

# Hospice Happenings



**ST. BARNABAS**

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## Compassionate Hands-On Personal Care

Our hospice care aides are certified nursing assistants who provide compassionate, hands-on care to our terminally ill patients. Our aides provide for the personal needs of our patients, including bathing, changing clothes, proper mouth care, hand and foot nail care. They observe the patients overall condition during their visits and participate in our weekly interdisciplinary meetings in which our patients' medical, personal care, psychosocial, and spiritual needs are discussed.



## In the Words of a Hospice Volunteer

"I have been a hospice volunteer for almost three years. At first, I was a bit apprehensive about volunteering, thinking perhaps that it would be difficult to difficult to handle.

However, from the very first moment I visited my first patient, I knew I had made the right decision. The patients and their families are so grateful and appreciative that you cannot help but feel good about what you are doing.

I leave the patients feeling blessed that I was able to visit them."

## Hospice Volunteering as a Ministry

What better way to enter a person's life at one of the most sacred times of their life than to serve as a hospice volunteer.

Free hospice volunteer training includes an introduction to hospice care, volunteer processes and responsibilities, best visiting practices, communication skills, grief issues, and how to relate to Alzheimer's and dementia patients and families.

For more information, call Gary Goerk at St. Barnabas Hospice at 724-444-5541.

## Fact & Fiction

### Fiction

Hospice care only provides pain control for the patient.

### Fact

Hospice focuses on the dignity, comfort, emotional and spiritual support for the patient. The quality of life for family members and caregivers is also a top priority throughout hospice care and bereavement.



## Check Out These Titles



*Whose Death is it Anyways?  
A Hospice Nurse Remembers*  
by Sharon White



*The Art of Being a Healing Presence*  
by James E. Miller



*Hospice Whispers: Stories of Life*  
by Clara Cheatham

## A Personal Reflection

It is a privilege and blessing to walk alongside family members after their loved one passes and see how tears mingle with tears of blessed assurance that their loved ones has "gone Home".



### **Revelation 21:4**

"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes."

## St. Barnabas Hospice Care

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