

Mount Cross Care Team Minutes – November 12, 2020

Members Present: Amanda Berg, Luanne Crockett, Gayle Johnson, Evonne Kuchera, Susan Prosser, Becky Riley, and Bev Rueckert.

Members Absent: Julie Merrick, Pastor Julie Morris.

Devotions and Light of Christ: Susan Prosser read from “Living Grace –Walk in Love”.

Caring Conversation: A time of check in with team members.

Minutes: Members still looking over the October minutes and invited to make any additions or corrections.

Resource Nurse and Health Ministry Report: Evonne Kuchera reported on a long list of members that have health concerns and how we can assist in each situation in addition to our prayers. Thank you Evonne for keeping up all these contacts.

Identifying Current Care Needs and Care Updates: Concerns and assistance were discussed for individuals from Evonne’s report and beyond. Ideas were discussed and connections will continue. These conversations are CONFIDENTIAL and are not shared in the minutes and outside the Care Team.

Meal Support Report: Meals are mostly filled in on the sign up sheet to care for two families through this year and starting out in 2021. There were restaurant gift cards sent to another family. Thank you to Jaimie Marroquin, volunteer coordinator, for organizing meals and an overall great job.

Card partners Update: No new news. All is moving along well.

Tech Assist Program Report: Julie Merrick has been working hard for those requesting tech assistance.

Mount Cross Care Winter Holiday Newsletter: Thank you to Susan Prosser for her research and assimilation of ideas and submittals for the newsletter. It has been sent to Carina McVeigh for layout. Committee members volunteered to assist with the mailing.

The Care team also discussed ideas for a New Year’s service. This came out of working on the winter newsletter to assist with care needs during the holiday time. Susan will contact the Worship and Music committee with our recommendation for a pre-recorded service to lift member’s spirits after this challenging year and we look to 2021. The service can inspire gratitude and hope.

Possible Pumpkin Pie Project with Fellowship: The Fellowship committee has decided not to be involved in the pumpkin pie project so we will not be needed to assist them. The Worship and Music committee is taking on the distribution.

Christmas Cards w/Care Note to those with family member death in the year since Christmas 2019: Susan will order Care Notes. Becky Riley offered to provide Christmas cards and Team members volunteered to address cards.

Budget Request for 2021: Susan submitted a request for \$500 for the Care Ministries line in the general budget for 2021. There is \$337 remaining in the Care Ministry budget for 2020. This year has brought about many expansions for caring ministries including the resource nurse and tech support. The balance of designated funds as of October is \$3,045. The designated funds are set aside to help with rent, medical needs and emergency assistance. Make Bake Celebrate funds currently cover the volunteer coordinator. We may need to seek an alternative source since there was no MBC this year.

Church Website: The caring ministry part needs to be updated. Will ask Julie Merrick if she can assist. Otherwise we will work as a team to see what can be done to update.

Sunday Worship Service Flowers: Discussed coordinating with the Worship and Music committee if flowers are to be at services again we can restart the flower delivery when needed. Susan will check.

Newsletter Deadline: Thursday, November 19th Ideas for the newsletter included looking through the Care Ministry brochure for new news, prayer shawls and tech support.

Next Meeting: Thursday, December 10, @ 10 a.m.

Mount Cross Care Team Minutes – October 8, 2020

Members Present: Amanda Berg, Luanne Crockett, Gayle Johnson, Evonne Kuchera, Julie Merrick, Pastor Julie Morris, Susan Prosser, Becky Riley and Bev Rueckert.

Devotions and Light of Christ: Susan Prosser

Caring Conversation: Check in with all the members

Minutes: No minutes available from the September meeting. We did discuss that the Care Team articles sent in for the October newsletter were unfortunately missed. Some articles will be added to the e-grapevines and others will be in for November news.

Resource Nurse and Health Ministry Report: Evonne Kuchera reported on individuals and how they are doing. Also discussed need for rides for one of our members to cancer treatments. A request will go out in the church communications for drivers.

Identifying Current Care Needs and Care Updates: The Team members discussed current continuing needs as well as new items that were brought forward to consider. Assignments and communications were discussed. These conversations are confidential and are not shared in the minutes or outside the Care Team members.

Meal Support Report: Our new volunteer coordinator, Jaimie Marroquin has sent out an e-mail request and sign up sheet for two member families for meals to be delivered once a week. The expanding list goes beyond Care Team members but does not include Many Meals volunteers at this date.

Card Partners Update: Gayle Johnson shared that over 80 cards were distributed and sent out by members as part of “God’s Work Our Hands” Sunday, September 13. The notes of cheer went out to over 40 members to let them know we are thinking of them. Currently there are 20 volunteers sending cards to 37 homes as part of the ongoing card ministry. Card recipients include members that are homebound, have health concerns or where we want to share some cheer due to sheltering at home during the pandemic. The Team discussed ideas for sending Christmas cards to members of the church.

Tech Assist Program Report: Julie Merrick has been very busy assisting members of the church to enable them to partake in virtual worship. Some tech issues have brought challenges. Julie was also available to assist with the choir video.

Chicken Soup Project: Decided to save for future discussion.

Possible Pumpkin Pie Project with Fellowship: No commitments were made on how to proceed.

Items not addressed:

Distribution of Weekly Worship, Publications and Devotional Materials

Restarting Home Communion

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 12, 2020 at 10 a.m.

Mount Cross Care Team

Zoom Meeting Minutes August 6, 2020 10 am

Members Present: Luanne Crockett, Gayle Johnson, Evonne Kuchera, Julie Merrick,

Absent: Julie Merrick

Opening Devotion and Light of Christ – from Live in Grace – Walk in Love by Bob Goff

Caring Conversation – Checking In with each member. Amanda introduced herself since this was her first meeting with the Team. She shared her experience with the Stephen Ministry program at Ascension Lutheran in TO.

Minutes of July 9, 2020 meeting – minutes were acknowledged. Corrections and edits can be submitted to Susan at any time for amendment of the published minutes.

Resource Nurse/Health Ministry Program Report – Evonne presented an overview of her work since the July meeting. Some of the people she supports receive other Caring services and updates were offered to include those. The Team discussed ways to offer support to Evonne. The Target gift cards kept in the church office should be considered available to her ministry and any expenses she incurs should be submitted for reimbursement. The Team wants to offer Evonne physical support whenever appropriate and always ongoing prayer support. We will continue an ongoing information campaign to make the congregation aware of this wonderful new resource.

Identifying Current Care Needs and Care Updates – Pastor Julie led the discussion of current care needs and updates on those that have had Team attention. Team members shared updates from their awareness. The various caring services will respond accordingly.

Card Partners Updates – Gayle reported that she has successfully recruited some new Card Ministry volunteers and matches have been made. There remains the need for several more additional volunteers and maybe more after considering the possible expansion of the list. A discussion of including more members and friends of the church resulted in expanding the list needing card partners.

Flower Delivery Changes While no Altar Flowers – Susan presented a suggestion for making deliveries of small plants during the weeks when worship is not held in the sanctuary. Options for funding and identifying recipients and delivery volunteers were identified as necessary steps. There was not concurrence for immediate pursuit of this project.

Tech Assist for Worship, Church activities and Communication – Susan shared that new Team member Julie Merrick was unable to attend the meeting due to a schedule conflict. Julie has volunteered to assess member equipment, instruct in accessing worship and the church website, and assist with needed equipment loans. The first 3 refurbished Chromebooks have been acquired for instruction and lending. Jim Prosser is coordinating this with Julie Merrick. Newsletter articles and announcements will continue to make this resource known. Pastor Julie shared that the church survey results included 6 request for Tech Assistance.

