

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.

2 Corinthians 1:3-4 NIV

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Ministries of Care The Ministry of Presence

What is this ministry?

St. Andrew's conducts an active ministry for the homebound of the congregation. This ministry is made up of volunteers who visit or call persons in care facilities or in their homes at least four times a year to comfort, listen or give support in whatever form it takes. These visitors do not replace the session assigned Care Connectors but are another way for our homebound to continue growing alongside the St. Andrew's community.

Purpose

Many of our homebound people were once active in the life of St. Andrew's, but they can no longer actively participate. Our intent is to visit those who are now in Care Centres as well as those restricted to their own homes. Homebound visitors provide a bright spot in someone's day by offering the gift of connection and by building relationships through social visits. This quiet one-on-one ministry is important, as we try to be church in the community. We owe these faithful visitors our thanks, prayers and support.

Special interactions...

Often the visitors provide extra cheer at what can be a difficult time.

If requested, the Two's Company visitor will arrange for them to receive Holy Communion in their homes.

Prayer Support

You don't have to walk alone. Please reach out to us if you need prayer by contacting Lorie at prayer@standrewscalgary.ca

Do you want to volunteer?

Our congregation is aging. Unsurprisingly, the number of people on the homebound list is growing every year. These are our members and adherents who can rarely, if ever, get to worship on Sunday mornings, and who miss the interaction and association with the rest of the congregation. Some grieve the loss; some are lonely or isolated. The Two's Company visitors provide a connection to St. Andrew's, and convey care and encouragement, and assurance that people are not forgotten.

As the homebound list grows, so does the need for visitors. Volunteers are welcomed, and if you are approached to be part of this ministry, the hope is that you will be ready to say yes. You could make someone's dayand perhaps your own.

Visitor Cards

When you visit a homebound individual, St. Andrew's visitor cards are available and can be left as a reminder of your visit. These cards are located in the church office.

If you or someone you know is unable to attend church and would like to have someone from the Two's Company ministry visit, please pass on this information to one of the ministers, the church office, or email the Pastoral Care Coordinator at pastoralcare@standrewscalgary.ca.

Leading with Care

All Two's Company homebound visitors follow The Presbyterian Church in Canada's Leading with Care Policy.

Making a visit...

- Make regular visits, at least 4 times a year.
- If you tell them you will be there, be there.
- Call before going to private homes.
- Introduce yourself clearly and distinctly.
- Re-introduce yourself on each visit.
- Show consideration for the person in his or her own room in the nursing home.
- Do not visit when you are sick.
- Take time to listen to what the person is saying.
- Be sensitive to needs.
- Share information of the church and friends.
- St. Andrew's visitor cards can be left as a reminder of your visit.
- Check in with the Two's Company Coordinator on a regular basis.

If you are interested in learning more...

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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