

How is a prayer shawl made? The shawl maker begins with prayers and blessings for the recipient of the shawl being made and the recipients of all the shawls. The prayers are continued throughout the creation of the shawl. The experience has been described by many as a very moving and powerful experience with both the giver and receiver feeling encircled by the love of a sheltering, mothering God!

Side by Side—Alice Post

Side by Side is a pastoral care and community outreach ministry. This is a day program that provides warmly encouraging fellowship for people living with dementia, and respite time for their care partners. The program takes place once a week in an informal and relaxed atmosphere where enthusiastic and caring volunteers walk alongside participants as friends and neighbours.

Stephen Ministry—Judie Coleman

Stephen Ministry is a supportive, caring ministry. Stephen Ministers are not counselors or therapists; rather, they are caring Christian friends who can offer a listening ear to help others through the tough times in life. Stephen Ministers are trained and supervised in their ministry.

Brochures on individual pastoral care teams are available on the Pastoral Care rack in the K.E. Lounge.

*For further information on **lay pastoral care**, how to be involved or how to let someone know you may be in need of lay pastoral care please contact the appropriate coordinator, the church office at 403-255-0001 or Judie Coleman at pastoralcare@standrewscalgary.ca.*

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*"I was naked and you clothed Me;
I was sick and you visited Me;
I was in prison and you came to Me."
Matthew 25: 35-36*

**ST. ANDREW'S
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

*Pastoral Care
The Ministry of Presence*

Life after Loss – Alice Williams

Our bereavement ministry team contacts the people of St. Andrew's known to have been recently bereaved and gives support through telephone calls, visits and cards. The Life after Loss team hosts our Celebration of Life service at the end of November for anyone who has experienced a loss of any kind and finds the Christmas season difficult. Candle lighting in memory of a loved one is offered on the 5th Sunday of the month after both services. They also oversee the GriefShare program offered throughout the year.

CareShare Ministry– Jean Spotowski & Joan Rowe

Our CareShare team provides short term support in crisis situations. We have volunteers who provide a meal, transportation, child care and/or other specific needs as appropriate. When ministerial staff, elders, district visitors, or office staff identify needs for support, our volunteers are asked to respond.

Homebound Ministry – Cathie Huber

St. Andrew's conducts an active ministry for the homebound of the congregation. This ministry is made up of volunteers who visit or call persons in care facilities or in their homes at least four times a year to comfort, listen or give support in whatever form it takes. If requested, Holy Communion can be served to them in their homes. Plates of goodies are distributed at Christmas.

Hospital Ministry– Judie Coleman

When someone is sick, a visit from a caring listener can make all the difference. When faced with treatment options, family responsibilities, and day-to-day struggles – a few minutes of encouragement and prayer is often just what the doctor ordered.

Our volunteers regularly visit Rockyview Hospital. If someone is known to be in Foothills Hospital or South Health Campus a visit will be made. Our visitors are specially trained for this service and calling.

Nursing Health Ministry– Alice Williams

Our Nursing Health Ministry is made up of registered nurses who volunteer to promote health and wholeness for members of the congregation. Once a year they organize a health fair, share fall prevention information, and continue to explore different ways to provide health education, support and encouragement. They also maintain the various First Aid Kits around the building.

In case of an emergency there is an AED defibrillator situated on the wall adjacent to the downstairs access in the foyer.

Prayer Ministry– Lorie Nielsen

One of the cornerstones of St. Andrew's church is prayer, so it follows that our prayer chain is an important ministry. This consists of individuals who pray for people and their needs, which can be diverse and wide-ranging. All prayers requests are treated with confidentiality.

If you let us know, we would like to pray for you when you or others in our church are ill or going into the hospital, are grieving or fearful, are homebound, or with other needs where God could comfort and support.

If you have a prayer request to pass on to the prayer chain please email fnielsen64@gmail.com , contact the church office or one of our ministers.

Prayer Shawl Ministry– Annette Shaw

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry has grown out of the desire to combine the healing power of prayer with the healing ministry of human touch. Imagine that you are lonely, grieving or ill, or perhaps leaving home for the first time, or celebrating the birth of a child and what a blessing it would be to receive a soft, warm and comforting shawl that was created with the love and prayers of your church family. Over the centuries, shawls have come to symbolize shelter, peace and spiritual sustenance. Women from our congregation have lovingly donated their time and talents by creating hand-knit and crocheted shawls, filled with the power of prayer, for those in need.

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