

What a Parish Nurse Is

The following are some examples of services a parish nurse can provide:

- Help in accessing and navigating the health system including prescription assistance/information.
- Programs to promote healthy exercise and nutrition for all ages.
- Education on health and wellness issues including preventative and newly diagnosed conditions.
- CPR Classes.
- Health screenings, health and safety fairs.
- Assistance to new parents.
- Support for hospitalized or homebound members and their families.



Brenda Disbrow, RN, BSN-BC
Parish Nurse

What a Parish Nurse Is Not

A parish nurse is not a physician. She cannot provide a medical diagnosis or medical treatment.

A parish nurse is not a home-health nurse. She will not dispense medications, give baths, or provide treatments (i.e. injections, dressing changes, etc.) prescribed by a physician.

A parish nurse is not a clergy person or a Eucharistic Minister. A parish nurse usually does not hold a degree in theology.

Parish Nursing

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church



Living God's Love
St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church
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The Parish Nurse Program is a ministry and staff position provided by St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church. The nurse works within the parish to assist members in their search for wellness and a better quality of life.

The program functions under the guidelines of the American Nurses Association: Scope and Standards of Parish Nursing.

Therefore you can expect:

- Professional delivery of services
- Protection of client confidentiality
- Spiritual support within your faith tradition

What Does the Parish Nurse Do?

The primary role of the Parish Nurse is to serve as:

Health Counselor

The Parish Nurse will discuss health concerns with the parishioners and their families and make home, hospital and extended care facility visits as needed.

Health Educator

The Parish Nurse will promote an understanding of the relationship between lifestyles, attitudes, faith and well-being. Educational programs dealing with health topics are developed based on the needs of the congregations.

Referral Source

The Parish Nurse will assist people to access and utilize health, social and community resources and services available.

Facilitator

The Parish Nurse recruits and coordinates volunteers and support groups in regard to health and wellness within the congregation.

Interpreter of the Relationship between Faith and Health

In all functions, the Parish Nurse seeks to promote an understanding of the relationship between values, beliefs, behaviors and well-being.

When is the Parish Nurse Available?

The Parish Nurse has office hours on Tuesdays from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the church. To set up a personal visit or if you have any questions or concerns, please call Brenda at the church office, 330.725.8885. You can leave her a confidential voicemail at extension 70.

Who is the Parish Nurse?

Brenda Disbrow, R.N., B.S.N.-B.C. is the Parish Nurse. She has more than 35 years of experience as a hospital nurse in both ICU and Cardiac Rehabilitation. Brenda holds a B.S.N. and an A.N.C.C. Board Certification in Cardiac-Vascular Nursing. She is certified in C.P.R. and holds certification as a Parish Nurse. She has served as St. Matthew's Parish Nurse since 2001.