

Ely United Methodist Church Parish Health Ministries

The Parish Health Ministries of the church began in 2004 when the Minnesota Conference offered start-up grants for a Parish Health Ministries program. A grant was written and approved in the amount of \$1,500.

The grant writers included Donna Rusco, RN; Bonnie Berglund, RN; Dr. Jim Nicholas, MD, and Margie Olson, EMT and First Responder.

The grant was used to purchase:

- Blood Pressure Measuring Cuffs
- First Aid Supplies for the Church
- Health Education Books
- Bereavement program materials
- DVD player used at the Nursing Home and Memory Care Center for playing 'oldies' music desired by the residents
- Health Medication Packets to send with Ambulance Patients
- Health Education Materials for Church members and attendees

The Parish Health committee requested donations of health care equipment of the members of the church congregation who responded with: Walkers, Wheelchairs, Canes, Shower Chairs, etc.

The Floyd family donated an Automated External Defibrillator unit for the Church. Former Church member Dr. Jim Nicholas made and donated a storage cabinet for the AED.

The committee coordinates the calling, and/or visiting by church member volunteers, of individuals who are unable to attend church services due to age, infirmity or health related issues.

A very successful secondary support ministry of the Church members is the knitting or crocheting "Prayer Shawls". These Shawls are given to those in need of comfort.