

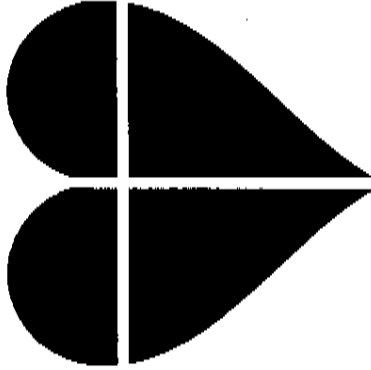
How Can the Parish Nurse be Contacted?

As a member of the parish staff, the parish nurses share an office located in the East hall, behind the altar area.

The nurses can be reached by leaving a message at the church office, during Sunday mornings or other church gatherings, and during some scheduled office hours.

Church Office: (320)235-1441

PARISH NURSING



at

**Vinje Lutheran Church
1101 SW Willmar Avenue
Willmar, MN 56201**

March, 1998

What is Parish Nursing?

Parish Nursing is a ministry of health and healing within a congregation. It is grounded within the healing tradition of the early church...

"...and He sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal"
 Luke 9:2

This ministry also proclaims God's desire for us to strive toward an abundant, healthful life, and reaffirms good health habits and wellness...

"I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly"
 John 10:10

Who is the Parish Nurse?

A Parish Nurse is a registered nurse, who is called and committed to the healing ministry of the church, and who has completed a parish nurse training course.

What is the Role of the Parish Nurse?

The Parish Nurse provides leadership in identifying and responding to the health education and health counseling needs of the congregation. The role brings together a witness for Christ and a knowledge of nursing and health.

In general the Parish Nurse role embodies five areas of nurse ministry:

- Health educator – seeks to promote an understanding of the relationship between lifestyle, attitudes, faith and well-being.
- Personal Health Counselor – discusses health problems with parishioners and makes home, hospital and nursing home visits as needed.
- Teacher of Volunteers – recruits and coordinates volunteers and support groups within the congregation.
- Liaison with Community Health organizations – acts as a liaison to community resources and services.
- Clarifier of the Close Relationship between Faith and Health – brings together aspects of faith and health, and how they relate and impact one another.

What are Examples of Parish Nurse Ministry?

- Plans educational offerings such as:
 - wellness topics
 - lifestyle changes
 - community resources
 - faith and health
 - health ethics
- Coordinates blood pressure screenings
- Equips First Aid kits for use at the church and for traveling groups
- Recruitment of Helping Hands volunteers
- Contacts members who have been hospitalized or in crisis
- Supports and participates in the Parish Care Cabinet