

# KANSAS PARISH NURSE and FAITH COMMUNITY NURSING Quarterly Newsletter Summer, 2017

*"Teach me your way, LORD, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name."  
Psalm 86:11*

## From the Desk of Your District Representative:

Dr. Jamie Spikes, St. Luke Lutheran Church, Manhattan, and I have returned from the Parish Nurse Conference and District Representative meeting in Wisconsin. It was another great time of education and networking with other parish nurses and district representatives across America.



On April 19<sup>th</sup> Jamie and I presented "The Blessings of Faith Community Nursing/Parish Nursing" workshop. The morning opened with a devotion and a blessing from Jim Bradshaw, assistant to the Kansas District President for Educational Services. There were 25 nurses from various congregations and denominations attending, including 2 student nurses. In the picture to the right, Jamie is sharing the blessings of being a parish nurse and inviting the group for their input. The day concluded with the 'blessing of the hands', sending the nurses to continue to serve the Lord.

The feedback from the day's event was positive and the information was well received. Because of a grant, we were able to provide the LCMS nurses free registration.

We are looking for ideas for next year's continuing education program.

Mary Hume,  
District Representative for the Kansas District, LCMS



## 25+ Blessings of Parish Nursing

Jamie Spikes shared the blessings of being a parish nurse at the Parish Nurse conference at Concordia University Wisconsin. Using the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of *Scope and Standards of Faith Community Nursing* from ANA as a guide, she outlined various aspects of the parish nursing and discussed how the congregational members and nurses are blessed in the vocation which God chose them to serve.

## The Value of Volunteers

*Reprinted from Parish Nurse Newsletter, Spring, 2017*

Volunteerism is important in both the secular and the faith community. Many community agencies and church ministries would not exist without volunteers. Some people have a history of volunteering; others have a history of not volunteering. What makes the difference? Some people do not volunteer because the phrase "just a volunteer" suggests that volunteers are not important. Some people do not volunteer because they have been set up to fail by being inadequately equipped for a volunteer position. Some people do not volunteer because when they have answered a call for volunteers no one utilized them. The purpose of this issue is not to debate whether the parish nurse should be a paid or unpaid position. The purpose of this issue is to recognize the value of all volunteers to the overall ministry of the congregation. The volunteer does not serve to earn God's or the people's favor. God will not love us more if we

volunteer, nor will He love us less if we do not. The volunteer should serve to give glory to God and to serve Him and His people. This issue of the parish nurse newsletter will include insights from parish nurses and a pastor that will be useful in encouraging, equipping and supporting the volunteer spirit that is important for sharing God's love within the congregation and the community. I thank God for the gift of volunteers and for the service provided through volunteers. In the healing Christ, Marcia (Marcy) Schnorr, Ed.D., RN-BC Certified Lay Minister—Parish Nurse Education Coordinator for Parish Nursing, LCMS Health Ministry.

♥ *The Spring, 2017 Parish Nurse Newsletter on the [LCMS.org/health](http://LCMS.org/health) site is on volunteerism.*

## Connectedness in Terms of Spirituality and Spiritual care

Reprinted from LPNI.org health topic, May, 2017

Spirituality is the way we seek and express meaning and purpose; the way we experience our connection to the moment, self, others, our world and the significant or sacred. (Adapted from California Lutheran Homes Centre for Spirituality and Ageing)

The definition of connectedness is a feeling of belonging to or having affinity with a particular person or group.

These are some definitions to have in mind when spending time with older people or people with a life-threatening illness. In our church environment we take it for granted that people have a relationship with God. Have you ever asked what is most important to a person when they are facing their own death or when they are encountering change?

A person's wellbeing is affected when they are disconnected from what is important to them. When a person moves into an aged-care facility there are many disconnections. Consider their disconnection from their faith community, their family, friends, pets, their possessions, and their home to name a few. As nurses, it is important for us to consider this and the implications these disconnections have for people and how we can care for them better if we anticipate their loss and facilitate reconnection wherever we can.