The allotted time for the meeting did not permit the discussion of the remaining items on the agenda.

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Remaining August agenda items:

Distribution of Weekly Worship and Devotional Materials – All

- Currently only digital w/exception of monthly newsletter
- Mail/delivery – Caring involved with delivery only/Office needs names for mailing
- Bulletins; Taking Faith Home; Weekly schedules, Birthdays and Announcements; Flyers
- Bi-monthly Devotional booklets; Living Lutheran

Restarting some form of Home Communion – Pastor Julie

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Next Care Team Meeting – Thursday, September 10th at 10 am

Mount Cross Care Team Meeting Minutes June 11, 2020 10 am

Present via Zoom: Gayle Johnson, Evonne Kuchera, Becky Riley, Bev Rueckert, and Susan Prosser
Absent: Luanne Crockett and Pastor Julie

Devotions and Light of Christ – In place of devotions, the Team did a Caring check-in with one another, concluding with the prayer “The Body of Compassion” by Joyce Rupp

Minutes of May 28, 2020 meeting – were emailed to each member for review and reference during this meeting.

Identifying Current Care Needs – A lengthy discussion of current member care needs took place. Caring action plans were determined, as necessary. Information will be shared with Pastor Julie.

Plans for Zoom Care Gathering – June 23rd at 7 pm – Open with comments from Pastor Julie on importance of the role the COVID period volunteers. Provide opportunity for all volunteers participating to share from their experience. Given the possibility of many participants, have one or two questions to guide input and set a time limit. Close with comments on finding ways to sustain volunteer’s involvement. Gayle Johnson volunteered to facilitate the discussion. Evonne Kuchera and Becky Riley volunteered to cover refreshments which will involve door step delivery. Susan Prosser will provide to-go containers for brownies and the list of names and addresses.

Transportation Needs for Drive Through Communion – Check-in volunteers will be asked to check with their “people” to make sure whether anyone who has decided they would like to go to the first drive through communion needs transportation. We will seek to assist with transportation if needed.

Parish Nurse/Health Ministry Program follow-up – Evonne has continued to coordinate with Terry Hilton of St Columba’s Church and is anxious to attend a meeting with the Health Ministry team at their church to find out more about the program. Evonne announced that she has decided that she wishes to volunteer to serve as Resource Nurse for the Mount Cross congregation. This is something she has thought about and she believes she is called to do. The Care Team is profoundly grateful to Evonne for this offer of service to Mount Cross. It is to be understood that Evonne will not be providing actual medical care but rather serve as a resource. Evonne will write a description of the type of services she will offer. An article for the Grapevine print newsletter will be written to inform the congregation and highlights of this new resource will be added to the “Mount Cross Cares” brochure.

Distributing worship support materials – Care Team/Worship & Music – there was continued discussion of the need to provide material for homebound viewers of live-streamed and recorded services that do not have multiple devices. The Team felt that this is something we can pursue jointly with the Worship and Music Committee. We have previously discussed printing bulletins and Taking Faith Home, providing copies of the devotional booklets and the Living Lutheran.

Card Partners updates – Gayle reported that she had made one new match since the last meeting and was looking to make several others. There are some new volunteers on Time and Talent and perhaps some of the COVID caring volunteers will be interested in the Card Partners program.

Flower delivery list– new approach to this – due to time constraints we will discuss at our next meeting some new ideas for possibly delivering more small plants or bouquets rather than the large arrangements that have been delivered in the past. This approach would allow us to expand the number of people/households who could receive a delivery.

Next Care Team Meeting – Thursday, July 9th 10 am

Mount Cross Care Team

Zoom Meeting Minutes May 28, 2020

Members present: Luanne Crockett, Gayle Johnson, Evonne Kuchera, Becky Riley, Susan Prosser and Pastor Julie

Member absent: Bev Rueckert

Devotions and Light of Christ – meeting opened with Susan providing devotions

Recap and Update on COVID 19 period Caring Efforts – Input from all present (mid-March to date)

1. **Supporting Congregation members** – with expanded caring volunteers/staff
 - All member phone or letter contact in March – used 2019 Directory and new member list – general check in with all and providing information
 - Grocery shopping or errand support – provided by Melissa Henry, Julie Merrick, and Zach Lotshaw
 - Ongoing Check-in Partners – list of roughly 53 members for routine check-in
 - Easter Cards to all on Check-in list and devotion books to mailed many with Easter Cards
 - Any changes needed or new ideas
2. **Supporting our Volunteers**- 16 volunteers have served in some capacity
 - Easter Cards with thanks were sent
 - Additional forms of thanks/recognition – thanks in Grapevine again with names
 - Future role(s) – keeping them involved - IMPORTANT
 - Meeting together ala Care Gathering type setting soon — DATE set for June 23rd at 7 pm – Evonne and Becky to bake and deliver treats prior to volunteers in advance of the Gathering – Susan will provide them with containers to use and send the invitations to the Gathering – this will be for our caring volunteers and Care Team with Pastor

Identifying current Care needs– the Team and Pastor Julie discussed current needs and identified additional card buddy matches needed, persons suggested for further grief literature, and others needing special attention and prayers.

Carrying on caring efforts as restrictions are lifted/modified

1. Unique needs associated with return to worship on site and those not yet comfortable with public gatherings – bulletins, Taking Faith Home, devotion books & Living Lutheran magazine – consider early printing for mailing &/or delivery of worship support materials
2. Review flower delivery list for currency (add those who extend sheltering?) – to do when there are altar flowers again – or consider some other form of occasional delivery of flowers/plants with worship support material
3. Check card partner list and determine any new people to add to list – Identified people will be added
4. Mount Care Request box and Care Note holders in sanctuary/ Brochures to pews – new CareNote topics available – not possible to complete this while books and other materials are

removed from the sanctuary – may be some other way to include the brochure in a church publication

5. Identifying/recognizing new needs of members resulting from shut down aftermath – financial and other - something to continue to monitor

Update on Parrish Nurse program - Evonne reported on her discussion with Terry Helton from St Columba's church about their Parrish Health ministry. They have a committee or team made up of nursing professional who meet to oversee the program. Terry recommended Ventura County Caregivers for direct services in assisting the elderly. This program was started by Trinity Lutheran Church in Ventura and provides a variety of services to homebound persons over the age of 60. Evonne had some materials from the program and provided a copy to the Chair. Based on the enthusiastic response of the Team, Evonne will pursue more information and possible presentation to the committee. Pastor Julie mentioned that perhaps Evonne could consider a role for a nurse program to be involved in screening for worship once we hold worship services at the church.

Update on Volunteer Coordinator – no real news – on hold due to COVID 19 closure – positions still needed – hope to use some of what has been done in recent months as job examples.

Next meeting date – Thursday June 11th 10 am - ZOOM

MOUNT CROSS CARE TEAM MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 6, 2020

Present: Gayle Johnson, Becky Riley, Bev Rueckert, Susan Prosser, Luanne Crockett, and Pastor Julie
LIGHT OF CHRIST AND DEVOTIONS – Susan Prosser

MINUTES OF January 9, 2020 MEETING – AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW

CONTINUING TRANSPORTATION NEEDS – Gayle Johnson reported that rides for the Congregational meeting and pot luck dinner were also advertised. The ongoing efforts to provide a ride for second service remains a challenge. Suggestions include promoting the idea of taking on one Sunday a month or occasionally. This could appeal to some who routinely attend first service. There is already some of this taking place. There is one additional possible ride need that should be further pursued. There may be requests for rides to evening service on Wednesdays in Lent and the new Wednesday afternoon service. We need to stay alert to these needs.

