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**PITTSBURGH MERCY PARISH NURSE & 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 31, 2019) – The [Pittsburgh Mercy Parish Nurse & 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 four-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 34 contact hours.\* The on-site portion of the hybrid course will be held in two parts over four days: **September 20 and 21, 2019, and October 25 and 26, 2019**. Times vary. All sessions take place at UPMC Mercy, Sister M. Ferdinand Clark Auditorium, 1400 Locust Street, Second Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219 (Uptown).

The Pittsburgh Mercy Parish Nurse & Health Ministry Program is an approved provider of the curriculum developed by the [Westberg Institute for Faith Community Nursing](#), a ministry of [Church Health](#), in Memphis, Tenn. 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):

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

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## Foundations of Faith Community Nursing Course, fall 2019 session announced

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Course modules include accessing resources; advocacy; assessment; beginning your ministry; behavioral health (mental health and addiction); care coordination; communication and collaboration; documenting practice; ethics; family violence; health, healing, and wholeness; health promotion; history and philosophy of faith community nursing and health ministry; legal aspects; prayer; self-care; spiritual care; and suffering, grief, and loss.

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 four-day course, registered nurses (RNs) are commissioned as faith community nurses and receive 34 contact hours;\* non-RNs completing the course are commissioned as health ministers. Those who complete the course will receive a certificate and pin as either a faith community nurse or health minister.

Class size is limited to 20 participants.

The cost is \$395 for registered nurses (RNs), and includes course materials, 34 nursing contact hours,\* free parking, and continental breakfast. For non-RNs, the cost is \$200. Limited partial scholarship funds are available and special group rates for church groups of two or more people are available; inquire on the [registration form](#). Be sure to ask about our \$50 early registration discount. To be eligible for the discount, registration with full payment must be postmarked by **August 22, 2019**.

Course application must be received by **September 9, 2019**. To register, download a copy of the course application, visit <https://www.pittsburghmercy.org/faith-communities/education/#foundations-of-faith-community-nursing-course>.

For more information about the course, contact the [Pittsburgh Mercy Parish Nurse & Health Ministry](#) Program at <mailto:ParishNurse@pittsburghmercy.org> or call 412-232-5815.

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

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## Foundations of Faith Community Nursing Course, fall 2019 session announced

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### ***About the Pittsburgh Mercy Parish Nurse & Health Ministry Program***

Established in 1991, the [Pittsburgh Mercy Parish Nurse & Health Ministry Program](#), a member of [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 Pittsburgh Mercy Parish Nurse & Health Ministry Program, or to make a donation in support of its important work in the community, visit [www.pittsburghmercy.org](http://www.pittsburghmercy.org).

### ***About Pittsburgh Mercy***

[Pittsburgh Mercy](#), a member of [Trinity Health](#), serving in the tradition of the [Sisters of Mercy](#), is a person-centered, trauma-informed, population-based community health and wellness provider. Pittsburgh Mercy is one of the largest employers and the only Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic in Southwestern Pennsylvania. Pittsburgh Mercy includes Bethlehem Haven, McAuley Ministries, Pittsburgh Mercy Behavioral Health, Pittsburgh Mercy Community Health, Pittsburgh Mercy Intellectual Disabilities Services, Mercy Parish Nurse & Health Ministry Program, Pittsburgh Mercy’s 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 more than 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](http://www.pittsburghmercy.org).

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