The best way to find out about a person's connections is to do an assessment. Meaningful Ageing Australia is Australia's peak national body for spiritual care and ageing. It is a not-for-profit body that supports organizations and groups to respond to the pastoral and spiritual needs of older people, their significant others, and their careers. It is about to release a spiritual screening tool called ConnecTo. This tool is designed for use as a person enters a residential aged-care facility. It has been designed in such a way that it can be used with people of any faith or no faith. The tool can also be useful in circumstances such as in the community or in palliative care.

There are five realms of connection to consider in a spiritual assessment: connection with self, nature, creativity, relationship or 'something bigger'. The tool uses a visual map that can be used with the person, or with their proxy in the case of dementia. Spiritual distress can then be identified using this assessment tool and appropriate referrals can be made. This is a tool that can be utilized by parish nurses.

Spiritual care is much bigger than religious care, faith support and rituals. It is about connecting with people on a meaningful level. This builds relationships, minimizes loneliness and isolation. It may even give the opportunity to share the good news and bring hope.

Meaningful Ageing Australia can be found at <http://meaningfulageing.org.au/>

Angela Uhrhane

Pastoral Care Nurse, Lutheran Aged Care Albury NSW (Australia)

## Annual Workshop in Holton, KS

June 20, 2017

Jackson County Caring Community Council is sponsoring their 16<sup>th</sup> annual workshop "Grok On! The Essence of Thoroughly Understanding a Human Body". The program description states that this provocative session with Kareen King and Scott Averill will take participants on an experiential journey what will reveal how using basic rules of improvisation can result in improved resident care, a more vital workforce and a dramatic reduction in staff turnover. We live in a fast-paced culture where technological breakthroughs are giving us more and better means of communication. Facebook and other forms of social media provide us the opportunity and the illusion of being connected. But are we really connecting with our fellow human beings? Are we really connecting with our patients/residents? Our co-workers? Our confused patients?

To register for the workshop which will be held June 20<sup>th</sup>, contact Esther Iderker at 785-364-9617.

## Video Series

The special topic video series continues for the second year on [www.lcms.org/health](http://www.lcms.org/health) and click on the title of the video under "recent news". The list of videos for this year includes:

- June – Rev. Dr. David Ludwig will help parish nurse appreciate the interconnection between emotional health and spiritual health.
- July – "A Wholistic Care Approach to Hoarding" by Darlene Sorrell, RN.

- August – Rev. Rocky Mease will provide an overview of spiritual assessments and simple guidelines for use in wholistic care.
- October – “Supporting People and Families Experiencing Developmental Disabilities” by Mona Fuerstenau.
- November – Rev. David Muench will discuss the value of working as a team in the church.
- December – “A Military Family’s Service” will be presented by Lt. Eduardo Garza Jr.

## Parish Nursing in Bethlehem

An interesting video on [https://youtu.be/z2TOgW\\_bvPM](https://youtu.be/z2TOgW_bvPM) site is Raeda Mansour telling of her life in Palestine and her health ministry with the Christians and the Muslims in the Bethlehem community.

## Saints Alive

Celebrating the Reformation of the Church

The 2017 Saints Alive after 55 gathering will once again be held at the Spiritual Life Center in Wichita. The dates are July 16-18. This year’s theme is “Saved by Grace” based on Ephesians 2:8. Rich Bimler, the keynote speaker is the former President/CEO, of Wheat Ridge Ministries, who currently serves part-time as the Ambassador of Health, Hope, and Aging! (AH-HA!) for Lutheran Life Communities, Arlington Heights, Illinois. Rev. Dr. Michael Bingenheimer, Senior Pastor, Ascension, Wichita will lead Bible study. Small group sessions include Dr. Roland Mueller, “Luther’s Family,” and the film documentary “The First Rosa.” Rev. Rick Hathaway, Trinity, Winfield, will conduct the closing worship service. If you have never attended before, join us this year. In addition to the excellent presenters, you will enjoy the peaceful setting, accommodations, and fellowship. Registration online at [kslcms.org](http://kslcms.org).

