

- ***Pastoral care and counselling in hospitals, elderly homes and hospice services***

Time for a talk

Staying in the hospital or moving to a place of retirement can often become burdensome and challenging for those affected, and to their relatives. Pastoral nurses in the hospitals provide care and support in such situations. They help people who are preyed upon by different fears, questions, worries, hopes and joy.

Through conversations, songs, and prayers, many people experience consolation and encouragement to live and survive in any hard times. Services of worship and the Lord's Supper are also a part of the pastoral ministry.

In addition, the pastoral caregivers are there for the employees in the respective institutions. They also teach and train in the nursing schools and offer volunteer training in visiting services.

"In the middle of our lives we are surrounded by death". The deep truth of this word is to be experienced by people day by day. A sudden death, a severe accident or a suicide show the instability of life. Members of the emergency counseling team listen and endure pain and sadness. They provide "First Aid for the Soul".

The Odenwald Hospice Service of the Protestant Deanery Bergstrasse, which is based in Wald-Michelbach, accompanies severely sick and dying people regardless of age, illness, religion and nationality. The members visit them in their familiar environment at home, in the nursing home or in the hospital.