It was noted that some other churches use Uber or similar services to provide rides. The current Mount Cross need is specifically transportation for people with some mobility issues. It is important to know if any or all have drivers in our area willing to provide this type of transportation. Becky will pursue this information and how we would book this type of specialty transportation.

The Team discussed the longer-term possibility of the church securing a van through lease or purchase that would be able to provide transportation for members. It was recognized that the current van exclusively used for youth programs is not suited for this use. Gayle said she would investigate the availability and costs of such vehicles.

MOUNT CROSS CARE BROCHURE – the brochure was well received at the Care Gathering and no group has requested changes to the description of their area of care. Susan added a list of the names of the Care Team since it is suggested that they are a contact source. Gayle Johnson offered the possibility of logo art from her son Matt. We will wait on production until we have art from Matt. It was agreed that the brochures will be placed in pew racks.

CARD MINISTRY – There was continued discussion of the changing needs for card matches with some leaving the recipient list and other volunteers being added. Gayle will manage the list and the matches for the ongoing Card Ministry.

Easter Cards were planned for all on the Card Ministry list plus others who might be added at the time. Susan will acquire cards that can be signed by members on Palm Sunday and the sent on behalf of the congregation.

Care Team continues to fill in for the Colby family card ministry with cards to members with family deaths and members with health concerns. Susan will continue this program with referral from the church office.

RECAP OF CARE GATHERING – All Team members agreed that the Care Gathering had been encouraging in both attendance and participation. The congregation is well served by having so many interested in caring services. Due to the enthusiasm of those in attendance, we will look at the potential to hold a second gathering in 2020 sometime midyear.

BLUE BOX LABELING AND PLACEMENT – The use of a wall mounted caring request/referral box was supported by those in attendance at the Care Gathering. We need to complete the labeling of the box and the forms to be used. It was also suggested that the CareNotes pamphlets be displayed on the wall in proximity to the Blue Box thus creating a care center of sorts. Luanne will take responsibility for finding the proper way to hang and display the CareNotes. Susan remains responsible for the Blue Box.

CURRENT AND ONGOING CARE NEEDS – Pastor Julie and others provided updates on ongoing care concerns in the congregation. New needs were brought forth by the Pastor and members and addressed.

REQUEST FOR LENTEN SOUP SUPPER PARTICIPATION – Care Team will partner with the Stewardship Team to sponsor the Soup Supper on Wednesday March 11th. This will be the second of the suppers. Will need 5 soups and rolls and be responsible for setup and cleanup. Team members volunteered to provide the needed items.

OTHER BUSINESS – Based on discussion from prior meetings and the Care Gathering the Team agreed that Mount Cross should investigate the role of a Parrish Nurse. St Columba's has a Parrish Nurse and perhaps Pastor Julie can provide an introduction and/or an invitation to this person to join us at some time to provide a glimpse at what role they play in the life of the church. It was also mentioned that Evonne Kuchera mentioned her skills and interests at the Care Gathering and would be a good person to discuss this with. Susan will talk with Evonne.

Susan reported that the job description for the Volunteer Coordinator was being written and would be advertised to the congregation. Since Make Bake Celebrate funding has been secured, we are hoping to fill this spot soon with a capable and enthusiastic member of the church.

NEXT CARE TEAM MEETING DATE - Thursday, March 5th at 9 am

NOTE: DUE TO CONFLICT WITH WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE MEETING - MEETING SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 12TH AT 9 AM

MOUNT CROSS CARE TEAM
MEETING MINUTES FOR JANUARY 9, 2020

In attendance – Gayle Johnson, Becky Riley, Bev Rueckert, Susan Prosser and Pastor Julie

The meeting opened with the LIGHT OF CHRIST AND DEVOTIONS

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING – provided and reviewed

CONTINUING TRANSPORTATION NEEDS – rides for worship at second service continue to be a problem. Most volunteers attend first service. Discussion about targeted emailing of the signup request to those who attend second service and/or live in proximity to Evelyn L. needing the ride. Use promotion of

committing to one ride a month or some other schedule that does not require providing the ride every week. Mary O'D. would also like rides to worship – first service. She needs to be contacted and then added to the signup system unless a volunteer wishes to become regular driver.

CARING CARD MINISTRY – Becky reported that 15 Christmas cards with grief CareNotes were sent in Dec. Due to the recent passing of several members the ongoing Card Ministry list will need updating. Also discussed were the cards that have been sent by John and Janet Colby. The Care Team is ready to send cards on behalf of the congregation to members with a death in their family. Susan will send cards to Buenger and Colby families. Also noted - Flower Delivery recommendations require updating.

REQUEST FOR 2020 FUNDING – Council action on MBC funds 1/9/20; Budget recommendation 1/9/20 – Susan reported on the outcome of the MBC funding for a Volunteer Coordinator and the amount included in the proposed 2020 budget for Caring. The next step in securing the Volunteer Coordinator will be to write a description of the duties and publicize the search to the congregation.

PLANS FOR A JANUARY 2020 CARE GATHERING –

LUNCH – We will open with the lunch and a prayer. Becky and Susan will bring sandwiches, Gayle salad, Bev chips, cookies and beverages and Susan paper goods. The program and discussion will take place during lunch with guest able to get up for food and beverages as they wish.

AGENDA – the gathering program will open with each attendee making an introduction and sharing an update about what they are doing in the Caring area or a thought they have about Caring needs, the Care Team will next provide an update on their undertakings, and Pastor Julie will end the session with her reflections on what has been said and observations from her time at Mount Cross. A basket for additional written input will be available throughout the meeting. Care Team updates will cover Transportation needs, meal support, brochure, proposed “blue box”, and volunteer coordinator.

BROCHURE – ROUGH draft will be distributed to those in attendance as a takeaway for review and comment not discussion during the gathering.

OTHER – open discussion guided by input of those in attendance.

CURRENT AND ONGOING CARE NEEDS were discussed with current possible needs for meals and special card needs highlighted.

NEXT CARE TEAM MEETING DATE - **Thursday, February 6th at 9 am**

**MOUNT CROSS CARE TEAM
MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 21, 2019**

Present: Gayle Johnson, Becky Riley, Bev Rueckert, Susan Prosser and Pastor Julie

Meeting began with the Light of Christ and Devotions

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING were distributed

CONTINUING TRANSPORTATION NEEDS – Gayle Lead

- Results of Signup for rides to church – limited success so far – try direct email to those on T&T forms
- Notice of CAT passes for December Grapevine – need to make this better known - Becky

HEALTH DISTRICT CLASS UPDATE – Susan gave a report of the conclusion of the Better Balance class. The overall attendance dwindled rapidly after the first session or two once participants realized how little of the class time would be spend in exercising. The last participants did share this and other opinions about the class with instructors at the final session suggesting that the class may be better suited for those who have more mobility issues. There has not been any confirmation from the District as to whether there will be a winter class on site at Mount Cross.

MEMBER BIRTHDAY CARDS – nothing specific on this with children and youth ministry yet

CARING CARD MINISTRY –

- Christmas Mailing - Susan has ordered the CareNotes for dealing with the first Christmas following a death in the family. Gayle has compiled the list of members who have experienced a family death since last Christmas. Becky will take responsibility for mailing Christmas cards with the CareNotes.
- Card Ministry partners – Clair off the list. One addition made.

REQUESTS FOR 2020 FUNDING –

- Susan reported that a MBC request for a Volunteer Coordinator as discussed at the last meeting was submitted. Church Council action is expected at December meeting. If funding is granted, we will need to develop details of duties, recruitment, and selection.
- 2020 Budget request submitted for balance of designated Caring- Other funds – current balance \$537. Pastor’s Discretionary Fund was increased last year to include additional money at request of the Care Team.

