



Congregational Care Policy

"Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord" ~ James 5:14 (NIV)

God has called pastors to care for the needs of God's sheep. The pastoral team, Congregational Care Ministers and the entire congregation shall provide compassion to those hurting physically, emotionally, and mentally. Our goal is to make sure every member in need of care will receive the best we have to offer. The Pastor of Congregational Care will coordinate the visitation of our homebound and hospitalized members with the pastoral team and congregational care ministers during the hours of 8am to 8pm. Between the hours of 10am to 5pm., members are encouraged to call the church office at 816.444.5588 or the Pastor of Congregational Care at 816.518.2571 to request a visit.

Pastor on Call

The Pastor on Call hours run weekly Monday - Thursday from 5pm to 10am, and Friday from 5pm until Monday at 10am. Members are encouraged to use the Pastor on Call phone (816.783.7845) during those hours for emergencies. Each pastor, when on call for a week at a time (Monday to Monday), will respond to members appropriately as they are contacted. The Pastor of Congregational Care should be briefed (email, texts or phone call) each day as needed for necessary follow-up. The Pastor on Call should also inform the office of any updates needed for the Care & Nurture List, funerals, etc. When the Pastor of Congregational Care is sick, has a day off or is on vacation, the Pastor on Call, along with the Pastor of Prayer and Visitation, will serve as the primary caregiver during and after office hours.

Homegoings

Funeral arrangements and repasts will be coordinated by the Pastor of Congregational Care (i.e. interaction between the family, Director of Worship and the Director of Operations to secure date and time for services when held at St. James. Assist the family with planning the order of service, and making contact with other involved staff and ministries whose service is needed). The Pastor of Congregational Care will work with the pastors to ensure that we always have at least two pastors at every funeral held for St. James members in the Greater Kansas City area. The Pastor of Congregational Care shall work with the pastors to ensure there is at least one pastor present for non-member funerals held at St. James. In the same manner, the Pastor of Congregational Care will coordinate with the pastors and Congregational Care Ministers to have someone present at non-member (family of members: spouse, children and parents) funerals outside of St. James when possible.

Let us make every effort to pray for and comfort those hurting among us. Caring for one another is a heavenly call that we have all answered. Please remember that if we work as a team we can accomplish great things for the sake of God's Kingdom.