

KANSAS PARISH NURSE MINISTRY FAITH COMMUNITY NURSING

Quarterly Newsletter
Fall 2019

"Bring joy to your servant, Lord, for I put my trust in you." Psalm 86:4

From the Desk of your District Representative

Give unto the Lord glory due to His name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. Psalm 29:2

As fall approaches, we can think of the beauty that it brings, with the many colors of leaves, how they rustle in the wind and they will soon fall to the ground. Have you wondered if Jesus experienced any seasonal changes in Israel, the areas where he walked?

October will bring a trip to Singapore as 9 of us will be meeting in San Francisco on the 1st of October, flying 17 or so hours and finally landing in Singapore. Rev. Wiebusch from Australia has made all the arrangement for our week long stay in a beautiful city/country. We will learn of the area and the events in the Lutheran church there. We ask for your prayers for a safe journey and that we all stay healthy. The 2020 LPNI study tour will be to Alice Spring, Australia and the 2021 study tour will be to Williamsburg, VA. and Washington D.C. Consider going on one or both of the study tours. They are well worth the travel. (LPNI.org/studytour)

I have ventured out and started a Facebook page. I am learning as I go. So if you would like to join and share, go to [Facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com) and look for the group site 'Kansas Parish Nurses'.

Each year, the national parish nurses request that we update the directory. I am asking you to submit to me by way of my email your information (address, phone numbers, church you are serving and a brief description of your ministry activity.

Lord, may I this day have eyes to see others' needs, direction from you on any ways I might help, and the Spirit's power to obey. May I live out the faith, love, and hope you have given to me. Amen.

Blessings as you minister to others
Mary Hume, Parish Nurse

Parkinson's Symposium September 13th

Parkinson's disease is a fast growing concern affecting more than one million people in America. It is a common degenerative neurological disease that does or will affect someone in your life. A symposium has been developed to share information. We have specialists who work in this field of medicine on a daily basis to present at the symposium. If you have not received the registration information for the workshop, let Mary Hume know. The continuing education offering of 7.2 hours at \$50.00 for the day will be well worth it. We will be meeting at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 3625 SW Wanamaker Rd., Topeka with registration beginning at 8:30 am. The workshop will conclude by 4:00 pm.

Older Adult Ministry Saints Alive after 55

As the result of a Resolution (18-04-09) at the District Convention in 2018 to 'Study and Recommend Strategies in the Advancement of Congregation-based Older Adult Ministries in the Kansas District LCMS' a task force has been meeting to write a definition for the term, 'Older Adult Ministry'. It has been acknowledged that churches are faced with one of the greatest challenges in history. There is a coming 'age tsunami', according to a report by Rev. Dennis Fangmeyer on the Implications for *Smaller and Rural Congregations*. The committee identified 4 strategies to address:

Spiritual Wellbeing – Bible studies with materials available in large print. This can foster relationship building and fellowship. This can lead to 'service projects, charitable acts, worship assistance, homebound visitation and volunteering.'

Life Issues – Older adults have a wealth of gifts which they can share with others. Life issues as wills, trusts, social security, housing options, etc. might be topics that can be addressed.

Health Issues – dealing with health issues that seem to affect the senior population, discussion includes how to ward off the issues. Other topics that might be included would be end of life concerns.

Environment – Appropriate living facilities for the older adult with mobility concerns. Also, hearing and vision might dim as the adult gets older. Having appropriate devices available to assist them in worship services and meeting will be helpful.

The Task Force recommendations in the congregations and in the community are:

1. Elevate the importance of Older Adult Ministry and implement strategies with church workers and congregations.
2. Form a standing committee to carry-out the necessary functions related to Older Adult Ministry.
3. Designate a staff person with the responsibility of overseeing the implementation of Older Adult Ministry.
4. Strengthen and enhance the Saints Alive after 55 retreat.
5. Create communication systems to promote Older Adult Ministry.
6. Allocate appropriate funding to support the ministry.

The task force identifies resource avenues which can offer assistance including the Parish Nurses. Consider how your congregation can benefit from an Older Adult Ministry.

May is Older Adult Month

Sharing Our Gifts

Cynthia Rutan, RN, Parish Nurse, Peace Lutheran, Bremerton WA for LPNI.org (HT July 2019)

Read: Genesis 1:26-27 and Romans 12:4-8

We are truly blest to be a blessing! These two scriptures tell us that our Lord created us in his image ... and encourages us to share our gifts with others.

Just do it! This has been a volunteer mantra forever, and many spend their life going from cause to cause as our community requests. This month would be an excellent time to include service as part of our routine. The reasons are many and can be part of our

faith growth in sharing ourselves with others. We have something for everyone in every community and every lifestyle. Service at our church and school is a wonderful way to grow in our own faith while helping others in need. We can:

- share our love for Jesus!
- experience personal satisfaction that we can make a difference!
- find we are more connected to others as we live a lifestyle Jesus called us to!
- witness to our family and friends as we show a positive role model!

The complete article is on the LPNI.org site.

Each month, an interesting Health Topic is written by a Parish Nurse. August: "Nurture of Nature"; June: "Going to the Hospitals, Tips for Dementia Caregivers". Also, read the monthly Devotion and the Bible Study.

Short Term Mission Trips

Lutherans in Medical Missions (LIMM) works with local and global partners to share Christ's healing in medically underserved communities. Read the newsletters that they publish to learn how they help others, go to their website limm.org.

