

Staying in the Sunshine

In his book, *The Best Is Yet to Be*, Henry Durbanville told the story of a little girl in London who won a prize at a flower show.

Her entry was grown in an old, cracked teapot and had been placed in the rear attic window of a rundown tenement house.

When asked how she managed to raise such a lovely flower in such an unlikely environment, she said she moved it around so it would always be in the sunlight.



Durbanville then reminded his readers of Jesus' words: "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love" (John 15:9).

We, too, must keep ourselves continually in the warmth of Christ's love. We abide in His love when we show love to others. That's the way to stay in the sunshine!

We all know people who light up a room when they enter. They have radiant smiles, warm personalities, positive energy – and all those characteristics are fueled by love.



I am pleased to say that as I tour our facilities, I find people just like that: associates who daily demonstrate their love for each other and for the residents and families they serve.

Love, in fact, is what motivates them to do what they do: caring for others with their professional skills and compassion.

And you know what? Not only does it keep the caregivers in the sunshine, but it brightens the lives of those who experience the resulting rays.

Remember: Our love for God is seen in our love for others.

As we enter 2012, let's purpose to stay in the sunshine. Every day.

If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love (John 15:10).

– Beecher Hunter