



Brian Ray/The Cedar Rapids Gazette

# Parish Nurse Newsletter

Spring 2009

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## Celebrating 20 Years!



Dr. Florence Montz, left, Julie Zersen, Dr. Jamie Spikes, and Dr. Marcia Schnorr gather around the parish nurse display at an LWML Convention in the early 90s.

### Mission Statement

The Parish Nurse Newsletter serves to:

- create a bond between parish nurses and the staff of LCMS Health Ministries
- report creative programs developed in the field
- inform parish nurses of resources available from various sources.

## What a history! What a future!

By Maggie Karner

Birthdays are a mixed blessing in my mind. I enjoy thinking back over the years past, but I always end up thinking more about the future. "What's next?" I muse. I often wonder what interesting things or changes will happen between this celebration and the next.

As we celebrate the 20th anniversary of parish nursing in the LCMS, we have a lot of history for which to be thankful. As I read the wonderful articles in this issue, written by faithful supporters of this vocation over the years, I have a richer appreciation for the blessings God has offered to His church through the service of so many in professions of healing. I see a rich tapestry of history to be proud of.

This vocation of service was built upon the daily prayers and hard work of each of you. YOU are the face of parish nursing in our communities. YOU are the face of Christ to so many. YOU are what make my job such a pleasure and a privilege.

As the new director of LCMS Health Ministries, I deeply appreciate and learn from the past, but I also can't help but get excited for the future! As you read through the articles found in this newsletter, cherish the sacrifices that have been made to make the parish nursing program the fine program that it has become. But spend some time dreaming about the future, too!



My goal for the future is to make LCMS Parish Nursing extremely “interactive,” creative, and useful to better serve your needs as you carry out your personal nursing vocation in your parishes and communities. Marcia and I will continue to glean suggestions and ideas from all of you in order to bring our program soaring into the future. Whether it be from the use of technology, communications, or just “plain ‘ole brainstorming”... we hope to provide solid support to you in your personal vocation.



Thanks for your dedication and devotion to the healing found only in Christ. You are such a treasure! Happy birthday one and all!

*Maggie Karner serves as director of Life and Health Ministries for LCMS World Relief and Human Care. She may be reached at 765-748-7743, 800-248-1930, ext. 1371, or [maggie.karner@lcms.org](mailto:maggie.karner@lcms.org).*

## Happy Birthday, LCMS Parish Nursing!

*By Marcia Schnorr, R.N., Ed.D.*

We thank God for all the blessings He has given to His church through the more than 1,000 known parish nurses in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. It was with humility and a servant’s heart that I accepted the invitation by Rev. Howard E. Mueller (Director, Health and Healing Ministries) in November 1988 to provide leadership to the development of parish nursing within the LCMS. In the following year, the challenges, and opportunities became a reality.

Sometimes it seemed like nothing was happening, and yet when we look back a lot has taken place. We have gone from a few known parish nurses (Dianne Thompson, Florence Montz, Jamie Spikes, Dorothy Natz, Ruth Daumer, myself and perhaps a few others) to over a 1,000 known parish nurses.

Parish nursing began with little, or no, specialized education beyond continuing education symposiums. Soon, we recognized that specialized education was needed to prepare nurses for the specialized role. In 1990, the first course was provided by Concordia University Wisconsin (with Dianne Thompson and me serving as students and members of the advisory committee). I also taught part of the course — an interesting blend of faculty, student, and advisor — all in one.

Today, Concordia University Wisconsin is the primary provider within the LCMS offering:

- credit and non-credit options
- on-site, online, distance learning, and regional site options
- various conferences and workshops

The Lay Ministry program at CUW offers advance standing to people who have completed the parish nurse course. Other educational opportunities for parish nurses have been offered through Concordia-Ann Arbor and Concordia-Portland. Concordia Theological Seminary is developing an option for advanced placement for parish nurses in the deaconess program. A portfolio review option is being developed for parish nurses preferring the self-study approach and for parish nurses desiring a peer review.

Numerous online and print resources are available at no cost — or low cost through LCMS Health Ministries, under the auspices of LCMS World Relief and Human Care. Other materials are available through Concordia University Wisconsin.

