

Wesley Nurse

The Wesley Nurse program at First United Methodist Church is a component of Methodist Healthcare Ministries. This is a faith-based Christian health ministry that embraces the values and benefits of a faith-based approach to wholeness and wellness. The professional practice of the Wesley Nurse is not limited to the physical dimension of medical needs; rather, it includes a mind, body and spirit holistic approach. A key component the Wesley Nurse undertakes in our community is providing health education, health promotion and facilitation of resources. Individuals, and our community, are assisted in achieving improved health and wellness through self-empowerment and access to healthcare resource information. All Wesley Nurse programs are free, and all members of the community are welcome.

Programming at FUMC-Victoria is heavily based on individuals and those in need of prescription assistance and resources for diabetes. Free prescription assistance is offered to all individuals in the community with a Victoria based physician on Monday mornings beginning at 8 am with the assistance of two other area Wesley Nurses and dedicated volunteers from FUMC Victoria. Each individual is assisted with filling out all necessary paperwork with dozens of US pharmaceutical companies to access 90 day supplies of brand name medications that are either delivered to the physician's office or the patient's home. Brand name pharmaceuticals are cost savings that can range from several hundred to several thousands of dollars per month depending on the specific medication. During this past year, the prescription assistance program has assisted hundreds of individuals with needed medications that otherwise would have not been taken and have amounted to a cost savings of well over \$600,000. Our Wesley Nurse program has many individuals that receive monthly free diabetic supplies along with education and access to medication assistance. Individuals are referred to a local certified diabetic counselor for individual or group counselling by the Wesley Nurse.