UPDATE ON CHURCH COUNCIL ACTION ON BY-LAW AMENDMENT RE STEPHEN MINISTRY – Council took Care Team position under advisement. No decision made regarding amendment to By-Laws

MAKE PLANS FOR A JANUARY 2020 CARE GATHERING - PLAN AND ASSIGN DUTIES

- Date – Sunday January 12th at noon in the Parish Life Center
- Publicity in December Grapevine - Susan
- Email invitations to specific persons and groups and publicity up to the date - Susan
- Plan agenda – Pastor Julie to have opportunity to share her views/vision of caring; provide Care Team update; encourage other groups to provide updates; seek input from those attending
- Plan lunch – sandwich lunch with beverages, chips, fruit and cookies – Gayle salad; Bev drinks, chips and cookies; Susan paper goods, sandwiches and fruit; Becky sandwiches
- Have Mount Cross Cares draft brochure ready for review by group; Also introduce the idea of a care referral form - Susan

CURRENT AND ONGOING CARE NEEDS were reviewed

NEXT CARE TEAM MEETING DATE – January 9, 2020 9 am in order to finalize plans for the Care Gathering

Mount Cross Care Team Meeting Minutes September 26, 2019

LIGHT OF CHRIST AND DEVOTIONS

Present: Pastor Julie, Gayle Johnson, Becky Riley, and Beverly Rueckert

Transportation Services Update:

Recommendation to remind the congregation, every other month, that the church has Dial-A-Ride passes available. It has already been in the bulletin once. There is a need for transportation to the 10:00 service from Leisure Village. We will advertise in the bulletin and Grapevine for a driving team to be put together so that it is not overwhelming as a weekly commitment.

Health Balance Class update: 14 enrolled and will begin on Wednesday, October 2nd for 8 weeks.

Prayer Chain Update: Carina will send a list of the prayer requests of the week and one Mt. Cross ministry each week. There will be boxes also placed in the Narthex and Office for prayer requests to be received.

Home Communion Update: Pastor Julie will meet with new and continuing members on September 29th to train and distribute information and assignments.

Card Ministry: Gayle reported that she has contacted all the current card senders asking if they plan to continue as it is a year by year commitment. When she has heard from all, she will send out a master list. She knows that new volunteers will be needed. Pastor Julie will take blank Mt. Cross cards with attached address to hand out to our group meetings for volunteers to write and send. We may wish to include names of people on the prayer chain.

Mount Cross Cares Brochure: Susan is in the process of completing and sending to Carina.

Community Resource Brochure: A discussion about using the St Columba's Parish nurse as a resource for starting a group of medical resource people here. Pastor Julie will contact them. Then a letter will be sent out to our medical people asking if they would support this group effort. Pastor Julie will talk with also, include the brochure with homeless bags if permission is granted by Sharon Stone at the Healthcare District who compiled this list. We discussed asking the NAMI group to do a presentation here and also to consider getting one of their grants to help develop our parish nurse group. Pastor Julie will discuss with Lynn Bullock.

Current Care Needs: It was decided that names on the prayer list should stay on list for 4 weeks and then the need to either notify the office of ongoing need to remain or remove.

Stephen Ministry update: There is none in Camarillo at this time. Becky will bring the discussion to church council as it is currently included in our constitution.

Altar Flower Delivery: A letter and list went out and there were a couple of responses.

Other business: Discussion to revitalize the birthday/anniversary/baptism recognition. We need 12 people to take one month each and send appropriate cards. Carina will be asked to create a list of baptism dates. Pastor Julie was interested in monthly recognizing birthday people in church.

Becky passed out the Adult Day Program Resource booklets for our use.

Fall Caring Gathering: Discussed an umbrella meeting of all groups connected with caring. It was suggested that we meet after Sunday Bible study and that the Care Team provide lunch. December 1st seemed to be the best possibility.

The next Care Team meeting will be October 31st, Thursday, at 9 AM in Pastor Julie's office.

Submitted by Beverly Rueckert

Mount Cross CARE TEAM
MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 21, 2019

Present: Gayle Johnson, Bev Rueckert, Susan Prosser and Pastor Julie

Absent: Becky Riley, Mary Goodenough

Meeting opened with the LIGHT OF CHRIST AND DEVOTIONS

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES UPDATE – Susan provided an update on the Dial-a-Ride passes that are available in the church office and a recent experience booking an out of Camarillo ride to a medical appointment for a member. It was agreed that there should be newsletter and/or bulletin publicity about the availability of the passes (for purchase or free) and the Camarillo Health Care District Resource Guides available at the church.

CAM HEALTH CARE DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP CLASS - The Balance Class has been scheduled to take place in the Parrish Life Center at Mount Cross from Oct 2 through Nov 20th. This two-hour class will be free of charge and is open to the community. Flyers are now available, and enrollment is being accepted. We have been given flyers to distribute to Mount Cross members and will encourage those who expressed interest to enroll. An article will appear in the September newsletter.

PRAYER CHAIN MANAGEMENT – The management of the prayer chain by the Care Team during the 6 weeks without permanent office staff was discussed. There was some question about the value of the Care Team continuing to monitor weekend and holiday requests. With Pastor Julie's input, it was decided that the office would examine options for adding more automation to the prayer chain process rather than needing volunteer coverage.

MOUNT CROSS CARES BROCHURE – this project stills needs formatting and printing. Will ask for office staff assistance once Carina has settled into her new position.

COMMUNITY RESOURCE BROCHURE – Becky was not present, and time did not permit us to get to this item.

CURRENT CARE NEEDS – The group discussed current emerging needs of the congregation. How to remain in contact to support members who move beyond our "neighborhood" was specifically discussed. Some of the caring programs can be maintained easily while others may be more difficult. Contacting other ELCA churches was discussed as an option to at least alert them to the presence of a member who may need support.

STEPHEN MINISTRY – Options for possible Stephen Ministry for members and friends of Mount Cross while we wait for the reactivation of the Mount Cross program were discussed. It has been suggested that another local church with a Stephen Ministry program might be willing to reach out to persons referred from our church. This could begin a partnership of Stephen Ministries that could continue after our Stephen Ministry.

INVESTIGATING PARRISH NURSE FUNCTIONS – Pastor Julie shared that an NAMI mental health grant has been awarded in this Synod and might provide some access to services or information. More remains to be done to pursue information about a Parrish Nurse program and funding.

FALL CARING GATHERING – The group agreed that it was time to hold another gathering for the people who participate in all the various caring functions particularly now that we have a permanent Pastor. Tentative dates for early Oct were discussed.

ALTAR FLOWER DELIVERY – Need to find someone other than Gayle Johnson to oversee this program. The letter and list will go out with an alternative.

NEXT MEETING DATE – September 18th at 9 am NOTE: meeting date changed due to schedule conflicts

NEXT MEETING – THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 26TH AT 9 AM IN THE CHURCH OFFICE

Mount Cross CARE TEAM MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 21, 2019

Present: Gayle Johnson, Bev Rueckert, Susan Prosser and Pastor Julie

Absent: Becky Riley, Mary Goodenough

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MOUNT CROSS CARES BROCHURE – this project stills needs formatting and printing. Will ask for office staff assistance once Carina has settled into her new position.

COMMUNITY RESOURCE BROCHURE – Becky was not present, and time did not permit us to get to this item.

CURRENT CARE NEEDS – The group discussed current emerging needs of the congregation. How to remain in contact to support members who move beyond our "neighborhood" was specifically discussed. Some of the caring programs can be maintained easily while others may be more difficult. Contacting other ELCA churches was discussed as an option to at least alert them to the presence of a member who may need support.