MOST Ministries (Mission Opportunities Short Term) gives Christians the opportunity to live their faith by serving overseas. Contact: www.mostministries.org.

St Luke Day – October 18th

St Luke, the apostle, the evangelist and the physician who walked with Jesus is recognized on October 18th. Congregations with parish nurses and congregational health nurses use St Luke Day to recognize Jesus' concern for the whole person and to dedicate the health ministry to the glory of God. A few ideas of activities may include:

- The pastor's message, liturgy and prayers include reference to health and the importance of parish nursing.
- A banner may be made to recognize the ministry.
- Healthy snacks could be served during fellowship hour.
- Highlight resources available through the parish nurse office.
- Include an article or photos in the newsletter to promote parish nursing.

Pastoral Care Week is the following week and October has been designated as Clergy appreciation

month. This helps to emphasize the team ministry between pastor, parish nurse and congregation.

Orphan Grain Train

“Orphan Grain Train is Christian volunteer network that shares personal and material resources with needy people in America and around the world. Grain Train volunteers gather donations of clothing, medical supplies, food, Christian literature, and other aid to meet real needs. The Orphan Grain Train movement is a loving response to Jesus Christ’s example as a servant and His love for us.” This is the statement on the Orphan Grain Train’s website. Rev. Jeff Crane spoke at the Saints Alive after 55 and gave a compelling plea for workers and for supplies to support those in need in the United States and globally. They are in need of monetary gifts, good used or new clothing, infant supplies, medical equipment and supplies, school supplies and so much more. There is a branch warehouse in Wichita and other areas of the country with their home office in Norfolk, Nebraska. When a request for items is made, they will be sped from one of the many warehouses throughout the United States. Check their website (OGT.org) to learn more and how to donate to a needy organization.

Orphan Grain Train is a Recognized Service Organization (RSO) of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (LCMS). Many shipments have been made in cooperation with Lutheran Hour Ministries, LCMS World Mission, LCMS World Relief, and other Christian ministries.

Ideas for Health Articles

Health topics vary each month, information for a newsletter article or for a bulletin board. Check the websites (www.healthfinder.gov or 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.

- * **September** – Fruits & Veggies Month; National Food Safety Month; Newborn Screening Awareness Month; Healthy Aging Month
- * **October** – Breast Cancer; Health Literacy awareness; Dental Health; Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS); Flu Vaccinations; (20) Pink Ribbon Sunday
- * **November** - American Diabetes Month;

(19) Great American Smokeout; (23) International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day; (28) National Family Health History Day

- * **December** – (1-7) National Influenza Vaccination Week; (3-8) National Handwashing Awareness

Activity Calendar

With a Parish Nurse Presence

September 13, 2019: Parkinson’s Symposium, a continuing education workshop for nurses (especially parish nurses) and other health professionals at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Topeka.

Educational Opportunities

Submitted by Marcy Schnorr

“The LCMS Parish Nurse Council is collaborating with Lutheran Nurses Association Australia to offer a distance education version that will meet the needs of Lutheran nurses who prefer to take a course consistent with confessional Lutheran theology and practice and is a distance learning course. I will be serving as the Consultant and mentor for the USA version of the course. People may contact me for further information.”

“The format of the course is different but the topics covered are essentially the same. The cost is also the same.”

“The LCMS Parish Nurse Council is collaborating with Lutheran Nurses Association Australia to provide a USA Version of the course. This will be available later this year. For more information, contact me. I will be serving as the consultant and mentor for the USA version”. Marcy’s contact information: (marcyschnorr2009@gmail.com)

Additional Educational Opportunity

Christian Caregiving Conference is a four-day intensive professional development conference/course for RNs, clergy, and others interested in parish nursing and congregational health ministries. The conference will be June 1-4, 2020 on the campus of Concordia University Wisconsin. Contact Carol A Lueders-Bolwerk PhD RN at 262-243-4233 or www.carol.luedersbolwerk@cuw.edu for complete information.

Resources

Kansas District information is available at www.kslcms.org. Click on *Caring Ministry* and then *Parish Nurse*. The history of parish nursing in Kansas and past newsletters are available.

Medicare Prescription Drug Plan Renewal Time October 15 – December 7

Encourage your seniors to check with their local Area Agency on Aging about their drug plan. They change each year so do not assume the current plan will be good for the coming year.

Literature Review

Patience & Perfection - Finding Peace in God's Plan for You! By Rev. Daniel E Paavola. CPH, 2018. Although we do not know the plans God has for us, we do know that we can trust His perfect plan in our lives.. God is slowly but consistently sanctifying us. He is patient with us. He loves us. And He declares us perfect in Christ.

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 - (Cell) 785-580-6650

-Dr. Jamie Spikes - Member of the LCMS Parish Nurse Council and Parish Nurse at St. Luke, Manhattan, KS – jamiespikes@gmail.com

-Dr. Marcia Schnorr, formerly Education Consultant for Parish Nursing – marcyschnorr2009@gmail.com

-Karen Hardecopf, formerly LCMS Parish Nursing Program Consultant - khardecopf@gmail.com.

"God will supply all you need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Now unto God and our Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen."
Philippians 4:19, 20

Mary Hume, KSLCMS District Representative
Parish Nurse Ministry
2633B SW Arrowhead Rd
Topeka, KS 66614

