

The Parish Nurse will provide leadership in identifying and meeting the health education and counseling needs of the members of Redeemer Lutheran Church.

The position was created as a ministry of Redeemer Lutheran Church through the understanding that the church has a role in healing which has been recognized since earliest Christianity. The very nature of the church is to be a healing community in the wholistic concept of recognizing that health encompasses body, mind and spirit. Persons in this position embody this concept in his/her nursing care and ministry within the Redeemer Lutheran congregation stressing health maintenance, illness prevention, and compassionate support for members of the congregation.

Qualifications

1. Registered Nurse with general nursing care experience
2. Current Minnesota Nursing License
3. Satisfactory completion of an approved Parish Nursing Curriculum Course**
4. Member of Redeemer Lutheran Church
5. Willingness to share their faith within the context of health and wellness
6. Commitment to wellness promotions as a special ministry
7. Current knowledge of community resources that support health and wellness
8. Above average communication skills with a special focus on listening skills.
9. Self-motivated
10. Capable of independent working but also able to function within a team
11. Pass Mandatory background check [to be discussed further]

Duties and Responsibilities

1. Prepares and teaches or coordinates courses and/or seminars to the congregation on health maintenance, disease prevention and early detection through screening.
2. Acts as a personal counselor to members of the congregation assessing health problems, referral, education and visitation as appropriate recognizing individual choices.
3. Maintains records for program assessment and evaluation.
4. Coordinates volunteers: e.g. Individuals who are helping with visitation, blood pressure monitoring, cholesterol screening, Faithfully Fit Forever group, Meals in Crisis program
5. Participates in continuing education programs for professional development, mutual support and program planning
6. Attends meetings with other Redeemer Parish Nurses as well as other meetings related to parish nurses held throughout the area
7. Attends Health Cabinet meetings
8. In-Person and telephone visitation and follow-up of congregants in need (hospitalized, homebound, frail, hospice, etc.)
9. Personal Health Counselor (Blood Pressure monitoring, information sharing, listening).
10. Facilitates and lead parishioner support groups
11. Promotes understanding of the close relationship between faith and health and how they impact one another.
12. Provides resources and acts as a liaison for parishioners with special care needs (Home visits, linkage with community agencies, hospital and clinic information, hospice care options, respite options for caregivers, medical equipment, Stephen Ministry, Pastoral counseling, etc.).
13. Serves as a health care advocate to empower parishioners and their families to seek out and make informed decisions about their health care
14. Provides multigenerational educational opportunities that address the health and wellness of our congregation.

In addition to the above general responsibilities of a Redeemer Parish Nurse specific responsibilities are assigned based on interests and skills:

Lead Parish Nurse

- Communicates regularly with staff Parish Nurses and members of the congregation who are providing health and wellness activities in the congregation
- Interacts regularly with Pastors
- Attends Redeemer staff meetings
- Responsible for informing the Health Cabinet and setting the agenda for meetings of the Health Cabinet
- Coordinates the VBS volunteers
- Oversees the prayer shawl ministry
- Coordinates Bulletin & Resource articles.

Parish Nurse

- Coordinates Redeemer Health Education
- Collaborates with other Ministry Teams in developing educational program to meet the needs of members across all generations
- Facilitates support groups and provide follow-up with group participants
- Attends Redeemer staff meetings when lead Parish Nurse is unable.
- Communicates with Health Cabinet and other Parish Nurses regularly

Parish Nurse

- Organizes and supervise the blood pressure ministry.
- Facilitates the new mother ministry and work with the Cradle Roll.
- Coordinates health education and visitation for young families
- Communicates with Health Cabinet and other Parish Nurses regularly

RN Volunteers

- Works with Lead Parish Nurse to support the homebound.
- Participates with Redeemer Health Education under the direction of Parish Nurses

–Blood Pressure Monitoring and Cholesterol screening.

–Support Groups as needed.

Organizational Relationships

The Parish Nurses are responsible to the Health Cabinet and the Administrative Pastor