

*Integrator of Faith & Health* – The Parish Nursing & Health Ministry Department at Carolinas Medical Center – NorthEast integrates faith and health with a holistic approach that recognizes the inter-relationship of the spirit, body, and mind. Each faith community develops its own program to help members learn how to live healthier lives.

*Counselor* – The parish nurse serves as a counselor regarding personal issues and health and coordinates home, hospital, and nursing home visits. Experience shows that the parish nurse helps parishioners to recognize, acknowledge and seek medical help for symptoms they may otherwise ignore.

*Advocate* – The parish nurse serves as an advocate to make or coordinate home visits, and works as a liaison between patient and physician.

*Referral Agent* – The parish nurse serves as a referral agent to a variety of community resources and services including church staff, physicians, self-help groups, community agencies, legal and /or financial advisors and more. The parish nurse also coordinates support groups within the congregation and recruits, trains and supervises volunteers.

*Educator* – The parish nurse provides “prevention through education” showing the correlation between health and lifestyle, personal habits, attitudes and faith. Educational topics include stress, grief, weight management, exercise, family relationships and more. In doing so, the congregation is able to:

- reclaim the traditional role of the church as a place of healing.
- recognize the mission of the church community to proclaim God’s desire for us to live healthy lives.
- reaffirm the holistic relationship.