An active network of district representatives works with me to promote, support, and equip parish nurses throughout the United States. Presently, 31 (of 35) districts have a representative or co-representatives. District representatives provide leadership to the parish nurses in their districts — many offering regular gatherings for continuing education, mentoring, and sharing. Many district representatives have formed a collegial relationship with the wellness advocate in

*Marcia Schnorr, coordinator of LCMS Parish Nursing, offers free blood pressure screening at an event.*



the district and work together to share health and healing to church workers and congregants. Officially and unofficially, several of us have shared parish nursing in the global community through medical missions and conferencing.

I thank God for the opportunity He has given me to serve in this exciting and growing ministry. I thank God for each of our LCMS parish nurses for their dedication.

*Dr. Marcia Schnorr, R.N., Ed.D., serves as coordinator for the LCMS Parish Nurse ministry. She can be reached at [mschnorr@rochelle.net](mailto:mschnorr@rochelle.net) or at 815-562-6823.*

## Celebrating 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of LCMS Parish Nursing

*By Rev. John Fale*

Whether it is celebrating the anniversary or birth of our nation, a marriage, the life of a congregation, or another organization, celebrations provide us with the opportunity to reflect upon what we once were, what we are now, what we hope to be in the future, and to rejoice in the blessings that God has provided through the years. I hope that the year-long celebration of LCMS Parish Nursing ministry's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary will afford opportunities for such reflection and thanksgiving, with an eye on further developing Parish Nursing Ministry as a vital component of our church's care for souls.

I recall with great fondness my initial exposure to the benefits of working closely with a parish nurse, even before parish nursing was formally organized in the LCMS. City born and city raised, I was out of my familiar culture and comfort zone when I received my first divine call in 1985 to serve as pastor at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Winside, Neb. Rural America was in the throws of the "farm crisis" that affected hundreds of thousands of families. I was blessed that Pat Meierhenry, a seasoned R.N. in home health and hospice nursing and a typical "farmer's wife" was a member of St. Paul's. Drawing upon her professional nursing training, her suffering as one who was affected personally by rising interest rates and devalued land and property, and her Lutheran theological underpinnings, Pat helped me develop an appreciation for the physical, emotional, spiritual, and relational effects of this devastating crisis on everyone in our community. I am forever grateful that Pat found a way to teach and support me as I cared for hurting souls. In turn, I came to respect Pat and this unique vocational service of the church's ministry. I often consulted Pat about health concerns expressed by members whom I visited as shut-ins. As I think about those days, they seem like a lifetime ago; yet those days forged me in a very real and important crucible that Christ used to form and develop me as one of His pastoral servants.

LCMS Parish Nursing has much to celebrate and give thanks for. What parish nursing is today is, in part, the result of tireless efforts of many women who have been willing to make many sacrifices for the sake of the Gospel and the wellness of LCMS rostered professional church workers, congregational members, and students of our schools. Challenges have been embraced and struggled with as LCMS Parish Nursing has sought to maintain an identity that is grounded in the Lutheran confession of the faith; as it seeks to educate and inform professional church workers and members about the value of parish nursing ministry; as it claims its birthright as a legitimate vocation of service in the church; and as dwindling financial resources affect congregations, schools, districts, and the national Synod program boards. In the midst of significant challenges, these efforts, your efforts, have borne fruit by God's grace.

### How to Subscribe

To subscribe to the *LCMS Parish Nurse Newsletter*, register online at [www.lcms.org/enews](http://www.lcms.org/enews). Select *LCMS Parish Nurse Newsletter* from among the "LCMS World Relief and Human Care" newsletters.

To receive this newsletter in printed form, please send your request along with your current address to:

*LCMS World Relief and Human Care*  
Attn: Parish Nurse Newsletter  
1333 S. Kirkwood Rd.  
St. Louis, MO 63122

### Support LCMS Health Ministries

LCMS Health Ministries is an outreach of LCMS World Relief and Human Care. All programs of LCMS Health Ministries are funded strictly by donations from caring people like you. No dollars come from the Missouri Synod's unrestricted budget.

Your generous gift to the international and domestic work of LCMS Health Ministries will make a tremendous difference and help to uphold the message of Christ's mercy to all in body and soul. [Click here to help.](#)

### News Welcomed!

We want to know what you're up to, what big issues you are facing, and what programs are working in your congregation or agency! We welcome story suggestions, questions, short articles, or photographs that highlight achievements in parish nursing.

If you have news you'd like to share, contact Dr. Marcia Schnorr at [mschnorr@rochelle.net](mailto:mschnorr@rochelle.net) or 815-562-6823.

