



National Farm Safety and Health Week 2024: Don't Learn Safety by Accident



Agriculture ranks among the most hazardous industries. Farmers/ranchers are at very high risk for fatal and nonfatal injuries; and farming/ranching are one of the few industries in which family members (who often share the work and live on the premises) are also at risk for fatal and nonfatal injuries. While a better, more uniform method of reporting and compiling information is needed, the annual mortality from farm accidents is currently estimated at 60 to 70 per 100,000 of farm population, while nonfatal injuries occur to about 33% of the farming population annually in the United States, with 3% of those accidents resulting in a permanent disability. (Source: National Ag Safety Database.)

This year, **National Farm Safety and Health Week is September 15 – 21, 2024** with the theme, "**Don't Learn Safety by Accident**". Every September, **AgriSafe** joins with partners across the US to raise awareness about the safety and health of people working in agriculture. AgriSafe was formed in 2003 by rural nurses who believed that together they could improve the health and safety of farmers and ranchers. Believing that preventative education is key to reduce the workplace rates of injuries and fatalities, AgriSafe is hosting eleven free webinars from Monday, September 16 through Friday, September 20. You're encouraged to join in for all of them or just pick the ones that interest you most. Thanks to various generous sponsors, these webinars are FREE and open to the public!

Monday, September 16: Equipment and Rural Roadway Safety

Skid loader safety

Sharing the Road: Agricultural Equipment and the Driving Public

Tuesday, September 17: Health and Wellness

Noise: Bad for My Ears and Heart, Too?

Conversations on Access to Lethal Means (CALM) Training
(suicide prevention)

Wednesday, September 18: Generations of Farming

Three-Step Process to Farm Succession Planning

Training Future Generations of Farmers through Registered Apprenticeship

No Safe Way to Vape

Thursday, September 19: Confined Space

Causes of Oxygen Deficiency, Confined Space, and Toxic Fumes Identified in the OSHA Accident Database

Grain Related Entrapments – Are We Focusing on the Right Problem?

Friday, September 20: Reporting Ag Injuries

It Pays to Talk Safety in Ag!

Using a Novel App Prototype to Assess Heat Stress Risk Among Outdoor Workers



To register for any or all of these free webinars or for more information please visit:

<https://www.agrisafe.org/nfshw>

Many of us work directly in farming and/or ranching, we have family, friends and neighbors who do, or we own businesses that serve farmers and ranchers in our community. Please take some time to promote health and safety on your farm/ranch or those of your friends, family or neighbors during **National Farm Safety and Health Week** this year! I am glad to provide you with flyers promoting these AgriSafe webinars and other agricultural safety topics!

The next parish nurse advisory board meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 3, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. in the Bethlehem Lutheran Church library. **Visitors are invited to attend any meeting** and to contact Nancy or one of the board members any time with ideas, questions or concerns. The parish nurse ministry wants to support the health and overall wellbeing of Prairie Faith Shared Ministry and the surrounding community. *Please let us know how we can help!* 😊



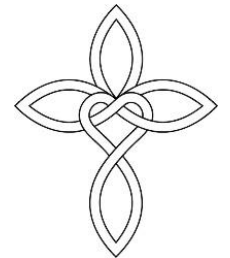


The Prairie Faith Parish Nurse Ministry continues to work with Matt and Kristi Morton to help complete a remodeling project for their new home to make their bathroom accessible for Kristi to be able to shower independently—currently Matt has to be at home to physically lift Kristi from her wheelchair to the shower. Unfortunately, there have been some safety incidents several times the past few months, so we're very happy that Kristi will have a safer environment soon. The total collected from the April 7, 2024 PFSM combined service undesignated offering plus several donations received from the community is \$808.00. We're excited to report that the grant proposal submitted to a disaster fund managed by Heartland Community Foundation was fully funded, allowing Kristi and Matt to schedule a start date for the construction project with the contractor this month. (Additional funds going toward this project were obtained from a Lutheran Disaster Response grant application soon after the wildfire.) You may find more detailed information about the Morton's situation in the April parish nurse newsletter, which is available on the PFSM website. Anyone in the community may still contribute to their remodeling project—it's possible that costs will run over the bid depending on increased prices in the past 8 months. On behalf of the Morton family and the Prairie Faith Parish Nurse Ministry, we extend a sincere thank you to those who contributed to this project!! You will find a final update in the parish nurse newsletter once the project is completed.



Our Father, I think of all the pain and heartache, the tears and sorrow, the greed and cruelty unloosed around the world. Help me to be an instrument of Thine to alleviate the pain, by this day:

- returning good for evil,
- returning soft answers for sharp criticisms,
- being polite when I receive rudeness,
- being understanding when I am confronted by ignorance and stupidity.



So, may I, in gentleness and love, check the hasty answer, choke back the unkind retort, and thus short-circuit some of the bitterness and unkindness that has overflowed Thy world.

I ask this in the name of Jesus, who alone can give me the grace so to act.

Amen

(Prayer by Peter Marshall (1902-1949))



Feel free to call or email me 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, request a comfort meal gift card for a friend or neighbor, locate community health resources, request other parish nurse work, or discuss your ideas for the health ministry!

Nancy Bollig, RN

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