STEPHEN MINISTRY – Options for possible Stephen Ministry for members and friends of Mount Cross while we wait for the reactivation of the Mount Cross program were discussed. It has been suggested that another local church with a Stephen Ministry program might be willing to reach out to persons referred from our church. This could begin a partnership of Stephen Ministries that could continue after our Stephen Ministry.

INVESTIGATING PARRISH NURSE FUNCTIONS – Pastor Julie shared that an NAMI mental health grant has been awarded in this Synod and might provide some access to services or information. More remains to be done to pursue information about a Parrish Nurse program and funding.

FALL CARING GATHERING – The group agreed that it was time to hold another gathering for the people who participate in all the various caring functions particularly now that we have a permanent Pastor. Tentative dates for early Oct were discussed.

ALTAR FLOWER DELIVERY – Need to find someone other than Gayle Johnson to oversee this program. The letter and list will go out with an alternative.

NEXT MEETING DATE – September 18th at 9 am NOTE: meeting date changed due to schedule conflicts

NEXT MEETING – THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 26TH AT 9 AM IN THE CHURCH OFFICE

MOUNT CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH CAMARILLO

CARE TEAM MINUTES

FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2019

Members present: Gayle Johnson, Becky Riley, Susan Prosser and Pastor Bessey

Member Absent: Bev Rueckert

Meeting opened with the Light of Christ and a devotion from d365

REVIEW OF ITEMS FROM LAST MEETING

- Susan reported that the Stewardship Team Lenten Time and Talent Campaign – would be highlighting the CARE TEAM need for volunteers this week
- Gayle reported that she was working on “cleaning up” the volunteer lists produced from the Time and Talent sheets for all purposes. The 2019 volunteer lists to distribute to Care groups/functions have been checked and updated and just need to be finalized.
- Caring volunteer thank you notes – this effort is tied to the new Time and Talent list.

ALTAR FLOWER DELIVERIES - Susan distributed a draft letter to be sent to Flower Delivery volunteers regarding suggested flower recipients. This is being done due to concerns regarding the fact that delivery is no longer welcome at local care facility and senior residences and other delivery suggestions will help ensure that the flowers are shared beyond Sunday mornings. Suggestions were made for changes to the draft and a new version will be prepared. Our list of suggested delivery recipients will be attached to the letter as well as kept in the church office. The possibility of getting a volunteer to oversee and coordinate the Flower Deliveries was also discussed so that volunteers would have someone to report to with information about deliveries and/or any issues.

RESPONSES TO OFFICE CONTACT OR REPORT OF POTENTIAL CARING NEED – Discussion turned to the increased importance of the need for a structured way to provide this information in light of the fact that the church will now have a change in personnel in the office as well as a new pastor. A simple trifold “brochure” that could be mailed, used in person and/or placed in the pew racks was agreed on. Some of the areas of congregational support to be included are:

- PRAYER SUPPORT
- MEALS
- RIDES
- PRAYER SHAWL

- HOME COMMUNION
- VISITATION
- OTHER?

Responsibility for the work on a first draft was taken by Susan. The Team will continue to work together on this task. Input from groups and individuals who provide services or care will be important. The goal is to complete this brochure expediently.

PASTOR JIM'S INPUT - Pastor shared input regarding current caring needs that have come to his attention and for which he has concerns regarding the congregation's capacity to fully respond. He indicated that community resource inventory will be most helpful in these instances when assistance beyond support from the church is indicated.

CARING NEEDS UPDATES – The TEAM discussed a variety of current and continuing care needs. Pastor reported that a prayer shawl was being delivered this week. A new card ministry pairing has been made. Two new volunteers for home communion have been identified through the review of Time and Talent forms. Also discussed were any new card needs, non-member sympathy cards sent, and Easter related concerns.

MET REPORT MISSION GOAL #2 – RESOURCE INVENTORY – Becky agreed to take the lead on this task. She will start by contacting prior leadership of Stephen Ministers to see whether there exists a community resource directory of some sort that they had compiled. If so, our job will be updating and adding and new services. Based on the needs discussed at this meeting and others, it was agreed that the initial focus would be on services for seniors and those who are disabled or have mobility issues.

CARE GATHERINGS – SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH had been selected as a tentative date for the next Care Gathering with all care groups invited. Email invitations and newsletter and bulleting announcements will alert people to this gathering. Once again, the meeting will be set for noon a sandwich lunch provided by TEAM members. Susan will send the emails and place the announcements.

NEXT MEETING DATE – FRIDAY, MAY 5, 2019 9 AM

MOUNT CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH CAMARILLO
CARE TEAM MINUTES
FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2019

Members present: Gayle Johnson, Susan Prosser, Bev Rueckert, and Pastor Bessey
Member absent: Becky Riley

DEVOTION AND LIGHT OF CHRIST – devotion from d365

REPORT ON TIME AND TALENT CAMPAIGN

- Fall 2018 – Gayle and Susan, who joined the Stewardship Team after the Care Team offered to assist with the Stewardship Campaign, reported that the Time and Talent responses from the campaign were not as plentiful as the pledge responses. The Stewardship Team is planning to send a Thank You note to those who did complete a form. There was discussion that there may be members who do not respond since they do not intend to make any change to what they have been doing. “Thanks for Volunteering” notes or contacts directly from the Committees or activities/functions are probably also a good idea. Care Team will pursue these for our area.

- Gayle will work with Sheri to get a list of volunteers for the Caring Area that is specific to the new responses so that these names can be distributed to the various groups
- Lent 2019 Time and Talent Campaign – Stewardship Team will highlight giving time and/or talent to the missions of the Church during a Lenten campaign as an option to “giving up” something for Lent

REPORT OF CHRISTMAS CARE NOTE GRIEF MAILING – 16 Christmas Cards with a Care Note regarding facing the holiday after a death of a loved one were mailed to members and the family of members who had lost loved ones in 2018. There are 4 Christmas Care Notes left so more may need to be bought if we wish to do this again for 2019. Allison Johnson arranged for the purchase and also acquired Care Notes for caregivers, terminal illness, etc. The Care Note pamphlets have been left with Pastor Jim for use in home visits or counseling.

ALTAR FLOWER DELIVERIES – Gayle went over the flower delivery list with the Team which is basically the same list as the one used to pair card partners. This new flower delivery list was created to give flower delivery volunteers some suggestions for those weeks when no one has been designated to receive the altar flowers. Following discussion it was agreed that Gayle will reorganize the list to list those least able to attend church first with others still remaining on the list. Susan will send an email or note to the volunteers with a copy of the list so that they each understand that it now exists and the significance of the order. A copy of the list will also be kept in the church office.

REPORT ON COUNCIL LIAISON ASSIGNMENT – Susan reported that Allison Johnson will no longer be Council Liaison to the Care Team. We have yet to be assigned a new Council representative.

CARING NEEDS UPDATES – All present shared recent caring needs that had been brought to their attention.

PASTOR JIM’S INPUT – Pastor gave a summary of the current status of the Home Communion program. He recently met with Mary Goodenough who coordinates volunteers. Mary is currently determining the status of prior volunteers to determine whether additional volunteers are needed. The Care Team suggested that in any event it might be a good idea to offer training and solicit people who could be back-up or intermittent volunteers. Pastor informed the group that when all goes as planned, that a home bound person receives communion twice a month, once from Pastor and once from a communion minister. This is an important ministry that deserves to be showcased.

