

Sonshiners

Purpose/Goals of Ministry: What is to be accomplished by this ministry team?	To bring "sonshine" to our shut-ins by sending them greeting cards or a small gift on a monthly basis and by an occasional visit.
What talents, skills, and spiritual gifts would be helpful to this ministry?	Sonshine members need only have a compassionate heart and the ability to write a message of encouragement in greeting cards to shut-ins.
Time Commitment: When & how often do you meet? What other time commitments are there?	The Sonshine Group meets monthly on the third Sunday at 4:00 p.m. with meetings lasting approximately 45 minutes. In lieu of cards, in February members bake cookies and in December members assemble "goodie bags." These cookies or bags are then delivered to the shut-ins. Each team member delivers to approximately four shut-ins each of these two months. Cards are sent the remaining ten months of the year.
What specific responsibilities do members of this team have?	Members should attend monthly meetings to prepare greeting cards. We ask that members bake cookies (48 cookies) in February. In December, members may bring small gifts such as travel size toiletries to include in the goodie bags. In February and December, each member delivers these gifts to approximately four shut-ins.
Connections: What other ministry teams does this team work with directly?	Clergy and administrative staff (to keep the shut-in list updated)
Mission: How does this ministry team help people to follow Jesus, love others, and change the world?	The receipt of our cards and gifts serves as a gentle reminder that though the recipients' health may prevent them from being involved in our church, they still have the love of Jesus in their hearts. Often, they feel forgotten and just receiving a note is a reminder that they still can make a difference in our church and our world. They sometimes need to hear that they still have so much to offer by giving inspiration to others.
Other: What else do we need to know about this ministry team?	This ministry brings joy to those who write the cards and deliver the gifts, and it brings such joy to the recipients of our greeting cards, visits and goodies! Our shut-ins realize that St. James still holds them in our hearts and prayers and regard them an integral part of our church.
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