



Prairie Faith Parish Nurse News ~ September 2023

Mind

Body

Spirit

You are invited to a Pancake Feed!

Sunday, September 24, 2023

10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church fellowship hall—338 N. 7th St., WaKeeney

All you can eat—whole wheat pancakes, sausage, fruit, coffee/tea, juice

Free will donation to: Prairie Faith Parish Nurse Ministry-Comfort Meals fund.

(Read more about Comfort Meals/Groceries below.)



Pancakes will also be available on the ground floor in the church library for those who have difficulty navigating stairs.

Please come in the south entrance to the educational wing, and we will watch for you.

****If you are interested in working at the pancake feed or in donating ingredients, please sign up at the sanctuary entrance to Bethlehem or contact Laurita Burbach. Thank you for your support!**

😊 **WE'LL SEE YOU THERE—BRING A FRIEND AND BRING YOUR APPETITE!!** 😊



COMFORT MEALS--By a certain time in our lives, most of us have experienced the death of a family member or close friend and have lived a period of time in deep grief. Often, people bring food to the home for the family in the immediate days following a death, and there may be 10 pounds of sliced ham and 7 chicken casseroles and 5 cakes that may be just “too much”. But what happens a month or two later, when everyone else has gone back to their regular lives, but the grieving person is just seeing their new reality without their loved

one. They may feel forgotten, lonely, angry or sad or depressed, guilty, self-conscious—there are a whole range of difficult emotions that can linger. That is a time when receiving a card or a visit may be even more meaningful than something at the initial time of the loss. The parish nurse ministry group wants to help show support and care to people in the community that may not have family that live nearby, who may feel isolated and forgotten, in the weeks or months after experiencing someone’s death, by giving a local restaurant gift card or grocery store gift card. Since we may not know a person’s dietary likes/dislikes or food allergies, the gift card option was chosen. Please contact Nancy or the Prairie Faith office at 785-743-2005 if you know of someone in the community who might benefit from a Comfort Meal.



There is a notebook at Bethlehem on the hallway table just outside the secretary’s office where anyone can write in a prayer request, and you may also read the prayer requests written down by others to include in your own private prayers. The following prayer requests were added to the notebook throughout August: *Rain for crops; healing for lingering illnesses; kids returning to school; rain; prayers for people in stressful situations beyond their control; marriages; the people of Maui; persons affected by the robbery at Casey’s in Ellis; the Riedel family; Midweek volunteers; persons out working in the heat; healthcare workers.*



The parish nurse ministry serves the community, regardless of any church affiliation. Feel free to call or email to: schedule a confidential appointment to discuss your health/wellness questions, schedule transportation to a medical/dental/counseling appointment if you need a ride, request a prayer shawl for someone in the community going through a difficult time, locate community health resources, request other parish nurse work, discuss health ministry volunteer opportunities, or discuss your ideas for the health ministry! 😊

Nancy Bollig, BSN, RN

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785-743-2005 (leave a message, please)

Continuing the series of stories about existing community resources.....



Most of us have heard of the ministerial alliance, but we may not know exactly what their services are! The **Trego County Ministerial Alliance** has been in existence for many years—possibly since the 1940's. The majority of the congregations participate either through a congregation member or the church's pastor. The group meets on the second Thursday of each month at 12:30 p.m. at the Brazen Bull—anyone is welcome to attend. The group's focus is to serve the community--not with a focus on any particular theology, but as a helpful presence. Currently, their funds are used in several ways.

1. **Trego Food Pantry:** This was the community resource topic in the August Parish Nurse News.
2. **Transient Fund:** This fund supports people passing through the community who run into unexpected circumstances and need some financial assistance to go on their way to their destination. Examples: fuel, car repairs, hotel room, etc. If a person requests help with gas or car repairs, local law enforcement first checks that the person is properly licensed and the vehicle is registered and insured. **Currently, this fund is in great need of community donations.**
3. **Helping Hands Fund.** This fund supports local persons who may need assistance with meeting rent, utility bills, prescriptions, medical expenses. Generally, the person has a conversation with one of the pastors to ensure this assistance will be helpful to the person without causing them to be dependent and that the situation will be resolved with this supplemental funding along with the person in need contributing to the solution themselves. A person usually will only receive this type of assistance once or twice in a year.
4. **Trego Community General Public Transportation Van Fare Fund:** If a person has an out-of-town medical appointment or procedure and is unable to afford the van fare, the Ministerial Alliance has partnered with the Harvey Foundation to cover the cost of the fare.

Other Ministerial Alliance events throughout the year include:

1. **"Party in the Park",** an annual fellowship event held in August at the city park with access to the pool, a meal is served, and games are featured.
2. **Good Friday Services** held on a rotating basis at different churches at 12:10 p.m. on Good Friday.
3. **Lenten Breakfast.** Breakfast meals for four weeks with men and women meeting separately at different churches, and meeting together for the fifth week at Christ the King fellowship hall.
4. **Week of Christian Unity.** The community is invited to Christ the King fellowship hall in mid-January for a soup supper, and information is shared about the ministries and activities throughout the year of the different community congregations.

How to donate? Because the Ministerial Alliance is not an official nonprofit organization, it is suggested to make a contribution to your own church designated to the Ministerial Alliance fund of the donor's choice.

(Source of information: Pastor Jon Anderson)



Teach us your way, Lord,
when we are unsure of which way to turn,
tiredness descends and we're hurting inside.
Teach us your way, Lord,
when we are anxious and struggle to pray,
unsure of the words that we're wanting to say.
Teach us your way, Lord,
as we travel in faith through uncertain times,
following your footsteps with your word as our guide.
Teach us your way, Lord,
Teach us your way.

From John Birch—Faith and Worship