RESPONSES TO OFFICE CONTACT OR REPORT OF CARING NEED – The Team discussed whether it would be helpful to have some sort of response that could be emailed or mailed in response to contacts made to the Church Office or to needs that become known to others. This response could make a point to express that the church want to provide spiritual support in their need and there may be other ways we can support as well. The goal is to make these things known and to take away the reluctance to ask. Examples of support would include:

- PRAYER SUPPORT
- MEAL SUPPORT
- RIDES
- SHAWL
- HOME COMMUNION
- VISITATION

- OTHER

Susan will draft something for other members to review and then discuss. This is similar to the current campaign in church publications to let everyone know how to ask for prayer support.

GOALS FOR 2019

- CARE GATHERINGS – tentative next date Sunday, April 28th
- MET REPORT MISSION GOAL #2 – RESOURCE INVENTORY – Becky expressed an interest at the Leadership Gathering – will check with her about taking lead

NEXT CARE TEAM MEETING – TO BE DETERMINED

Care Team - December 2018 Report

No meeting was held in December but the following was accomplished:

Allison Johnson completed the order for the “first Christmas after suffering a loss” pamphlets for sending to members and friends of Mount Cross who have had a death in their family since last Christmas.

As agreed by the Team, Susan Prosser mailed the pamphlets along with an appropriate Christmas card from the Care Team to 14 persons and families identified by the Church Office and others.

It is hoped that these small expressions may prove helpful to these persons and households.

Mount Cross Lutheran Church Camarillo Care Team Meeting Minutes - November 12, 2018

Present: Gayle Johnson, Becky Riley, Susan Prosser, and Allison Johnson, Council Liaison

Absent: Bev Rueckert and Pastor Bessey

The meeting opened with a **devotion and the Light of Christ**

The minutes of October 11, 2018 were reviewed

Recap of Caring Gatherings held on Nov 4th and 5th -- The Sunday lunch gathering had 13 people in attendance and generated healthy discussion, some new ideas and a matching of an identified need to a willing volunteer. The Monday dessert night gathering had 7 persons in attendance and produced a more focused discussion with good information sharing, several new ideas and a possible new projects for the church. Between the two sessions, topics discussed included distributing prayer shawls; Helping Hands volunteer needs; grief support; prayers concerns; flower delivery; and possible Adopt a Grandparent and support for unmarried mother programs. Detailed minutes of these gatherings are pending and will be shared with those present and posted online.

Action Items for Care Team from Care Gatherings –

- Becky to further pursue current worship attendance review by the office for information regarding indications of persons who may need contact of concern

- Gayle to develop list of back-up flower delivery recipients to use when no one has been specified by the person(s) dedicating the flowers. This list to be kept in Church office.
- Communicate with Pastor about need for Prayer Shawl dedication in the near future and discuss method or requesting and distribution
- Work with Valerie Patscheck and Pastor Bessey to coordinate grief support materials.
- Plan future Care Gatherings on a Quarterly basis at request of those attending.

Involvement with Stewardship and Plans for Time and Talent follow-up – Gayle and Susan contacted Craig Blois with the Stewardship Team about providing support with a revised Time and Talent form. They became involved along with three others in developing and implementing the Stewardship Campaign “Preparing the Soil”. Hopefully the Time and Talent forms will be returned with many volunteers for Caring functions.

Budget Request submitted by Oct 31st deadline – Susan submitted a 2019 budget request for the Care Team by the required deadline. We have asked for an amount equal to the balance of funds in the Caring – Other designated fund. This balance was \$758 at the time of the request.

Current Caring Needs

- Care Notes for use with Christmas Cards need to be ordered. Allison will order and Susan will purchase suitable cards to use with them. Mailing to take place early in the Advent Season.
- Response to families with recent deaths were discussed
- There still remain 5 year-round caring card matches to be made. Several Team members present took a match. We hope for more volunteers with new Time and Talent results.
- The need for rides to church and for other purposes was discussed. One new volunteer will be pursued for a specific ride to church. New Time and Talent results will also have additional volunteers in this area.

Next Meeting Date – to be determined. Possible date or dates to be sent to members

MOUNT CROSS LUTHERAN CARE TEAM

Meeting Minutes October 11, 2018

Members present: Gayle Johnson, Susan Prosser, Becky Riley, Bev Rueckert, Pastor Bessey and Allison Johnson, Council Liaison

The meeting opened with the LIGHT OF CHRIST and a devotion presented by Susan

The Team reviewed the notes from the AUGUST 8, 2018 meeting

UPDATES

- Susan reported that the Church Council received and accepted the Caring Task Force PROPOSAL FOR CARING MINISTRY AT MOUNT CROSS and the associated creation of a **Care Team**. The recommendation of a reconfigured **Welcome Team** was also accepted although not currently meeting.
- CARD MINISTRY – Gayle reported that she still needed additional volunteers to complete her card partner matches for the ongoing card ministry. Her hope is that the Time and Talent process will bring new volunteers. Bev, Becky and Susan all volunteered to be matched with a recipient. Gayle will prepare a newsletter article explaining this program and how it differs from

the other Card Ministry program maintained so faithfully by the Colby's. Specific discussion of cards for upcoming holidays (Thanksgiving and Christmas) will include all others who are not receiving year round cards or notes. Particular attention will be given to those who have had a death in the family in the past year. Team members will handle this responsibility.

- Our RALLY DAY table was well received but did not produce any volunteers and only one suggestion. The suggestion was that there needs to be attention given to terminal illness support. There was interest in the Care Notes and our candy!
- CARE NOTES – Allison suggested that in conjunction with Christmas greetings one of the Care Notes specific to dealing with holidays or Christmas after a death be included in what is sent to those who are dealing with recent losses. She will check any available supplies in the Church office attic and determine whether we need to purchase any supplies in order to do this.
- COMMUNITY SERVICES LISTING – OFFICE NOTEBOOK AND PAMPHLET – Bev will have time to work on this project in November and will take into account the earlier discussion on how this type of information could be used.
- MOUNT CROSS OFFICE REQUESTS – INFO LISTING – Where? And Who - Prayer requests; Meal support; Rides (church or otherwise); Pastoral visits; etc. Becky suggested that she prepare a brief write up describing how this is done for inclusion in the church newsletter and elsewhere.

RESOURCE INFORMATION OPTIONS (Both Community and Mount Cross needed) – will be pursued further as we develop our information listings

- WEBSITE TAB – Resources?
- PAMPHLETS – Pews, Kiosk, Office
- REGULAR BULLETIN INFO
- REGULAR NEWSLETTER INFO
- OFFICE WINDOW SIGN – refer to website AND nearest services when office closed

NEED TO ESTABLISH A CARING NETWORK

- SCHEDULE CARING FUNCTIONS GATHERING AND SET AGENDA – the Team set the dates for Sunday Nov 4th at noon with Lunch and Monday Nov 5th at 7 pm with dessert. An article will be prepared for the print newsletter and email invitations will be sent to the specific caring task groups. The gatherings will be open to all who are interested but the topics will focus on coordination amongst the caring groups.
- Care Team goals for Caring gatherings
 - FACILITATE CONVERSATION AND COORDINATION
 - IDENTIFY NEEDS
 - BRAINSTORM SOLUTIONS
 - MAKE CLEAR NO OVERSIGHT
 - COLLECTIVELY DECIDE ON VALUE OF MEETINGS AND FREQUENCY
- IDENTIFY NEEDS AND DEFINE TASK SPECIFIC VOLUNTEERS - Time and Talent or specific recruitment? - Following discussion, the Team preferred using the Stewardship Time and Talent process, at least to begin recruitment. Decided as a group to volunteer to take on the task of updating the T and T forms in readiness for distribution. Susan will contact the Stewardship Chair/Council Liaison with the volunteer offer.

