

The image features a vibrant blue sky filled with soft, white, fluffy clouds. In the center of the frame, there is a large, white, circular graphic with a thin blue double-line border. Inside this circle, the text "TAKING CARE OF EACH OTHER" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font, arranged in two lines. The overall composition is clean and positive, conveying a message of community and support.

**TAKING CARE
OF EACH OTHER**

CARE 
MINISTRY

At
Millersville Bible Church

Three dimensions of care

...based on the way God created us

1. As **Physical** beings with bodily needs
1. As **Social** beings with relationship needs
2. As **Spiritual** beings with a need for God

Becoming like Christ in caring for others

**“For even the Son of Man
did not come
to be served, but to serve,
and to give his life
as a ransom for many.”**

(Mark 10:45)

**“For those God foreknew he also predestined
to be conformed to the image of his Son”**

(Romans 8:29)

Christ Cares for the Church

Ephesians 5:28-30

“In this same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. After all, no one ever hated their own body, but they feed and care for their body, just as Christ does the church— for we are members of his body.”

Church as a context for care

**“I will build my church”
(Matthew 16:18)**

**An Organism
and
An Organization**

**Structured ministry
and
Spontaneous ministry of the Spirit**

Functional definition of the Church

It is God's will for each believer in Christ to be a meaningfully related part of a visible body of believers, faithfully serving others and accountable to the pastoral oversight of elders.

(Ephesians 4:11-16; Hebrews 3:12-14; 10:23-25; I Peter 4:10-11; 5:1-4; I Thessalonians 5:12-13; Hebrews 13:17)

- Carry each other's burdens (Gal. 6:2)
- Have equal concern for each other (1 Cor. 12:25)
- Watch out for one another (Heb. 3:12-13)
- Encourage one another (1 Thess. 4:18; Heb. 3:13; 10:25)
- Be devoted to one another (Rom. 12:10)
- Build one another up (Rom. 14:19; 1 Thess. 5:11)
- Bear with one another (Eph. 4:2; Col. 3:13)
- Forgive each other (Eph. 4:32)
- Honor one another (Rom. 12:10)
- Offer hospitality to one another (1 Pet. 4:9)
- Be kind and compassionate to one another (Eph. 4:32)
- Live in harmony toward one another (Rom. 12:16; 15:5)
- Love one another (John 13:34-35; 15:12, 17; Rom. 13:8)
- Pray for one another (Jas. 5:16)
- Serve one another in love (Gal. 5:13; 1 Pet. 4:10)

God's plan for His people

Ephesians 4:11-16 (NLT)

- 11. “Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers.**
- 12. Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.**
- 13. This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.**

14. Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won't be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth.

15. Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church.

16. He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.” (Ephesians 4:11-16)

Spiritual Dimension

Hebrews 3:12-13 - “See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called ‘Today,’ so that none of you may be hardened by sin’s deceitfulness.”

Hebrews 10:24-25 - “And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

A model for Care Ministry in a Local Church

Widow Care

I Timothy 5:3-15

Discernment is needed on.....

- 1. Who qualifies to receive care**
- 2. Who should provide care**

Physical Care

- **I John 3:16-18 – practicing God's love**
- **Matthew 25:31-46 – the sheep and goats**
- **Luke 10:25-37 – the good Samaritan**

Physical, Social and Spiritual Care

- **I Timothy 5:8**

Spiritual Dimension

- **Hebrews 3:12-13**
- **Hebrews 10:24-25**