

Mission: The Care Team Ministry lives God's Love by intentionally caring for, supporting, and connecting with the members of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church.



Care Connection MINUTES

January 31, 2022

Present (In-Person): Melanie Brown, Melody Costello, Bill Heck, Jill Heck, Beth Johnson, Scott Johnson, Kristine Neate, Cindy Rickly, Jean Waite. (Zoom): Sandy Andrews, Joyce Davis, Emily Faust, Fran Koenig, Corey Neururer.

Those unable to attend: Deacon Lindsay Bailey, Lisa Burke, Mary Dunham, Christy Gabler, Heather Gersbacher, Helen Graf, Heather Haycock, Diane Hulvey, Becky Malloy, Janelle Shook, Kristin Weight.

Jill Heck opened the meeting with prayer at 7:15 p.m.

Beth Johnson welcomed and thanked everyone for their love and commitment. Fifteen people responded to the "Poll". Results showed that five are in favor of keeping our title "Care Team Ministry". Ten favored "Care Connection". Three chose the 'Good Shepherd' picture as our logo, and eleven chose the logo at the top of this page.

We now have 19 Care team leaders (with 3 care lists still open). And we have 22 Delivery teams (with 2 routes still open). Welcome to our newest leaders: Kristine Neate (Care/Delivery), Kristin Weight (Care), Christy Gabler (Delivery) and Martha Weight (Delivery). Spread the word! Partner with a friend; Invite Luther League drivers; Past participants return? Let us know any new recruits.

Jill began the discussion of what we are and what we are not. We are the "Care Connection" of St. Matthew. We will be ministering to members of St. Matthew Congregation, expressing care for each other in the Body of Christ. We are not Stephen Ministers. We do not do any ministry that is overly invasive. If any situation warrants help beyond normal care, the CT leader should ask the receiver for permission to make a referral to the Deacon or Pastor or Parish nurse.

We discussed what worked and what did not work in the past: trouble reporting information; wrong phone numbers; people not returning calls or trouble reaching people; not sure what to say.

Communication is key! We aim to reach out to make sure that ALL members of St. Matthew feel that they are a vital part of the church. We even help give ideas of how our families might be more involved. Our efforts help to increase a sense of 'community'! There is no 'one size fits all'. Each of us have different strengths and weaknesses. What works for one, doesn't work for the other.

Going Forward:

- The Care Team Ministry will meet on a quarterly basis. (Next meeting=Monday, April 25, 7PM)
- Jill and Beth will provide leaders with a “Go-To Sheet” that explains our church staff resources, our Five Star Ministries, financial resources, availability for meals, ways to get involved, etc.
 - Cindy Rickly will contact Sue Schwab about Sunshine Committee.
 - Emily Faust will prepare a communication about the LGL Samaritan Fund, having been created for members in need. Example: extra-ordinary car repairs, medical bills, medicine, transportation, food, rent/mortgage, utilities, etc.
- Jill and Beth will continue to provide ideas of ways to connect, and even prepare cards to send and deliveries to make.
- Anyone is welcome to come up with ideas about how to fulfill this Team’s mission.

Care Team Leaders:

- Care Team lists were available at the meeting and will be sent via email to all leaders within the next week.
- Pray for your families.
- Touch base with your families at least one time during each quarter. This can be a phone call; a text that leads to a phone call or visit; a visit; a post card or letter; send birthday cards; drop off some baked goods or flower.
- Watch for your families at church. Greet them. Chat after worship. Offer to sit with them.
- Listen to what the person is needing. To quote Corey, “Give people ways to be involved that they are comfortable with doing.”
- Relay information/needs to Jill/Beth for follow up with Pastor, Deacon or Lay Leader.
- Maintain trust and confidentiality

Delivery Crew:

- Delivery lists were available at the meeting, but addresses need to be updated. New lists will be sent out via email.
- Our next delivery will be a Lenten Calendar, during late February. Watch for a notice regarding pick-up and delivery instructions. (All deliveries must be completed by the end of the month since Ash Wednesday is March 2.)

Other:

A bulk mailing (Valentine’s Card) will be sent to all families from our entire “Care Connection” during the week of Feb. 7-11. Many thanks to all who stayed after our meeting to help put together the bulk mailing.

The meeting ended at 8:40 p.m. with the Lord’s Prayer.

LGL, Jill and Beth