The parish nurse understands health to be a dynamic process which embodies the spiritual, psychological, physical and social dimensions of the person.

The parish nurse, in collaboration with the pastoral staff and congregational members, participates in the ongoing transformation of the faith community into a source of health and healing. Through partnership the parish nurse fosters new and creative responses to health and wellness concerns.

“I have come that you may have life, and may have it in all its fullness.”
John 10:10

Co-sponsored with the Avera Parish Nurse Center.

Avera
**Purpose of the Parish Nursing Center**

To educate registered nurses to meet the health needs within a congregation.

**What is a Parish Nurse?**

A parish nurse (also known as Faith Community Nurse) is a registered nurse who facilitates the wholistic health of a congregation or faith community, thus reclaiming the health ministry of the church. The parish nurse focuses on the spiritual, emotional, physical, and social dimensions of persons as they strive to achieve wellness and wholeness. The parish nurse functions as a health educator, health counselor, referral agent, and an advocate, while promoting the understanding of the relationship of faith and health.

**Parish Nursing at Augustana**

To meet the needs of more nurses traveling from a distance, and those with busy family and personal as well as professional lives, the Augustana parish nurse course provides a hybrid format. Approximately two thirds of the course is on-line. This is followed by two days on-site. A participant must complete both the on-line and the on-site portions to receive a certificate of completion. Specific details will be provided with registration.

**Parish Nurse Preparation**

This Foundations of Faith Community Nursing (Parish Nursing) course prepares the nurse to initiate and maintain a parish nurse ministry within a given congregation, and to function in the leadership role for the faith community’s health ministry.

The curriculum focuses on the concepts of spirituality, professionalism, wholistic health, and community.

Specific topics include:
- History and philosophy of parish nursing
- Spiritual care
- Healing and wholeness
- Self-care
- Legal and ethical issues
- Documentation
- Communication and collaboration
- Getting started
- Health promotion
- Accessing resources
- Advocacy
- Care coordination

The Foundations of Faith Community Nursing course is based on the curricula developed through the International Parish Nurse Resource Center, 1210 Peabody Avenue, Memphis, TN 38104-4570.

**2015 Offering**

The Foundations of Faith Community Nursing course will be offered in two parts. The first part will be offered on-line February 2 through March 28, 2015. This part will be offered in modules of approximately two hours each. The later part of the course will be held April 16-17, 2015 at Avera Central Office in Sioux Falls, SD. Both sections of the course are required for completion. The registration fee is $550, payable to Augustana College. Registration deadline is January 12, 2015. Late registration (postmarked after January 12) is $575.

Application has been made for contact hours to the Alabama State Nurses Association, an accredited approver of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center Commission on Accreditation. Please contact Mary Auterman for more information about the contact hours.

**Contact**

For more information about the program, please contact:

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