

## Ministry Spotlight: Pastoral Care

"This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you."

John 15:12

We as Christians are called on to take care of one another. It's not always easy as a member to figure out how we're supposed to take care of our fellows. We may not know what to say or do. We may not even know that help would be appreciated.

In the Church of the Good Shepherd, many avenues for caring for one another have been gathered into the Mary Beth Fee Pastoral Care Center. Created in January 2018, the Pastoral Care Center combines many inreach efforts under the leadership of one coordinator, currently our inestimable Lynn Wiss.

We invite you to get involved in our community. Below you'll see some of the ways you can get involved (and who to contact.) Each of these ministries takes an army: even if you have very little time, you can help by sending cards, baking a loaf of bread or some Christmas cookies, or calling a person to check in. Feel free to get in touch with Lynn Wiss or any of the people listed below.

The items with asterisks are particularly underwater and would benefit from your help.

- Meal ministries (Debbie Blankenship & Lynn Wiss):
- Share a Meal: take a meal to someone and sit with them to provide some company as well.
- Make & Take a Meal: cook food for a family or individual in need and drop it off.
- \*Deliver a Meal: buy a premade salad and some fruit to augment a casserole from the PLC freezer and drop off the meal.
- Shepherd's Lunch (Lynda-Terrell Rae): eat at the church with other parishioners and Shepherd's Table guests on the 3rd Thursday at lunch.
- Cheer Committee (Karen Boyne): send monthly cards to folks who are homebound or suffering illness.
- Bereavement Committee (Molly Propst): reach out to families sending notes from the parish and continuing to connect with families for that first year.
- Pet Ministry (Judith Young): Judith Young brings her pet to visit parishioners.
- \*Men's Shepherding Group (Ed Gavin): keep in touch with other men in the parish with phone calls, visits, and lunch/coffee.
- Guild of the Christ Child: provides meals and cards when babies are born.
- Lay Eucharistic Visitors (Lynn Wiss): take communion on Sunday afternoon to people who cannot join us in church.
- Bread making (Martha Hays): breads are frozen and stored in the PLC for clergy, LEV, and pastoral care visits.
- \*Flower delivery (looking for coordinator): deliver altar flowers from Sunday's service Monday
- \*Phone call ministry (Jan Harris): calling parishioners once or twice a month to check in.
- Pastoral visits: in addition to all of the above, we have many members who visit the homebound, grieving, or struggling. (Note: unlike other denominations, in the Episcopal Church, pastoral visits are primarily made by the laity rather than the clergy.)

When I was a child, we sang a song: "They will know we are Christians by our love." Please join us in showing the world and each other that we are part of the Beloved Community of Christ.