*Please note: editorial staff reserve the right to edit or decline articles.*

On behalf of LCMS World Relief and Human Care, I want to assure you that we join you in your celebration and give God thanks for the blessings He has bestowed upon our church body through your service. We will continue to be faithful partners in this ministry of caring for the wellness and wellbeing of all LCMS members and the communities in which they live and serve. We look forward to sharing in this exciting year of reflection and celebration with you, and anticipate many more anniversaries to come.

*Rev. John Fale serves as associate executive director for LCMS World Relief and Human Care. He previously served as director of chaplaincy, pastoral counseling, and clinical education. He is a board certified chaplain, a certified fellow in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors, and licensed mental health practitioner in Nebraska.*

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## A Look Back

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# A Parish Nurse's Journey: Church Committee Member to LCMS Parish Nursing Leader

By Jamie Spikes, R.N., Ph.D.

My journey into parish nursing and health ministries spans 30+ years and continues to be a real surprise to me. I could not have imagined when I graduated from a hospital diploma program that meshing nursing and church work was even possible, let alone something I would be doing.

In retrospect, I believe that I started becoming a parish nurse in San Antonio, Texas, while a member of the sick committee at Concordia Lutheran Church. (None of us liked the committee name, but we never came up with anything better.) The responsibilities of the committee members were to take tapes and a tape recorder to members who were homebound and residents of nursing homes. After listening to the taped service, we might sing hymns. I read hymns as poems to some, and then we'd pray together before I left. Committee members didn't have to be a nurse, but it did help. I found that family and friends of the members I visited had a number of health-related questions, and at times needed some help with care concerns and procedures. At that time the bulk of my nursing practice had been in hospital maternal newborn care, but relying on elementary medical-surgical nursing knowledge was enough to make me helpful. I don't recall the assigned rotations, but I do recall visiting some members a number of times and getting phone calls from some of them between visits. This was different than any of my previous experiences in nursing, and I thoroughly enjoyed it. When we left San Antonio for St. Louis, Mo., I was sorry to give up membership on the sick committee.

The second leg of my journey took place shortly after arriving in St. Louis where we became members of Chapel of the Cross Lutheran Church. This large church in North St. Louis County featured a number of different ministries. One Sunday, there was an announcement in the bulletin that if anyone was interested and had experience working with pregnant and parenting teens to please contact the church office. Initially I wondered was if this was the start of a sick committee for a different population. I didn't call the office immediately, but waited a couple weeks while thinking about possibly becoming involved.

When I did call I found that a member of our church was a psychologist who was a director of one of the large state-funded program sites in Illinois, providing assistance, role modeling, and education for pregnant and parenting teens. He and I met at church with the director of education, and started making plans for a volunteer ministry at church to offer about the same interventions that the successful state-funded program was offering in Illinois. Thus was the



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*Rev. Gerald D. Matzke, of the Parish Nurse Distance Learning Program at Concordia University Wisconsin and two parish nurses from Texas sing at a National Parish Nurse Conference at Cross Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Ind. They were accompanied by Julie Zersen of the Texas District and Liz Deck, of the Northern Illinois District.*

beginning of Young Parents Young People, at first a purely volunteer effort and later a program of support and information for pregnant and parenting teens and their families. It was well-funded by Lutheran Charities Foundation. We had a chapter at chapel, and started seeding chapters mostly in Lutheran churches, but also in churches and agencies of other denominations in the metro St. Louis area. This is when I realized I was into something divinely inspired, offering my knowledge and skills in maternal child nursing at church and loving it. With the grant, I spent two days at the university teaching nursing, three days at church, and holding chapter meetings on Sunday evenings. Having students with me provided community and family nursing experience for them, additional help for the program, and a growing ministry of congregational members wanting information and some services from the R.N. students and me.

It was through this work that I was contacted about attending a meeting in Chicago in 1988 on parish nursing. I agreed to go, but I had no idea about parish nursing. I went, and there I met Marcy Schnorr. Following my introduction to Marcy and additional information about parish nursing, I took the 10-day parish nurse course several years later offered by Concordia University Wisconsin in Mequon.

