

Called to Care

Called to Care was originally published in 1991 as part of an ongoing commitment in the United Church of Christ to strengthen lay leadership. The resource has been widely used over the years, and has been adopted across the United Church of Christ and in other denominations by congregations and programs seeking to live out Jesus' command to "love one another". It was updated in 1998 and again in 2008. The most recent update primarily incorporates new resource suggestions in the "Carecards" addressing many topics encountered by caregivers.

Hundreds of skilled United Church of Christ members contributed to writing the original, and many others have provided concrete suggestions and assistance for the updates. Chaplains, pastoral counselors, parish nurses, and educators; parish pastors and congregational care givers alike have shared the riches of their experience. Feedback from those who use the program continues to be valued and shared. New care-cards have been written and new perspectives shared.

The internet now supports an even wider sharing of experience and expertise. If you would like to explore **Called to Care**, please join the Called to Care Group of the myucc community at www.ucc.org (select myucc on the top bar.) Here too you can share your experience with the Resource and how you have expanded on it. Many programs have developed different training designs, or elements. Caregivers encounter new resources. Guidance is developed for situations not covered by the

carecards. Caregiver retreats and continuing education are developed. These and other program ideas will help enrich the resource, and caring ministries throughout the church.



Introducing Called to Care: Development of the Resource