



*Creativity puts order into chaos, life into the inert, and beauty into the ordinary.*

*— Edward J. Lavin*

Painting by Pat Scullion, Oblate, Holy Wisdom Monastery

A CHURCH

*without  
walls*



Chaplain Judy Nolde started at Triangle Community Ministry in the Fall of 2014. She brings a lengthy ministry of spiritual guidance and faith formation to her role as chaplain. She is a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Madison, and is also a Benedictine Oblate with Holy Wisdom Monastery. As chaplain, Judy provides a ministry of presence to the residents living at Triangle Community Ministry, which includes leading a weekly worship service and small groups for spiritual growth.

*It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.... They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Isaiah 35:2*



In the heart of Madison can be found this church without walls. Formed in 1978, Triangle Community Ministry was born to meet the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of residents in the urban

renewal district bordered by West Washington Park and Regent Streets. It is home to 330 residents and is the second largest subsidized housing complex in Madison. It is an ecumenical ministry supported by many faiths and organizations.

**SPECIAL BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN NEED OF GOD'S LOVE**

Judy Nolde serves as Chaplain for Triangle Community Ministry, serving the residents of the Triangle Housing complex. She explains that in order to be a resident, one must make less than \$10,000/year. Eighty five percent of the residents are on social security disability and have very life limiting physical and or mental or developmental disabilities. The Community Authority of Madison manages the property so the residents are tenants of the property owned by the city of Madison.

But shelter is only one part of the way these residents need our help. Caring for their physical, emotional and spiritual needs is where the staff comes in. "Many of the residents have very traumatic experiences in their past, so the levels of despair and hopelessness are pretty severe. The ministry is extending God's



Meg Nielsen works with volunteers to set up the Second Harvest Mobile food pantry where residents shop for groceries.

love and care to people just as they are,” explains Judy. “Some have very part-time temporary jobs, cleaning, pizza driver, telephone work, but it is tentative because at any point, an illness can emerge, so they aren’t able to stay with it long. There isn’t much to make their days brighter, so we continue to ask for help with that. The residents are mostly individuals, some are estranged from their families and don’t necessarily have anyone to turn to. The holidays are especially lonely for them.”

Judy offers a weekly workshop service with time of prayer, liturgy, song and communion. One-on-one pastoral care and spiritual guidance with shorter sessions of 15 minutes that focus on faith issues on topics of forgiveness, discernment, and providing space for deep desires is an area where Judy sees growth opportunities.

Once in a while the ministry team plans social events because it’s hard for the residents to organize get-togethers on their own. They enjoy this time together. The city brings in some programming such as cooking classes and an Edgewood nursing class comes in and does wellness activities with the residents. Various organizations offer programming but more would be greatly appreciated.

Associate in Ministry, Meg Nielsen is the Outreach Development Manager for Triangle. Her role is a varied one as she seeks to expand awareness of, and communicate with the greater Madison community, inclusive of churches, non-profit organizations and for-profit organizations, and to build and strengthen community

*“The residents are people who live on the margins of society and Jesus was all about caring for people on the margins...those who don’t necessarily look or act like you or I, but that need God’s love and care. It’s a wonderful ministry and one that I feel called to serve.”*

*Judy Nolde,  
Chaplain*

## CONNECT: Ways to Volunteer and Serve

Contact Meg Nielsen at 608-469-5736 or Email: [Triangleministry@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Triangleministry@sbcglobal.net)

- Prayers.
- Help at Second Harvest Food Mobile Food Pantry held on the first Wednesday of every month from noon to 3:00 pm. There is a great need for more volunteers for this service to the residents.
- Assist residents with insurance, healthcare or other challenges.
- Visit residents, drive them to the doctor, dental or other healthcare appointments.
- Bring food to events such as annual Christmas party or other holiday gatherings.
- Provide music at worship services.
- And so many more! See complete list at: <http://triangleministry.com/Get%20Involved.aspx>

among the residents. She develops fundraising events and coordinates volunteer members of churches, student groups, and more. Meg is the person to speak to learn more about your congregation’s opportunities to serve. Together with Judy Nolde and the Parish Nurse, Kate Pender, Meg arranges and participates in on-site activities from social gatherings to educational and spiritual opportunities.

*Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever give each of you has received. 1 Peter 4:10*

What you may not know about Triangle Ministry is that many members of our congregations have active roles in this community and are passionate about its cause. Like good stewards, they are using their gifts to serve.

Associate in Ministry, Harry Kuehn and his wife, Mariellen just completed their term as Co-Presidents of the Board. Pastor Stephen Marsh of Lake Edge Lutheran in Monona is a member at large on the board. Christine Gantz, Associate in Ministry and member of St. Stephen’s in Monona volunteers her time as webmaster. Linda and Bob Frautschy, members of Our Savior’s in Sun Prairie lead a Leaf Casting fund raiser where participants create beautiful artwork.

Relationships between faith communities and the community at large is at the heart of the success of this ministry. This ministry needs your prayers and gifts to be a church without walls that blossoms abundantly and sees the Glory of the Lord! Connect today!