The next leg of my journey took place after a move to Manhattan, Kansas, and was mostly in the area of parish nurse education with the development of curriculum for the Parish Nurse Distance Learning program at Concordia. After being part of the development team for the course, I became one of several mentors for students throughout the country. This was satisfying experience. The challenge at times was helping parish nurse students implement parish nursing in their denominations when the church administrative structure and ministry functions were different than those of the LCMS. The distance learning students were incredibly dedicated, Christ-centered, and God-led nurses who wanted to do the very things that I had done — combine the skills and knowledge of nursing with a passion to serve the Lord.

Education continues to be my primary parish nursing role, though I do have a limited practice at my home church. While there have been a number of pinnacle parish nursing moments, the most stellar was a recent trip to Bethlehem (yes, the REAL Bethlehem) to share information about breast cancer from the perspectives of a nurse and of a survivor, and on adolescent development, with two different groups at Christmas Lutheran Church.

My journey through parish nursing has brought me into contact with some of God's most special servants and those whom they serve. One of my favorite Bible verses is Matt 25:40, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Little did I know as a 20-year-old diploma graduate that I would someday be blessed to have a doctorate in nursing and use my nursing education and practice skills for His ministry. What a ride it has been and continues to be!

*Jamie Spikes has been a nurse visitor at her church, a parish nurse, and a parish nurse educator for over 20 years in San Antonio, Texas, St. Louis, Mo., and Manhattan, Kans. She has blended her professional knowledge and interests in maternal-child, family, and women's health care nursing; community and transcultural health care; and communications and education with her service to others in her church locally and internationally.*

## Ahead of the Times: A Look at Parish Nursing From the 1980s to Today

By Julie J. Zersen, MS, RMT

It was in the mid 80s that I first became aware of the concept of parish nursing. I was pioneering a ministry to the growing group of older adults in congregations who ceased to find purpose and meaning in giving of their time and talent to their congregations. Dr. Granger Westberg was pioneering church-based health clinic ministry which used teams of nurses, physicians, and psychologists. It was only a matter of time before these two concepts merged, at least in my world, to meet not only the growing health needs of older adults, but of other people as well.

While working as director of continuing education at Concordia University Wisconsin a few years later, it was suggested that a program be provided to equip nurses to begin health ministries within congregations. For several years, summer parish nurse equipping programs led by Rosemarie Matheus were held on the Concordia campus. With a \$100,000 grant from former Aid Association for Lutherans (AAL), a distance-learning program was developed for those nurses who were unable to attend an on-campus program.

In the mid 1990s, as parish nurse coordinator for the Texas District, I promoted the concept of parish nursing through several avenues: on-campus sessions, the distance-learning program, other educational materials, and continuing education events within the Texas District. Many ministries began in congregations in the Texas District.

During the decade that followed, the Texas District began to look more at whole person health ministry, which took on a

broader structure utilizing not only nurses but other health care professionals. The concept of health clinics on church campuses was tried with some success. All such ministries were often dependent on the availability of health care professionals, finances, pastoral and congregational support, time availability, and other factors.

Parish nursing and whole person health ministry were new concepts, and I often heard that those of us promoting these concepts were ahead of our time. It has interested me in the five years since I left this ministry, how much the media is now strengthening the case for such ministries within congregations. Articles on preventing and dealing with obesity, heart disease, and diabetes, not only in adults, but in children as well, are common in most newspapers and periodicals.

Certainly our economic downturn gives another reason to consider such ministries. Recently, I heard of a Christian congregation in Eureka Springs, Ark., where Dr. Bell and his wife began a free clinic providing health care to individuals in these difficult times who have no access to health care or the finances to afford it. Nurses and other health care professionals volunteer their time. Others in the congregation provide hot meals at a very economical rate to these persons seeking help.

Together they have formulated their very own wholistic health ministry which incorporates ministry not only to the physical needs, but also to the mental, emotional, and spiritual needs of people in their congregation, as well as in their extended community. It also includes a variety of persons, both professional and non-professional. What a goal for congregations to aspire to in these difficult times in our country! And how easily it all seems to fall into place when we, two decades ago, struggled to initiate the parish nurse concept and realize tangible results. There has been movement toward congregational health ministries, whatever the format. Perhaps we were ahead of the time, but now the time seems to have come to enable members of congregations to live a more wholistic life which we read about in Scriptures.

*Julie Zersen is a registered massage therapist, substitute organist, and Lutheran Blind Mission Society board member. She and her husband enjoy condo living in Austin, Texas, as well as spending time in their second home in Greenfield, Wis., near their two children and four grandchildren. She may be reached at [jzersen@juno.com](mailto:jzersen@juno.com).*

## Twenty Years of Blessings

By Carol A. Lueders Bolwerk, R.N., Ph.D.