CURRENT NEEDS AND CONCERNS/ PROPOSED RESPONSES – ALL

- Recent need for possible grocery shopping support – Shop Ahoy service discovered – Team members felt that this is important information to make know to members of the congregation. Will make suggestion as 3D presentation and will include in a resource listing available to members and others.
- Non-member Grandmother/grandchildren food/financial support during weekend. Supplies on hand were offered. Could not produce and provide a guide of services provided specific to Camarillo. Meredith and Susan attempted to list a few and printed West County services from the County website. This is a need for Mount Cross, Many Meals and others in Camarillo. Needs to be pursued. Bev will further investigate while working on updating our resource listing and materials.
- NEEDS TO ADDRESS FOR THANKSGIVING OR CHRISTMAS – Team and Pastor will stay aware of any developing needs

OTHER BUSINESS

- BUDGET REQUEST – Susan informed the Team that budget requests for 2019 are due Oct 31st. It was agreed that the Care Team would request an amount equal to the current balance of available designated funds.

REQUESTS/PROPOSALS FROM PASTOR BESSEY - Possible transportation needs to church were discussed for two members and otherwise nothing beyond what has been discussed already. The Johnson family will follow up with one member and Pastor will know more about the other based on medical condition.

NEXT CARING TEAM MEETING – Monday, November 12th at noon

MOUNT CROSS LUTHERAN CARING TEAM

MEETING MINUTES August 8, 2018

Members present: Gayle Johnson, Becky Riley, Bev Rueckert, Susan Prosser, Allison Johnson (Council Liaison), and Pastor Jim Bessey

Meeting opened with the LIGHT OF CHRIST and a DEVOTION from d365

NOTES FROM JULY 9, 2018 MEETING were reviewed

CARD MINISTRY –Gayle provided an update on this project of matching volunteers from the Time and Talent list to a list of persons identified for ongoing card ministry support.

- LIST REVIEW AND UPDATE – Gayle will take on the responsibility of keeping the recipient list updated and current.
- LIST PAIRINGS- letters were sent to 20 potential volunteers with 14 yes responses thus far. 14 matches have been made with an email to the volunteer including the recipient's name, address, birthday and any other dates of significance. 6 more matches needed.
- ROLE OF CARING TEAM - it was agreed that the Caring Team will be responsible for the groups identified as Holiday Cards and any recently added persons with current health issues.
- Allison suggested that we find a way to involve volunteers that are not computer savvy. Discussion was also held about ways to include these members in the prayer chain (otherwise

distributed by email). It was agreed that a review of the various methods of requesting prayer should be reviewed and tracked to see if a single list can be produced and shared.

CARE NOTES PAMPHLET MINISTRY UPDATE – Allison provided an update.

- SAMPLES – Allison brought 30 samples of different Care Notes pamphlets purchased since our last meeting. Those who had yet to see them took time to examine a sample or more. There was agreement on the quality of the pamphlets and the material contained from our cursory review. Pastor shared that he has used these in the past and particularly values the ones dealing with bereavement and illness.
- PROPOSED CURRENT BEST USE(S) – with Rally Day set for September 9th the Team felt this might offer a first opportunity to get a reaction from the congregation if some pamphlets were included in the Caring display. Pastor shared that his experience has been that the interest in these resources is strong at first and then dwindles if we were thinking about a permanent display rack in the church which is expensive. Bev reported that she believed that some of these same pamphlets had been used by Stephen Ministry. Pastor and Bev will look for any remaining pamphlets in storage in the Church Office. It was agreed that the first best use will be as support to Pastoral care. Further consideration will be given to the topic.
- DISCRETIONARY FUNDS “CARING OTHER” - \$758 balance – Susan reported that there is this designated fund with no current budgeted use. It might be a good resource for acquiring further pamphlets if that decision is made. We would have to request a Budget Amendment from the Church Council.

MOUNT CROSS AUTO-REFERRAL CARING SERVICES – Becky will have a report at our next meeting.

OUTSIDE RESOURCES DIRECTORY AND PAMPHLET – Bev will work on finding and updating previous resources used by Stephen Ministry.

CURRENT NEEDS AND CONCERNS/ PROPOSED RESPONSES – the Team discussed several recent care needs known within the congregation. Pastor will do some follow-up.

REQUESTS/PROPOSALS FROM PASTOR BESSEY – Pastor felt that discussion had already covered everything he might bring up.

PROPOSAL FOR CARING MINISTRY TO CHURCH COUNCIL AUGUST 21ST – a vote will be taken on our submitted proposal by the Council on August 21st. Susan Prosser and Allison Johnson will be in attendance. Other Team members were encouraged to attend if possible.

RALLY DAY SEPT 9TH – Susan Prosser alerted the group that Rally Day was fast approaching. Pastor reported that he was unaware of any planning that had taken place for this event. We should probably not plan for a full-on regular Rally Day unless otherwise notified.

- COORDINATION WITH CARING GROUPS? Susan suggested that the Team might want to contact all caring functions and groups to see if they would like to join displays in a “caring corner”. The team can also offer to help promote groups who are not able to have a presence at Rally Day.
- ANY FORM OF BROCHURE OR MATERIALS - the Care Note pamphlets will make a good display and further consideration will be needed regarding any other materials.
- VOLUNTEER RECRUITING – Susan to review current volunteers prior to the date. May need to emphasize those willing to offer rides and other volunteer opportunities not represented by another group.

- Specific plans for Rally Day will be on hold until we receive notification from the Church Council or Church Office.

TIME AND TALENT FORMS – Susan will review Time and Talent form and see if any additional tasks or groups might need to be added or if any older listings are no longer pertinent.

FUTURE MEETING WITH ALL CARING GROUPS – the Team agreed to aim for a September meeting of representatives of all current caring groups. Susan Prosser will work to coordinate and notify. The purpose of the gathering would be to:

- FACILITATE CONVERSATION AND COORDINATION
- IDENTIFY NEEDS
- BRAINSTORM SOLUTIONS
- MAKE CLEAR NO OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY has been assigned to the Caring Team
- COLLECTIVELY DECIDE ON VALUE OF MEETINGS AND FREQUENCY

NEXT CARING TEAM MEETING - the Team agreed that we should hold a **September meeting**. Date to be determined once members schedules have been checked.

CARING TASK FORCE

Minutes for Meeting of July 9, 2018

Members present – Gayle Johnson, Becky Riley, Susan Prosser and Allison Johnson, Council Liaison

Absent – Beverly Rueckert, Pastor Jim

LIGHT OF CHRIST AND DEVOTION – Susan shared a devotion and music from d365

CARD MINISTRY – It was reported that since the last meeting Easter cards and “start of summer” cards were mailed to the ongoing Card Ministry list. The summer cards were not sent to the group designated to receive only major holiday cards. Sheri worked with the team to design bright colored post cards that were used for the most recent mailing. Special thanks to her for all the help. We received very positive responses after both mailings.

The need for ongoing card list review and updates were discussed and it was agreed that it would be important to stay current by watching prayer concerns and lists and working with the church office. We will also maintain the categories of the list that keep some on an ongoing list and others on a more short term or situational list. The holiday only group was not discussed as to pairing. One name was submitted as requesting removal from the permanent list.

Gayle shared that she is ready to send a letter to all the Time and Talent respondents for Card Ministry introducing the idea of being paired with one or two card recipients for a year. We have a tremendous list of people who have volunteered in this area without being utilized. It may also be a good idea to designate several people to be the respondents to the changing short term list.

