

JOIN THE PASTORAL CARE TEAM

A PROGRAM OF INREACH TO REFLECT GOD'S LOVE THROUGH OUR FAITH IN ACTION. OUR GOAL AS SHEPHERDS ON THE PASTORAL CARE TEAM IS TO PROVIDE A MINISTRY OF HOPE AND CARE SO THAT NO MEMBER OF OUR PARISH NEED BE ALONE.

OUR TEAM MEETS EVERY TWO WEEKS TO SHARE EXPERIENCES, ASK QUESTIONS, BRAINSTORM NEW IDEAS, PARTICIPATE IN TRAININGS, AND REVIEW BEST PRACTICES. OUR HOPE IS THAT SHEPHERDS ATTEND MEETINGS AS OFTEN AS POSSIBLE.

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"FINALLY, ALL OF YOU, HAVE UNITY OF SPIRIT, SYMPATHY, LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER, A TENDER HEART, AND A HUMBLE MIND." 1PETER 3.8



NEED ASSISTANCE?

THE PASTORAL CARE TEAM NOW HAS A DEDICATED PHONE LINE AT GOOD SHEPHERD.

LET US KNOW HOW WE CAN HELP!

**828-743-2359
EXT. 7**



A MINISTRY OF HOPE AND CARE TO ENSURE THAT NO MEMBER OF OUR PARISH NEED BE ALONE.

WE SUPPORT THOSE GOING THROUGH A LIFE CRISIS, MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH THOSE PARISHIONERS UNABLE TO ATTEND CHURCH, AND SUPPORT FRIENDS AND FAMILY INVOLVED IN CAREGIVING AND COMFORT THE BEREAVED.

**TO the Parish
FROM the Parish
FOR the Parish**

WHAT IS PASTORAL CARE?

A LAY PASTORAL CARE TEAM IS A GROUP OF PEOPLE DEDICATED TO SUPPORTING PEOPLE WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS. AT A TIME WHEN OUR POPULATION IS AGING, CARING FOR OLDER ADULTS IS ESPECIALLY RELEVANT. THIS IS AN IDEAL MINISTRY FOR LAITY AS THEY OFTEN HAVE LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIPS WITH OLDER MEMBERS. AND THERE IS A ROLE FOR PEOPLE WITH DIFFERENT SKILLS. THOSE WHO ARE GOOD AT LISTENING AND CARING CAN BE VISITORS. THOSE WHO LIKE TO DO THINGS CAN BUY OR PREPARE FOOD, SCHEDULE VISITORS, WRITE NOTES, GATHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES, SERVE AS DRIVERS, ETC.

WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS THAT WE HAVE A TEAM OF PEOPLE WHO CAN RESPOND TO THE NEEDS IN OUR CONGREGATION. THIS CAN ALSO EXTEND TO THOSE WHO NEED A BREAK FROM CARING FOR SOMEONE WHO IS ILL OR SHUT-IN, THOSE WHOSE LOVED ONE HAS DIED OR BE WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS A CHRONIC ILLNESS OR DISABILITY.

CONGREGATIONS CANNOT DEPEND SOLELY ON THE CLERGY TO PROVIDE PASTORAL CARE. THEY DO, OF COURSE, PROVIDE CARE WHEN PEOPLE ARE DYING, STRUGGLING WITH DEATH OR AN ILLNESS OR NEED TO SPEAK WITH A PRIEST. ROUTINE VISITS TO THE LONELY, SICK, ELDERLY, HOMEBOUND, ETC., ARE BEST DONE BY THE LAITY UNDER DIRECTION OF CLERGY. BECAUSE THIS IS A CORE MINISTRY OF THE LAITY AND BECAUSE THERE ARE MORE LAITY IN A CONGREGATION THAN CLERGY, THOSE NEEDING CARE WILL RECEIVE IT MORE FREQUENTLY! LAY PASTORAL CAREGIVERS FIND THAT THIS MINISTRY IS DEEPLY MEANINGFUL AND THAT IT USUALLY DEEPENS THEIR SPIRITUAL LIFE.

WHAT DO WE OFFER?

SO WHAT CAN WE DO FOR OUR BELOVED SISTERS AND BROTHERS? HERE ARE A FEW THINGS:

- CALLS/TEXTS
- READ ALOUD TO PEOPLE IN THEIR HOME
- WRITE LETTERS
- SITTING AND LISTENING
- TAKE FLOWERS FROM CHURCH
- DOING PUZZLES TOGETHER
- TAKE A PRAYER QUILT
- TAKE COMMUNION
- DRIVE TO CHURCH
- WATCH STREAMED SUNDAY SERVICE TOGETHER
- PRAY TOGETHER
- MINOR REPAIRS TO THEIR HOME
- HELP PACK
- LIGHT HOUSEWORK IN THEIR HOME
- PROVIDE FOOD
- RIDES TO APPOINTMENTS
- GROCERY SHOPPING
- WALKING TOGETHER
- PET CARE

TESTIMONIALS

CARROLL RIVERS

"MY LEFT EYE REQUIRES A SHOT EVERY SIX WEEKS. IT IS NOT TO CURE BUT TO KEEP IT FROM BEING WORSE. THE DOCTOR IS IN SYLVA. MY RIDE, AT THE LAST MOMENT COULD NOT TAKE ME. THE LAY PASTORAL CARE TEAM CAME TO MY NEED!"

MAIZIE BELSER

"TO BE SO BLESSED AS TO BE A PART OF A LOVING, CARING FAMILY, IS ONE OF GOD'S GREATEST GIFTS. I BELIEVE THOUGH THAT NOW GOD IS CALLING US TO OPEN OUR EYES WIDER TO SEE THE NEEDS OF EVERY SHEEP IN OUR 'LITTLE FLOCK' SO THAT NOT ONE 'CAN SLIP THROUGH THE CRACKS.'"

LIZ AND LAMAR COLE

"THE HELP WE RECEIVED FROM THE PASTORAL CARE TEAM WAS WONDERFUL. THEY DROVE US TO AND FROM DOCTOR APPOINTMENTS, RAN ERRANDS FOR US AND BROUGHT US MANY DELICIOUS MEALS. IT WAS SUCH A BLESSING TO US AND I DON'T KNOW HOW WE WOULD HAVE GOTTEN THROUGH THAT DIFFICULT TIME WITHOUT THEM. THANKS TO ALL OF THEM."

SHARON VANVICK

"...YOUR PRESENCE AND PRAYERS MADE ALL THE DIFFERENCE IN MY RECOVERY. YOUR CALLS AND EMAILS CONTINUE TO IMPACT MY HEALING EVERY DAY! ALL OF THIS ABUNDANCE OF CARE HAS MADE ME RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF CARING FOR OTHERS..."

TO the Parish FROM the Parish FOR the Parish