

2017-18 Charter for Caring Coordination Groups

Name: Caring Coordination Groups

Current Groups:

Adult Children of Aging Parents (Janice Thomson)
Covenant Circles (Various Groups with own leadership)
Extended Families (Various Groups with own leadership)
Helping Hands (Carol Sinape)
Men's Support (Joe Germano)
Widows Flying Solo (Karen Lutz)

Purpose

- To deepen spirituality of our members through care and support of each other
- Caring groups are grounded in respect for the inherent worth and dignity of every person and justice, equity and compassion in human relationships.
- Caring groups "Practice Love, Explore Spirituality, Build Community and Promote Justice" through their meetings, support of one another, questioning, living with diseases of heart, mind and spirit and addressing the social complexities that root much pain and suffering.
- Caring groups utilize right relations as outlined in the approved church covenant in achieving the mission of the church.
- Caring groups relate to the Developmental Minister Goal of inspiring a healthier culture and sustaining/growing membership
- Goals are to meet on a regular basis, communicate the presence of our groups, and encourage members to participate in each of the caring opportunities so that everyone feels a sense of belonging, deep caring, and mutual support.

Group Structure, Leadership & Decision-Making

- Caring Groups fit in the church as ministry teams working with the Caring Coordinator and Minister. The Caring Coordinator keeps a finger on the pulse of the groups, helps form or disband groups as needed, and reports to the Minister.
- There are no minimum and maximum numbers of participants. We will decide based on interest and numbers how and when to meet so that the needs of members in each category of group will be met.
- Facilitators are trained to meet the needs, emotional, spiritual and physical, of each participant and have the support and guidance of the Caring Coordinator and minister
- Leaders self select to begin groups that meet a specific need in ESUC membership. Over time, new leaders may emerge and be accepted by the members using the decision making process below. The Caring Coordinator will inform the Communications Manager of the leader who is the contact person for each group. The groups continue to meet, and leaders continue to meet as they are able and willing to do.
- There are no limits to membership. A covenant of right relationship as defined by East Shore guides behaviors and participation in these groups. Each is accountable to the guidance of right relationship.
- Decisions are made by consensus and collaboration and if needed by majority vote.

- Recruiting is done through publicizing meetings and events.
- Membership qualifications are willingness and ability to abide by the covenant of right relationship.
- Communications are done through the newsletter, publications, eblast and announcements
The person who organizes the group is the official communicator. That person will confirm their role with the Communications Manager.
- Groups make decisions about when and where they meet as well as content of meetings
- All caring groups are encouraged to make recommendation through the Caring Coordinator and Minister that will help meet the needs of the designated population for physical, emotional and spiritual support.
- Groups remain in existence as long as there is interest in the group and a facilitator to organize the group. If a group disbands, the leader/contact person of the group will let the Caring Coordinator and Membership Manager know in a timely manner.
- Group members will review and agree to this charter when they start, and after that, annually.

Finances

- No financial needs except for meeting space are expected. Fundraising for support of a particular person or situation may arise occasionally, and will be person or situation specific.
- Authorization for expenses comes from the Caring Coordinator and/or Minister.
- The group doesn't have the need for a Prudent Reserve.

Approved 1-10-18