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MERCY PARISH NURSE AND HEALTH MINISTRY PROGRAM TO HOST
“FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH COMMUNITY NURSING” PREPARATION COURSE
Course offers valuable education & resources to faith community nurses and health ministers

PITTSBURGH (May 15, 2017) – The Mercy Parish Nurse and Health Ministry Program, part of Pittsburgh Mercy and Trinity Health, serving in the tradition of the Sisters of Mercy, will host “Foundations of Faith Community Nursing,” a five-day preparation course that offers valuable education and resources to faith community nurses and lay health ministers. After completing course requirements, registered nurses will receive 38 nursing contact hours.* The hybrid course will be held in two parts over five days: September 15, 16, and 30, and October 6 and 7, 2017. (Times vary.) All sessions take place at UPMC Mercy, 1400 Locust Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219 (Uptown).

The Mercy Parish Nurse and Health Ministry Program is an approved provider of the curriculum developed by the Westberg Institute for Faith Community Nursing in Memphis, Tenn., formerly known as the International Parish Nurse Resource Center (IPNRC). Designed for individuals who are interested in faith community nursing and/or health ministry, the course covers the seven main roles of the faith community nurse (FCN):

- Health educator
- Health counselor
- Health advocate
- Developer of support groups
- Integrator of faith and health
- Coordinator of volunteers
- Resource and referral agent

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Course modules include spiritual care; prayer; self-care; healing and wholeness; ethics; documenting practice; legal aspects; communication and collaboration; family violence; suffering, grief, and loss; advocacy; care coordination; and more.

The hybrid course offers online modules and classroom presentations taught by faith community nurse (FCN) educators and subject matter experts in the respective fields of practice. Upon successful completion of the five-day course, registered nurses (RNs) are commissioned as faith community nurses and receive 38 contact hours; non-RNs completing the course are commissioned as health ministers. Those who complete the course will receive a pin as either a faith community nurse or health minister.

The cost is $395 for registered nurses (RNs), and includes course materials and 38 nursing contact hours. For non-RNs, the cost is $200. Free parking is available in the hospital parking garage.

The course is limited to the first 20 participants who register. Limited partial scholarship funds are available; inquire on the registration form. Be sure to ask about our $50 early registration discount with full payment (must be postmarked by Wednesday, August 16, 2017). Ask about church group rates for three or more participants.


For more information about the course, contact the Mercy Parish Nurse and Health Ministry Program at ParishNurse@pittsburghmercy.org or call 412-232-5815.

About the Mercy Parish Nurse and Health Ministry Program
Established in 1991, the Mercy Parish Nurse and Health Ministry Program, part of Pittsburgh Mercy and Trinity Health, serving in the tradition of the Sisters of Mercy, was the first parish nurse program in Southwestern Pennsylvania. The program integrates faith and health, and has served more than 4,000 health care professionals and laypersons who volunteer in their faith communities, and has commissioned nearly 400 faith community nurses and health ministers through the “Foundations of Faith Community Nursing” preparation course. To learn more about the Mercy Parish Nurse and Health Ministry Program, or to make a donation in support of its important work in the community, visit www.pittsburghmercy.org.
About Pittsburgh Mercy

Pittsburgh Mercy, a member of Trinity Health, serving in the tradition of the Sisters of Mercy, is one of the region's largest health and social service nonprofits and also one of its largest employers. Pittsburgh Mercy includes Bethlehem Haven, McAuley Ministries, Mercy Behavioral Health, Mercy Community Health, Mercy Intellectual Disabilities Services, Mercy Parish Nurse and Health Ministry Program, Operation Safety Net®, and Pittsburgh Mercy Family Health Center. Together, these Pittsburgh Mercy programs and their 1,700 employees serve more than 33,000 individuals annually at 60+ locations in Southwestern Pennsylvania. To learn more about Pittsburgh Mercy, or to make a donation in support of its important work in the community, visit www.pittsburghmercy.org.

*UPMC Provider Unit is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. UPMC and ANCC do not endorse any commercial products as a result of the CE activity.

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