

Board of Elders

Visitation Ministry Lay Minister to Homebound

Mission Statement: In keeping with God's directive, "*Carry each other's burdens and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ*" (Galatians 6:2), Trinity's Visitation Ministry, through a various system of contacts (personal visits, phone calls, cards, audio/video worship services, etc.), offers fellowship and encouragement to the homebound members of Trinity and others who may benefit from a contact.

Description: Trinity's Lay Minister serves the homebound members of Trinity with the gospel in God's Word and Sacrament of Holy Communion. Homebound is defined as communicant members who are unable to attend worship services for an extended period of time due to physical and/or emotional infirmities.

Qualifications:

- Trinity's Lay Minister is to possess the qualifications God has set forth for those serving in the public ministry – 1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:6-9. A delineation from these Scriptures includes:
 - ◆ above reproach and blameless = good reputation
 - ◆ husband of one wife = morally upright
 - ◆ temperate, self-controlled, not given to drunkenness
 - ◆ respectable = honorable
 - ◆ hospitable
 - ◆ not violent, gentle, not quarrelsome, not overbearing, not quick tempered
 - ◆ not a lover of money, not pursuing dishonest gain
 - ◆ manages his family well
 - ◆ not a recent convert = holding firmly to the faith
 - ◆ loves what is good
 - ◆ holy = devout
- Trinity's Lay Minister serves by virtue of a call from the congregation.

Responsibilities:

1. The Lay Minister visits Trinity's homebound members on a monthly basis.
2. The Lay Minister shares a law and gospel devotion with homebound members.
3. The Lay Minister serves homebound members the Lord's Supper as desired and as is possible.
4. Unless there is possibility of imminent danger or harm to the individual or someone else, the Lay Minister maintains the confidentiality of those whom he serves.

Time Commitment:

- Average of 20 homebound calls per month, at approximately 45 minutes each (depending on driving time)

Relationships: The Administrative Pastor and Lay Minister determine who is on the list of homebound members. Visitation Ministry serves under the Board of Elders which is responsible for evaluating the ministry on a regular basis and providing the necessary resources and training for carrying out the ministry.

Training: The Lay Minister will be trained under the guidance of the Administrative Pastor.

Compensation: The Lay Minister is reimbursed at the IRS rate for the miles driven in making calls.