## Pastoral Changes in Kansas

Rev. Tim Heath, Sr. – St. John, Aliceville  
 Candidate Anthony Fields – St. Paul Coffeyville  
 Rev. Rick Twenhafel – St. Paul, Duluth  
 Rev. Ervin Daughtery – Christ, Elkart  
 Rev. Mark Lovett - Our Redeemer, Herrington  
 Rev. Michael Brockman - Immanuel, Hoxie and Immanuel, Oakley  
 Candidate Nicholas Martinez – Grace, Larned and Our Saviour, Great Bend  
 Rev. Stephen Sweyko - Christ Our Savior, Louisburg  
 Rev. James Price – Mt. Calvary, Wamego  
 Rev. Nick Cordt - Risen Savior, Wichita

*I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart;  
 I will glorify your name forever.” Psalm 86:12*

## Ideas for Health Articles

Health topics vary each month. Check the website ([www.healthfinder.gov](http://www.healthfinder.gov) or [CDC.gov](http://CDC.gov)) to find more ideas, and to follow links to articles and information. Many of the health organizations have literature and posters available at little or no cost.

- \* **July** – Fireworks Safety; Juvenile Arthritis Awareness;
- \* **August** – Children’s Eye Health. National Immunization Awareness;
- \* **September** – Childhood Cancer Awareness; Healthy Aging, National Head Lice Prevention Month
- \* **October** – Domestic violence Awareness; Health Literacy; (22) Falls Prevention Day.

## Activity Calendar

With a Parish Nurse Presence

**June 20, 2017:** “Grok On! The Essence of Thoroughly Understand a Human Being!” Jackson County Caring Community Council, Holton KS.

**October 8-10:** Professional Church Workers will meet in Topeka.

## Vacation Bible School

Are you involved in VBS? The parish nurse can offer a child a “grandmother (or mother) figure” to kiss their scrapes after cleaning and a bandage applied, to support the teachers and staff, even help with the snacks. We can play many roles as the children learn about Jesus in a relaxed setting.

## Educational Opportunities

**Ongoing:** LCMS Health Ministry offers a basic course “Introduction to Parish Nursing”, available through distant learning. Videos are available for on-line viewing. Registering for the course leads to a Certificate of Completion. Go to [lcms.org/health/education](http://lcms.org/health/education) for complete details.

## Resources

- ◇ Kansas District information is available at [www.kslcms.org](http://www.kslcms.org). Click on *Caring Ministry* and then *Parish Nurse*. The history of parish nursing in Kansas and past newsletters are available.
- ◇ What is on the [www.lcms.org/health/resources](http://www.lcms.org/health/resources) site?
  - \* Summer 2017 newsletter is online. The topics include articles on intergenerational relationships highlighting the importance of encouraging intergenerational relationships within the family of faith.
- ◇ A Bible study, a Devotion, and a Health Topic appear monthly at [www.LPNI.org](http://www.LPNI.org).

*Sunblocker protects the skin from the sun rays, not the SON.  
 Enjoy the sun shine and the SONshine this summer.*

## Worker's Together

"Workers Together" is a monthly publication by and for the Kansas District. Go to [www.kslcms.org](http://www.kslcms.org) to read articles from our district leaders, calendar of events and interesting activities in Kansas.

## Scope and Standards of Faith Community Nursing

The 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the *Scope and Standards of Faith Community Nursing* is scheduled to be available this fall. You can purchase it through ANA.

## KANSAS DISTRICT-LCMS PARISH NURSE REPRESENTATIVE

*As your representative, I am available to assist you with information such as the newsletter, printed materials about the ministry and much more. Please*

*keep me informed of changes in your life, such as address change, email address change, status of the ministry in your congregation, etc. If you know of others who would like the newsletter and other information please let me know. If you prefer to receive the newsletter electronically, let me know.*  
Mary Hume - 2633B SW Arrowhead Rd - Topeka, KS 66614 - [maryhume29@cox.net](mailto:maryhume29@cox.net) - (H) 785-272-5905 (Cell) 785-580-6650

### Additional contacts:

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-Dr. Marcia Schnorr, Education Coordinator for Parish Nursing – [marcyschnorr2009@gmail.com](mailto:marcyschnorr2009@gmail.com)  
-Karen Hardecopf, LCMS Parish Nursing Program Coordinator - [khardecopf@juno.com](mailto:khardecopf@juno.com)

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Lord, thank you for the gift of free