Episcopal Recovery Ministries

The Episcopal Recovery Ministries (ERM) Committee currently comprises the following people:

- Kay Fletcher, member of St. Martin's Episcopal Church Ellisville kfletc1031@aol.com
- Loretta Go, member of St. Martin's Episcopal Church Ellisville <u>lgo1957@aol.com</u>
- The Rev. Earl Mahan, Church of the Good Shepherd/St. Luke's Town and Country earlmahan@gmail.com
- Michael Watson, member of All Saints and Ascension Northwoods michaelwatson8133@sbcglobal.net
- Machelle West, member of All Saints and Ascension Northwoods macwest24@yahoo.com
- The Rev. Sally Weaver, retired priest and Chair sallysweaver@yahoo.com

ERM exists as a resource for people seeking information, guidance, and consolation in their struggles with substance use disorders. ERM focuses on the person who is addicted and on the people who are affected by another's addiction. ERM offers information to enable all those affected by addiction to find the help they seek.

ERM continually updates our website -- <u>www.ermdiocesemo.org</u> - which contains links to resources throughout the Diocese of Missouri, such as times and locations of meetings for addicts and family members; detoxification, rehabilitation, and housing facilities.

In Aug members of ERM attended a talk entitled "Don't Wait" at St. Luke's Hospital, sponsored by Addiction is Real. This organization encourages and helps parents to talk to their children about substance use, beginning at a very early age. This is an example of an organization that we investigated and added to our website as a resource.

In 2022 we created a YouTube channel – <u>www.tinyurl.com/ERMDioceseMO</u> -- which currently hosts a talk by Jenny Armbruster about the resources that PreventEd provides to the St. Louis region. By year-end we will also post videos of 12-step liturgies and prayers.

Additionally, we've added a "Videos" page to the website, which currently provides links to two documentaries about the opioid crisis in the St. Louis area. We will add additional content as we become aware of it.

At the Big Provincial Meeting in April, our website was showcased by Sr. Debbi Rhodes, Chair of the Province V Recovery Ministries committee. It was shown as a model for the other Dioceses of Province V to emulate.

In 2023, in addition to expanding our YouTube offerings, we hope to provide a Diocesan-wide Recovery Retreat with speakers, 12-step worship services, and other activities that inform and inspire participants about addiction and recovery.

We welcome ideas and suggestions for improving the website and our service to the Diocesan community. Substance use disorder is a major issue in American society. But there is help and there is hope.

Submitted by the Rev. Sally S. Weaver† Episcopal Recovery Ministries Committee Chair (314) 651-3836