

Healing as Proclamation

One third of stories about Jesus in the four gospels are healing stories. In Luke 10, we see that it was through the healing of people that the kingdom of God was proclaimed.

“After this the Lord appointed 72 others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. He told them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field...When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to you. Heal the sick who are there and tell them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near you.’”

Health is not just the absence of disease. It is about complete restoration of the person—in body, mind, and spirit. Christ commands us to preach the gospel through the healing of the sick.

What does that look like in our modern day of hospitals and doctors? Let our Church Health Ministry Team show you!



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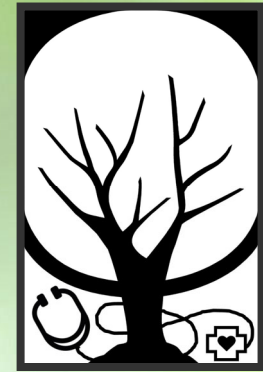
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**CHURCH
HEALTH
MINISTRY**

Facts about Health that the Church can impact

- Did you know that 45% of people who go to the ER go out of loneliness? Churches can come alongside this population as a ministry of presence and accompaniment.
- Did you know that 2/3 of the medical costs in America today are due to things that the church can directly impact? 1/3 of medical care costs are due to self-destructive behaviors.
- 17.2% of people in McLennan County do not have health insurance, and thus, no access to care. 22% could not see a doctor in the past year due to costs.
- In the last century, the number of older adults has grown from 3 million to 38.9 million. 40% of older adults suffer from disease. Research shows that 83% of people aged 65+ identify as Christian. In other words, this neglected and suffering population is composed of members of our churches, who probably graced our pews and Sunday school classes before becoming ill.

“We can cure physical diseases with medicine, but the only cure for loneliness, despair, and hopelessness is love.”

-Mother Teresa

Ways Your Church Can Get Involved:

1. Ask our team about Bible study material to lead your church through a study of health and wholeness
2. Do a blood pressure or blood glucose screening at your church
3. Train a group of compassionate volunteers to be a ministry of presence to your members and your community
4. Do a Church Health Assessment to determine the health needs of your congregation
5. Pick a Health Emphases, based on our How to Start a Church Health Ministry Guide

How Church Health Ministry Can Benefit Your Church

The Church Health Ministry Team offers a wide variety of tools, resources, trainings, educational materials, and healthcare navigation to get your church started. The possibilities of how your church can be engaged in a ministry of healing are endless!

- **High risk members:** Helping those within the faith community who struggle with chronic disease by giving them a trained volunteer who can assess their needs, as well as alleviate loneliness and give extra support.
- **Congregational wellness:** Encourage the faith community towards physical, mental, and spiritual wellbeing through wellness checks and preventative education.
- **Community engagement:** Engage the surrounding community by providing health education, resource navigation, and giving those in need a faith community caregiver from the faith community.