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## *Benevolent Fund*

THE BENEVOLENT FUND IS A SUM OF MONEY SET ASIDE TO HELP THOSE IN FINANCIAL NEED. PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN HELPED BY FIRST FREE'S BENEVOLENT FUND RANGE FROM MEMBERS AND REGULAR ATTENDERS OF THE CHURCH, TO EXTENDED FAMILIES OF CHURCH MEMBERS, AND TO PEOPLE WITHIN THE CHURCH'S NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNITY.

THE BENEVOLENT FUND DERIVES ITS FUNDING FROM FIRST FREE'S CONGREGATION. WEEKLY OFFERINGS THAT ARE INDICATED "BENEVOLENT FUND" GO DIRECTLY TO HELP THOSE WHO NEED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

THE CARING COMMISSION REVIEWS ALL REQUESTS FOR FUNDS AND EACH REQUEST IS KEPT CONFIDENTIAL.

WE ON THE CARING COMMISSION PRAISE GOD FOR THE GENEROSITY OF CONGREGATION MEMBERS WHO SO FAITHFULLY GIVE THEIR MONEY TO THE BENEVOLENT FUND. GOD IS AT WORK THROUGH THIS FUND. AND WE PRAY FOR EVERY OPPORTUNITY WE HAVE TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE BY PRACTICALLY ASSISTING THOSE IN FINANCIAL NEED.

## *Fire Student Ministries Fundraising Dinner*

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On May 1st, after the church service and ABF's at 12:30 pm, a special lunch will be hosted by the First Evangelical Free youth group. Join us for the all-church dinner to support our students. All of the money donated during the lunch will cover the expenses for special trips like the one the youth will be taking to Saulte Ste. Marie this July.

So what is Saulte Ste Marie? From July 2-9, our FEFC students will get an opportunity to rebuild some hope within this community that has gone through devastation from economic distress. The youth plan on participating in kids' clubs, visiting the elderly, and painting homes.





# Parish Nursing at First Evangelical Free Church



DEE HUANCA AND MAUREEN JUAREZ

WE ARE DELIGHTED FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE FIRST EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH AS PARISH NURSES. DURING THE PAST FEW YEARS WE EACH COMPLETED A PARISH NURSE COURSE AND HAVE BEEN PRAYERFULLY WAITING FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE IN THIS ROLE AT FIRST FREE CHURCH. BOTH OF US ARE RNS AND HAVE TAUGHT NURSING IN A VARIETY OF DIFFERENT SPECIALTIES.

## WHAT IS A PARISH NURSE?

A PARISH NURSE IS A LICENSED REGISTERED NURSE, FORMALLY TRAINED IN PARISH NURSING AND COMMITTED TO THE HEALING AND CARING MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH.

MAUREEN'S BACKGROUND HAS BEEN PRIMARILY WITH PHYSICALLY ILL ADULTS WHILE DEE HAS WORKED IN MENTAL HEALTH AND COMMUNITY NURSING.

OUR SERVICES WILL BE AVAILABLE STARTING ON APRIL 1ST. A NURSE WILL BE AVAILABLE ON MONDAY AFTERNOONS FROM 1-4 PM AT CHURCH. SHE MAY ALSO BE REACHED BY CALLING OR EMAILING THE CHURCH. THERE IS NO COST FOR THIS SERVICE. A GROUP OF HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AND PEOPLE INTERESTED IN THE HEALTH OF OUR CONGREGATION WILL BECOME A WELLNESS TEAM TO PROVIDE INPUT TO THE PARISH NURSES. AS PARISH NURSES WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE HEALTH OF THE WHOLE PERSON; BODY, MIND AND SPIRIT. OUR FOCUS FOR THE NEXT YEAR WILL BE VISITATION TO THE SENIORS IN OUR CHURCH, WORKING IN COORDINATION WITH THE WELLNESS TEAM AND THE VISITATION PASTOR. WE PLAN TO DEVELOP A CLASS TO PREPARE PEOPLE TO DO VISITATION TO PEOPLE IN OUR CHURCH WHO ARE IN HOSPITALS, HOSPICE, NURSING CARE FACILITIES, OR THEIR HOMES.



## PARISH NURSES:

- CARE FOR THE WHOLE PERSON; THE BODY, MIND AND SPIRIT
- VISIT PEOPLE FROM THE CHURCH
- PROVIDE COUNSEL AND SPIRITUAL SUPPORT
- ENCOURAGE HEALTHY LIFESTYLES
- LISTEN, INTERPRET THE MEANING OF SITUATIONS AND PROVIDE HEALTH INFORMATION
- FIND HEALTH RESOURCES IN THE COMMUNITY
- ORGANIZE SUPPORT GROUPS
- RECRUIT, PREPARE AND COORDINATE VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST IN THE HEALTH MINISTRY
- COOPERATE WITH PASTORS, COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSING, HOSPICE AND SOCIAL AGENCIES

## PARISH NURSES DO NOT:

- PROVIDE "HANDS ON" NURSING OR PHYSICAL CARE
- GIVE MEDICATIONS, DRAW BLOOD, GIVE INJECTIONS,
- OR DO ANY INVASIVE PROCEDURES

