

# Love in Action

## SLC Care Ministry



### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY

Lay ministers share Holy Communion with shut-ins in their homes or assisted living facilities. The frequency of the communion visits is up to the care receiver...weekly or monthly.

#### Care/Eucharistic Ministry Team

- Yvonne Dean
- Kim Holmes Grasmick
- Marilyn Hawks
- Kay Kersten
- Ellen Posadas
- Anna Quam
- Evy Randall
- Barb Smithson
- Pat Troutner



This team currently serves 15 care receivers.

For the last 20 years, Silverdale Lutheran Church's Care Ministry has served our faith community with compassionate care through Care Sharing, Eucharistic Ministry and Grief Ministry. We are grateful for all the volunteers who give hundreds of hours of time as they share their servant hearts and faith with so many. Originally started by Sue Gitch in 1999, our SLC Care Ministry has been coordinated by Lisa Ottenbacher, Silverdale Lutheran's Parish Nurse/Faith Community Nurse, since 2009. Lisa truly believes indeed everyone is a care minister. There are a lot of "informal" care ministers in our midst...many SLC folks simply reaching out to help others each day, but not on the official team.

*Thank you to Lisa and all our SLC volunteers for truly doing God's work with your compassionate hands through caring ministry!*

### CARE SHARING

Care Ministers connect with individuals in their homes or long-term care facilities for friendly visits, light household tasks, running errands, providing transportation to appointments/church, shopping, meal preparation or other needs. For many of the care receivers, this service provides vital functions that greatly aid their health and safety. For others, they provide comfort and support in the last days of life. There is a special need for male care ministers to minister to others males in our congregation.

*Stories of servant hearts...God's loving touch...*

An aging couple with considerable health challenges relied on a care minister to walk with them through the wife's death and then keep the husband connected to SLC through bringing him to worship and events. The care minister continued to share communion and became his health advocate as his health deteriorated. This relationship gave incredible support in the midst of fractured family relationships.



*If you are interested in volunteering in any aspect of our Care Ministry, please contact Lisa at [parishnurse@silverdalelutheran.org](mailto:parishnurse@silverdalelutheran.org)*

*If you are in need of a care minister, please contact Lisa at 360-633-5042 or any one of the pastors.*

*A cadre of members brought this care receiver to medical appointments in Tacoma 2-3 times a week for a decade. Care ministers helped move her several times, became companions and were by her side as she faced cancer and entered into hospice care.*

As many seniors give up driving, they are connected with care ministers to provide some transportation as needed.



*As several SLC members have moved to The Ridge, a memory care facility up the road from church, they are ministered to by one of our care ministers.*

The involvement of SLC's care ministry provided a couple dealing with oncology and daily radiation appointments with a shared ride schedule, giving their nephews a break from the daily transportation demands. *Each day brings another story...*

### GRIEF MINISTRY

The series "Journeying through Grief" is shared with SLC family members and friends who have experienced the death of a loved one.

During 2019, 112 booklets were given to 50 different families. This ministry happens through an anonymous member of the Care Ministry Team.



**God's work. Our hands.**