



AUSTRALIAN FAITH COMMUNITY NURSES ASSOCIATION INC
(ABN25 138 83 256) www.afcna.org.au
PO Box 2707
Kent Town
SA 5071
Ph 8278 8274

6 January 2010

Dear pastors/priests, church leaders, pastoral care workers and church members,

We realise many things come across your desk each day, but please take a couple of minutes to read this and pass the information on to your congregation. We invite you to send a delegate from your faith community to join us for a three day conference:

“Health Ministry: Christ’s Love In Action”

at the **Campion Centre, 99 Studley Park, Road, Kew Victoria**

on Wednesday April 7 to Friday April 9th, 2010.

The cost of only \$280 for 3 days includes printed material, lunch and a range of excellent speakers who are experts in their fields. The conference offers pastoral carers, pastors/priests and health professionals, parish/pastoral nurses and anyone else interested in the wellbeing of people two different options:

Stream 1: Introducing health ministry to your Christian faith community; provides all the necessary information regarding the commencement and successful function of a health, healing and pastoral care ministry, developing the skills of existing pastoral care workers in your church.

Stream 2: No health without mental health: No mental health without spiritual health This year we will develop pastoral care and health ministry workers in the area of mental health support. In Australia, around one in five people experience a mental illness at some stage of their life, including alcohol or other substance abuse disorders. Mental illness can be debilitating, affecting all areas of a person’s life from employment, to relationships, to everyday functioning. Our churches can provide compassion, support, hope and healing to these people. We can promote mental and spiritual wellbeing by improving resilience to cope with life’s adversity. This conference seeks to provide practical information that can be employed by your church’s ministry workers both lay and professional.

You are invited to:

- Learn more about health and healing ministry within the Christian church
- Renew your passion for social justice and compassion for vulnerable people
- Be equipped and re-invigorated in your ministry, pastoral care or nursing role

Please send someone from your church to this important conference and let them bring the blessing back to your faith community. Register early to assist planning. Costs are only \$280.00 Full Conference Reg. \$100.00 for Day only visitors. There are a limited number of rooms for interstate guests at the Campion Centre (accommodation, meals Tues 3pm to Friday 6pm) and conference fees provided for a low \$450.00pp. Places are limited so book accommodation direct with the Campion Centre by phoning (03) 9854 8110 and reserve your place. NB Save \$25 for Early Bird Registration by 28th Feb 2010.

The Australian Faith Community Nurses Association are sponsoring and coordinating the conference. We are an ecumenical Christian organisation of health professionals and lay people who actively seek to support pastoral/parish nurses and health ministry workers in faith communities across Australia. You can read more about us on our website www.afcna.org.au or contact the Director of Development Anne van Loon (08) 8278 8274, Mobile: 0431123499 or Chairperson Susanna Warner (03) 8746 9929, email afcna@afcna.org.au for more information about AFCNA or the conference.

Health ministry is moving across the world with thousands of churches re-embracing the link between faith and health in the USA, Canada, Africa, Korea, Israel, UK, Ukraine, Hungary, Holland, Germany and other places internationally. This ministry provides an opportunity for your church to provide practical compassionate and loving care to the needy in our community and promote health and wellbeing within your community. AFCNA believes the benefits of this ministry will enable your church, large or small, to meet the enormous needs of the community on your doorstep. So please join us and pass this information on to as many others as you can.

Yours in Christ’s service,

Antonia van Loon RN PhD Director of Development, Australian Faith Community Nurses Association

Susanna Warner RN RMHN Chairperson, Australian Faith Community Nurses Association