

PARISH NURSE & PASTORAL CARE TEAM
Saint James Episcopal Church - Clayton, GA
HEALTH MINISTRY ANNUAL REPORT 2023

The mission of the Pastoral Care Team is to offer help and encouragement to those in need of medical assistance or crisis support, ensuring safety for parishioners and community, and offering support to the parish priest- in-charge. This is done through communication, service, education and safety initiatives for the parish and extended community by providing information, referrals, classes, medical equipment, and caring. This usually includes visits to hospitals, Mountain View Living Center, Traces of Tiger, Cannonwood Village, Victory Home, and home visits made by the parish nurse and members of the Pastoral Care Team.

Activities this year included:

- Meeting monthly to discuss health needs of parish and community.
- Maintaining monthly contact with multiple parish members for support.
- Weekly visits to Cannonwood Village (5 residents from parish)
- Visits to Mountain View Convalescent Center – help with Bingo.
- Sponsoring Christmas gifts for residents at Mountain View Convalescent Center
- Selecting and updating CareNotes located on the lower entrance area wall.
- Providing and maintaining medical equipment to be available in the community as needed.
- Maintaining educational/information board in Parish Hall.
- Restarted Lunch & Learn programs in September. Speaker was Don Nichols, DPM – Foot Care
- Maintaining emergency equipment – AED x 2 and First Aid Kit x 2.
- Provided Emergency Preparedness Class to Vestry, Ushers, Pastoral Care Team, and interested parishioners.
- Provided quarterly Smart Drivers’ Courses for parish and community.
- Distributing prayer shawls to anyone experiencing illness, loss, or crisis.
- Assisting with referrals to requested services.
- Providing grief counseling.
- Started Card Ministry for those who are ill, need encouragement, or in crisis.
- Providing meals for those in need.
- Offering support and assistance to Priest-in-Charge.
- Continuing work at Victory Home - a faith-based residential facility for men in recovery from substance abuse located in Tallulah Falls:
 - Health Clinic scheduled every other Wednesday with physician and nurse to perform basic client health assessments with follow-up treatment and referral as needed.
 - Providing financial assistance for lab work for the residents – coordinating with the Rabun County Public Health Department. Victory Home, and St. James Miracle Fund.
 - Coordinating work at the greenhouse involving master gardeners. A new addition has been included in the recovery program - residents are now working with master gardeners each Monday afternoon for training, helping with workload, and socialization. This has been a positive connection for volunteers and residents.
 - Extension agents from Rabun, Habersham, White, and Stephens counties along with UGA horticulture experts continue to give support to this project with their time, skills, and resources.
 - Representation on Board of Directors

Members of the Pastoral Care Team are Jan & Bill Bomar, John Templeton, Katherine Grice, Lee Burson, Licia Cleaveland, Marcus Booker, Jane Janes, Susi Roessler, Dick Metzgar, Peggy Melton, Kathleen Johnson, Helen Neinast, Paulette Williams, Linda Holt, Father Jim+, and Kathy Booker.

Submitted by Kathy Booker, RN
Faith Community Nurse, Parish Nurse
Health Ministry – Pastoral Care Team
January 21, 2023