

A HOSPITAL VISIT

Who am I when I visit?

You are a friend, a Deacon, a servant of Christ, an extension of the body of Christ.

What do I say?

Introduce yourself & connection with the church if you do not know the person.

What do I bring?

A card. Gifts are okay: the Upper Room (a daily devotional available on board by the office), church bulletin, news of church family - but most important is your very presence and companionship. Take your Bible in case the person would like to hear scripture, and take a note pad & pen in case the person is asleep or out of the room.

Before you visit:

- Prepare for the visit with prayer
- Call the hospital first to be sure the person has not been discharged.

During your visit:

- Take off your coat and sit down, to show that you are serious about wanting to visit with this person and you plan to give your full attention.
- Present your card and gift, if you brought one.
- Remember that the person is sick so keep your visit brief.
- Do not talk about your health or a similar health situation of someone else you know. It may be quite different.
- Be respectful of the person's limited space and, if applicable, the person in the other bed
- Do not do things that medical personnel should do; ask a nurse to help the patient.
- Ask the person if they would like you to pray with them or read from scripture.
- Listen, listen, listen. Acknowledge the person's feelings, both positive and negative. Offer your support and your understanding.
- Ask if there is anything the church could do for them.
- If the person is asleep or unavailable, leave a note telling of your visit.

After the visit:

- Contact the Visitation Coordinator via E-mail about your visit.