LCMS parish nursing and congregational health ministries will celebrate 20 years of blessings this year. As you may know, grassroot efforts began several years before that with a small team of interested nurses, clergy, and lay leaders.

And some 20 years later, that small team along with many others, continue to grow the ministry in the LCMS. From an educational perspective, I was blessed with good, hard-working people to help grow the ministry. For instance, in the early 1990s, we started an on-site program lasting eight days. Following that, grant writer and former Parish Nurse Director Julie Zersen received funding from former Lutheran Brotherhood. With this financial support, Julie grew the educational offerings at CUW



*The first parish nurse class gathered at Concordia University Wisconsin.*

to include a distance-learning program. Always from a team perspective, this distance-learning program was written by team members Rev. Howard Mueller, Dr. Jamie Spikes, Dr. Marcy Schnorr, Julie Zersen, and me. Julie also helped to jumpstart the annual conference that Concordia still offers (see conferences/events on page seven). This year we will offer the 17th annual conference. In the last several years, we have added pre-conferences to add depth and breadth.

Thus, when Julie announced her departure to Concordia at Austin, Texas, I really thought the educational offerings would have a quick death and come to a close. However, our God has been faithful providing support and leadership to continue the educational growth, to meet the needs of nurses who are interested in serving as parish nurses. Following the path that Julie began in the continuing education department, the program was moved into the nursing department. Susie Pipkorn, our nursing secretary used her God-given gifts to update resources, polish brochures and the like, which helped us market our program across the nation. With the gifts and skills of many, we continue to offer programs to people who are interested in starting a congregational health ministry.

Always from a team perspective, we still offer the on-site program. Although shortened to four days, the team offers a quality Christ-centered educational program. Through the program, we have taught thousands of students over the last two decades.

We have traveled to Florida, New Jersey, Indiana, Minnesota, Kansas, Nebraska, and northern Wisconsin bringing the four-day on-site program to nurses across the country. Additionally, our traditional students can take the class for three undergraduate credits. I work closely with Dr. Marcy Schnorr, LCMS parish nurse coordinator, to help meet the educational needs of nurses, clergy, and others to help many nurses start and maintain quality Christ-centered educational programs.

In looking back, we have received many blessings. I am very thankful to have been able to serve as parish nurse educator. The programs have been truly blessed by God's grace. This year, we will celebrate 20 years of parish nursing in the LCMS. For the future, I pray that His blessings continue on our Synod's congregational health ministries.

*Carol A. Lueders Bolwerk, R.N., Ph.D., serves as director of Parish Nurse Ministries at Concordia University Wisconsin.*

## Thoughts on Parish Nursing

*By Rev. Howard Mueller*

It was November 2008 when I called Marcia Schnorr and asked her to assume the leadership for initiating and developing parish nursing in the LCMS. After a time of prayer, she felt the Lord nudge her to accept. Although I am now in my 90s I remain an avid promoter and supporter of parish nursing. When I was told that parish nursing was celebrating its "20<sup>th</sup> birthday" I chose to share the following thoughts.

- To date, parish nursing has recognized and developed the fundamentals of this new ministry in the church; new growth opportunities for further development beckon.
- The healing ministry of Jesus — healing and teaching — often led to joyous faith in Him. This ministry suggests a parish nurse/pastor ministry that has promise of an effective Gospel ministry.
- One element in the reduction of health care costs is the commitment of the federal Secretary of Health and Human Services to promote preventive health, arguing the need to reduce the higher costs of curative services. This endorsement of preventive care affirms the validity of parish nursing and summons its active participation and promises support.
- 1 Corinthians 6:19, 20 declares: "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit... You are not your own, you were bought with a price. Therefore honor God with your body." Parish nursing is a response to this scripture.
- A caregiver sometimes carries a heavy load: 24-hour care, mood changes, depression, anxiety, social isolation, pain. The caregiver can be exhausted, denied an active social life, and the suppression of their God-given gifts. A parish nurse is often the one person in the congregation able to provide professional assessments and the parish nurse can advise family members.
- Observations can be shared on a professional level with the pastor and can assist in his pastoral care. The parish nurse can organize church member volunteers and may be in a position to recommend community resources. The parish nurse can provide support by active listening.

Today parish nursing stands at a threshold of a great future.

