice needs to be recalled, envisioned and transformed. One’s spiritual needs have been at the heart of the nursing discipline since its founding and a key tenet of holistic nursing,” said special issue guest editor Mary Elaine Southard, DNP, MSN, RN, APHN-BC, HWNC-BC, Director Integrative Health Consulting and Coaching, LLC Scranton, PA

A deeper understanding of spirituality can provide information that may assist the nurse in recognizing barriers of healing for patients and offer greater hope, clarity and health of mind-body-spirit. As a nurse enters the workforce, progressing from novice to expert, attentively listening to how the patient’s health story unfolds can impact one’s own spiritual journey as an illuminating discovery for self-reflection. At the core of patient centered care is a relationship based on respectful religious and cultural diversity, worldview and spirituality.

This special edition addresses the topic of spirituality in nursing across cultures, educational preparation and research. It offers insights into the role of spirituality in health, illness, and healing through systematic studies, analyses, and clinical practices. Hopefully, shedding light on spirituality in the interest of advancing the science and practice of holistic nursing, providing deeper understandings and appreciations of what is possible and what can be challenged. We offer this issue, as with all issues, the ability to share work that is always open to critique and deeper dialogue of relevance.

The research articles include a focus and a variety of spirituality topics including:

Editorial

Spirituality: The Missing Link for Holistic Health Care

Qualitative Research

Spiritual Dimensions of Nurse Practitioner Consultations in Family Practice

Surgical Patients’ Perception of Spirituality on the Outcome of Surgery in North Ghana
Quantitative Research

Episodic Memory in Later Life: Benefits of Prayer and Meditation

Perception of Spiritual Care Education, Competence, and Barriers in Providing Spiritual Care Among Registered Nurses

Relational and Spiritual Coping Among Emerging and Young Adult Cancer Survivors

Spiritual Well-Being in Cancer Patients Undergoing Chemotherapy in an Outpatient Setting: A Cross-Sectional Study

Spiritually Sensitive Intervention to Mitigate Depressive Symptoms Among Hospitalized Children Affected With Congenital Heart Diseases: Insight for Holistic Pediatric Nursing

Conceptual/Theoretical

Religiosity and Health: A Holistic Biopsychosocial Perspective

A Spiritual Well-Being Model for the Healing Arts

Critical Reviews

Critical literature Review on the Definition Clarity of the Concept of Faith, Religion, and Spirituality

How Nurses Understand Spirituality and Spiritual Care: A Critical Synthesis

Education

Spiritual Care in Holistic Nursing Education: A Spirituality and Health Elective Rooted in T.R.U.S.T and Contemplative Education

Spiritual Care Perceptions of Baccalaureate Nursing Students

Practice

Remembrance and Renewal: Health Care Staff Spiritual Self-Care

The Invisibility of Spiritual Nursing Care in Clinical Practice

Aesthetics

Blessing: A Practice of Presence, Intentionality, and Appreciation

About AHNA

Founded in 1981, the American Holistic Nurses Association (AHNA) adopted as its primary mission, the advancement of holistic healthcare by increasing awareness and promoting education, as well as personal community-building among nurses, other healthcare professionals and the public. This
nonprofit professional nursing specialty organization is the definitive voice for holistic nursing for registered nurses and other holistic healthcare professionals around the world. Holistic nursing focuses on integrating traditional, complementary and alternative treatment opportunities to improve the mind body and spiritual health of the whole person.

AHNA delivers valuable resources, improves educational tools, and offers superior networking opportunities to a vibrant and expanding universe of holistic healthcare professionals. AHNA currently services more than 5,500 members through 152 local chapters/networks in the U.S. and abroad. Holistic nursing is recognized by the American Nurses Association as an official nursing specialty with both a defined scope and standards of practice.

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