

# AppFaithHealth

*Inspiring health in the High Country*

**What it is:** AppFaithHealth is a program designed by Appalachian Regional Healthcare System to partner with the faith communities of the High Country to help build a stronger, healthier community.

## **How it Works:**

- This partnership is open to any faith community in the High Country.
- The plan is patterned after evidence-based programs in Memphis, TN and Winston-Salem, NC, that help people spend fewer days in the hospital, stay out of the hospital longer, and enjoy higher quality of health.
- Congregations agree to become partners with the health care system, and leaders in those congregations receive specialized training in caregiving techniques and health-related needs.\*
- Clergy receive special benefits to help them in their ministry and to model a healthy lifestyle for their congregants.
- The healthcare system assigns a FaithHealth Coordinator to assist congregation members who enter the hospital, to ensure they have all the support they need during their hospitalization and after discharge.

*\* ARHS does not require partner congregations to use ARHS facilities exclusively; it is simply the healthcare systems' attempt to help build stronger, healthier communities in the High Country and to respect the faith community's importance in achieving that goal.*

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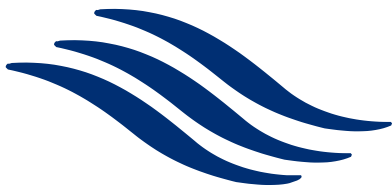
*AppFaithHealth is a dynamic partnership  
between faith communities,  
Appalachian Regional Healthcare System,  
and other community providers focused  
on improving health.*

*The partnerships are built on webs  
of trust, combining the caring strengths  
of congregations, the clinical expertise  
of the healthcare system and a network  
of community resources.*

### **Three Tiers of Partnership:**

- **Tier One:** A clergy person receives hospital orientation, badge, and parking access
- **Tier Two:** A congregation becomes a partner with the hospital by signing a shared commitment form and encouraging members to register
- **Tier Three:** A congregation agrees to reach beyond its own building by offering tangible care to others in their community identified by the healthcare system who desire assistance (*within parameters set by AppFaithHealth*)

**For more information,  
call the ARHS Pastoral Care Department  
828.266.1178**



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