*Rev. Howard Mueller served as director of health and healing when LCMS parish nursing began.*



*Early leaders of LCMS Parish Nursing gather for a quick photo: Rev. Dr. Bruce Hartung, past director of LCMS Ministerial Health and LCMS Health and Healing, Dr. Marcia Schnorr, coordinator of Parish Nurse Ministry, and Rev. Howard E. Mueller, assistant to the director of LCMS Ministerial Health and LCMS Health and Healing.*

## Conferences/Events

The **Lutheran Services in America (LSA) Annual Conference** is scheduled for April 29 – May 1 in Washington, D.C. A wide variety of people from social services gather each year for this conference. To learn more about this conference, visit [www.lutheranservices.org/annual\\_conference](http://www.lutheranservices.org/annual_conference) or call Jan Ulrich at (410) 230-2841.

## 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Parish Nurse Conference

Concordia University Wisconsin, invites all parish nurses and those interested in congregational health ministry to the 17th annual parish nurse conference May 27-29 at Concordia University in Mequon, Wis. Expect to gain information, network with others, and obtain resources for your congregational health ministries.

Two pre-conferences will begin on May 27:

- Led by Dr. William Duey, the morning pre-conference will focus on Fit-2-Serve from the Christian perspective.
- Back by popular demand, Texas District mission and ministry facilitator, Dr. Lou Jander, will lead the afternoon pre-conference looking at how to manage change in the parish and how congregational health ministries can respond.

On May 28-29, parish nurses and others interested in congregational health will hear Rev. Dr. Dan Paavola speak on the conference's theme, "Saved by Grace, Freed to Serve." Following the keynote, there are over twenty breakout sessions for participants to attend.

There will also be posters illustrating health ministries, resources to review, and other exhibits. If you would like to have a poster or other resources to display, contact Dr. Carol A. Lueders Bolwerk, director of parish nurse ministries at CUW.

For more information, contact Carol at [carol.lueders.bolwerk@cuw.edu](mailto:carol.lueders.bolwerk@cuw.edu) or 262-243-4233.

**Nurses Christian Fellowship's 2009 Summit** is scheduled for June 25-29 in Dallas, Texas. Nurses, nursing students, and nurse educators are invited to celebrate nursing as a ministry and more. To learn more visit <http://ncf-jcn.org/>. For a full list of other NCF conferences or events, visit <http://ncf-jcn.org/conferences/main.php>.

**The International Parish Nurse Resource Center** lists numerous educational opportunities throughout the country for parish nurses in 2009. For a full listing, visit [www.ipnrc.parishnurses.org/](http://www.ipnrc.parishnurses.org/) or call Maureen Daniels, RN, MN at (314) 918-2632.

**Mark your calendars now** for the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Westberg Parish Nurse Symposium "Opening Doors to Wholeness" in St. Louis, Mo., on Sept. 25-27. Speakers include Indiana pastor and author Philip Gulley, Kansas Health Ethics Executive Director Julie Russell, and Dr. Tieraona Low Dog, director of education of the integrative medicine program at University of Arizona in Tucson. To join the Westberg e-mail list, visit [www.marketvolt.com/CustApp/custnew.asp?accountid=757&sa=757&AX=63178503](http://www.marketvolt.com/CustApp/custnew.asp?accountid=757&sa=757&AX=63178503), or contact Mary Slutz at (314) 920-9941 or [msslutz@eden.edu](mailto:msslutz@eden.edu).

## Resources

The *LCMS Parish Nurse Directory* has been a valued resource for several years, providing parish nurses and congregational health ministers with listings of their peers throughout the LCMS. The directory is updated annually, printed, and made available each year to all district representatives and others who request them by late May.

The directory is useful to:

- locate a parish nurse to help an individual find a possible parish nurse for a loved one who may benefit from their ministry
- find a parish nurse in a location to which you will be traveling for possible networking
- locate someone who may have particular expertise
- identify others who may be in your own district — but unknown to you

It is intended that the directory include the names of all LCMS parish nurses and congregational health ministers and/or those who serve in LCMS congregations. The district representatives have been working on updating the information for their districts. If you are not sure if you are included, please go to [www.lcms.org/?14090](http://www.lcms.org/?14090) and enter your information.

Thank you for helping us keep the *LCMS Parish Nurse Directory* current and complete.



## LCMS World Relief and Human Care Health Ministries

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