REQUEST FOR ENDOWMENT FUNDS – PASTOR’S DISCRETIONARY FUND SUPPLEMENT – Susan reported that a request for \$3,000 was submitted to create an increased Pastor’s Discretionary Fund with funds that could be utilized to provide financial assistance when a caring need within the congregation so dictated. The consideration of needs and distribution of funds would remain strictly with the pastor. Our request was not specifically granted but the Discretionary Fund for 2018 has been granted a total of \$3,000 which is an amount greater than customary.

CARE NOTES PAMPHLET MINISTRY – Allison reported on her research regarding the Care Notes discussed at the last meeting. It turns out that the pamphlets cost \$0.71 each and the rack for display is around \$900. The group decided that the pamphlets still sound worth examining even if just as resources for the pastor. Becky provided \$21 to purchase sample copies of a variety of topics for the group to review. If the materials do prove to have value for use in the Caring Ministry at Mount Cross, the group will develop a funding request for Make Bake Celebrate funds. Those wishing to further examine the options can go to carenotes.com.

OUTSIDE RESOURCES DIRECTORY AND PAMPHLET – Bev had agreed to work on updating this resource for use by the pastor, office and others. It was stressed that we should also look at the pamphlet Service and Missions uses to make certain the information is current.

OUTLINE OF MOUNT CROSS AUTO-REFERRAL CARING SERVICES – Becky agreed to take on the task of working with the office to outline what Caring services and functions operate automatically with referral from the church office.

PROPOSAL FOR CARING MINISTRY TO CHURCH COUNCIL – the most updated version of the Caring Ministry Proposal was reviewed and discussed. It was agreed that it should be submitted for consideration at the July Church Council meeting based on recent questions about the group and our status. Group members available will attend the Council meeting.

NEXT MEETING DATE WILL BE SET AFTER EVERYONES UPCOMING TRAVEL PLANS ARE SHARED.

CARING TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES
March 23, 2018

In attendance: Gayle Johnson, Susan Prosser, Bev Rueckert and Allison Johnson (Church Council Rep).
Pastor Bessey was able to attend a portion of the meeting.

Meeting opened with the Light of Christ and a Lenten devotion from d365.

Discussion of ROOM AT THE TABLE CHRISTMAS AND EASTER – determined that based on response to first two attempts that at Thanksgiving approach would differ. We will seek hosts through a similar recruitment and use referrals for identifying potential guests. Potential Easter referrals were discussed.

It was reported that the Task Force has met with Pastor with a proposal for a Caring Team. Pastor has suggested that presentation be delayed until the MET has surveyed the congregation and community to judge the responsiveness of the proposal. Our proposal may need some tweaking or may be ready for immediate presentation. In the meantime there are items that should be addressed. They were discussed as action items during the meeting.

EASTER CARDS – working with Pastor John before he left the Task Force has an expanded list of members who are home bound, limited in their ability to fully participate in church activities, or have prolonged need for caring contacts. It was agreed that Bev and Susan would send Easter cards to this list on behalf of the congregation. Gayle will then work on pairing those who have listed CARD MINISTRY as an interest on their Time and Talent forms with several people from the list for a continuing connection. We will need some sort of introductory correspondence to these volunteers.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES – following discussion of a recent member family need that could well be supported by a community resource, it was determined that the church needs an up dated list of community resources with good descriptions of what each offers. Bev has offered to do this. Once accomplished determining how to assure that these resources are made know to those in need will be discussed.

CARENOTES MINISTRY – Allison informed us of this program used by many churches which is a booklet display covering a broad range of concerns – grief, illness, life transitions, family or personal issues, mental health as examples. Booklets are provided on a subscription basis and the subjects rotate. The intent is to supplement other caring support. Allison will explore the costs and possibilities for Mount Cross and report.

LISTING AND DESCRIPTION OF AUTOMATIC REFERRAL CARING SERVICES – Gayle agreed to work with Sheri in the office to identify which caring services are automatically referred based on office notification. A description of these services will be compiled and they can be discussed at a future meeting to determine if there are others that can be added to this list or if there is a need to examine any that are currently on this list.

MEETING - the group set a goal of meeting once a month as we continue in Task Force status. Becky Riley has indicated intent to join the group so future notices will be sent to her as well.

Submitted on behalf of the Task Force, Susan Prosser

Caring Task Force Report to Church Council September 2017

Following the annual Church Leadership meeting in February, the three of us have met to discuss concerns regarding the Caring area of Ministry at Mount Cross. This area of ministry has been listed as the #1 area of need for attention at the 2017 and 2016 Church Leadership gatherings. At the 2017 Church Council organization meeting, it concerned us that apparently no Council member volunteered to interface with the Caring Area or to provide leadership to respond to the concerns of leaders gathered earlier in the day.

Since we come to this topic in no official capacity we are offering ourselves as ad hoc organizers for a Caring Task Force. Current efforts must be supported and made known. Needs should be identified and addressed. What comes of this effort will grow from the input and participation of those currently involved; those with needs; and others with a calling to service in this area.

We believe that first step needs to be a proper inventory of all the good things that are currently being done and want to hold a **Caring Summit** (of a sort) where committees and individuals involved can share the details of what they do. Once these things are inventoried this information can be shared more broadly. Sharing this information with one another may also help identify similarities and overlaps that might exist in current efforts. A look at membership and volunteer lists will help reveal useful information.

Equally important is the identification of the needs and gaps that exist in our response to needs. People currently involved in caring efforts are perhaps among the best to help with this process. You may very well have been asked about other services that the church may or may not offer. Or in helping in one way you yourself may have thought of other services that the Church should consider. Those of you on the front lines are people who should be heard from on this topic. Other sources for need identification are the church office and notes from the leadership gatherings. Certainly the congregation can be asked to weigh in as well – perhaps on Rally Day.

The areas considered as part of Caring include:

- From Council Members Handbook
 1. Attendance records
 2. Stephen Ministry
 3. Sunshine Ministry
 4. Support to families with special needs
 5. Prayer Ministry.
 6. Communion to home bound or hospitalized
 7. Meals for new moms, those just home from the hospital, etc.
 8. Card ministry
 9. Telecare ministry
 10. Rides to church
 11. Child care
 12. Home care for the elderly or those convalescing
 13. Phone Prayer Chain
 14. E-mail Prayer Chain
 15. Deliver Sunday Flowers to homebound or hospitalized
 16. Helping Hands - serve at funerals & receptions
 17. Good Grief Group
 18. Prayer Shawl Ministry
- From the Budget Process
 - Helping Hands
 - Pastors Discretionary Fund
 - Stephen Ministry
 - Card Ministry
- From Time and Talent Form
 - Stephen Ministry
 - Prayer chain
 - Provide a ride to church
 - Provide emergency meals
 - New mom meals
 - Provide emergency child care
 - Food serving – funeral receptions
 - Send cards
 - Prayer shawl ministry

We know there are other caring efforts within the congregation that are offered on either an organized or individual basis. Those should be identified as well if for no other reason so that there can be inventoried and a discussion held as to whether there is a greater need.

The Time and Talent process produced one additional volunteer for the Task Force who will be incorporated in our efforts.

The initial effort to meet the goals of inventory and identification will be a CONVERSATION ABOUT CARING to be held in September with persons already involved or interested in the Caring Ministries at Mount Cross.

Respectfully submitted,
Gayle Johnson, Susan Prosser, Beverly Rueckert

5/8/15

Caring Committee Report:

- Linda Frantz and Marion Cole have contacted the contact persons for each of the active Caring Committees.
- We have one request from the prayer shawl ministry for more communication from Pastor John.
- They give a shawl to bereaved persons, but would like to give shawls to other people that are going through a difficult time.

Notes by: Marion Cole

