

# 3rd Annual Valborg Tollefsrud Educational Event



## Spiritual Care of the Dying: The art of ministering to emotional and spiritual needs at end of life

Presented by Cheryl Plummer, Deaconess, certified Deacon in  
the SE Michigan Synod of the ELCA,  
and Hospice Chaplain

**Course Description:** This presentation will address spiritual care of the dying. Assessment of the spiritual needs of the dying will be discussed. The gifts and challenges of ministry to the dying and their loved ones, how spirituality can bring comfort and peace, and stories from a long ministry in hospice will be shared. The importance of clergy, faith community nurses and congregations partnering in end-of-life care will be addressed. There will be an introduction to the communication tool, the Death Cafe, which helps encourage open dialogue about dying.

### OBJECTIVES:

1. Describe one assessment tool used for exploring the spiritual needs of the dying and their loved ones
2. Name at least one gift and one challenge of ministering to the dying and their loved ones
3. Articulate how tending the spiritual needs of another brings comfort and peace to them.
4. Describe the communication tool "the Death Cafe"
5. Describe how the Faith Community Nurse, clergy and the congregation partner in end-of-life care.

**Date: August 22, 2024**

**Time: 3-5 pm AKT, 4-6 pm PT, 5-7 pm MT, 6-8 pm, CT, 7-9 pm ET; via ZOOM**

**Registration fee: \$30 for LFCNA members/ \$ 50 for non-members**

**Nursing contact hours provided upon successful completion of the event: 2.0**

Cheryl Plummer is a Lutheran Deaconess associated with the Lutheran Deaconess Association and a Deacon in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. She has degrees in theology and psychology from Valparaiso University and has continued graduate studies at Ecumenical Theological Seminary. Cheryl completed a year-long internship in Clinical Pastoral Education at Presbyterian Hospital in Oklahoma City. Cheryl is certified as a RTS bereavement counselor, a Gift of Life counselor and is trained in Clinical Incident Stress Debriefing and worked as part of the hospital Ethics Committee. Cheryl has worked in 3 parishes and campus ministry. Cheryl has been a chaplain for the Beaumont/Corewell Health System for over 36 years. She was the chaplain for maternal child health, starting a perinatal loss program and yearly perinatal and pediatric memorial services. She also has worked in hospice spiritual care for the past 18 years, working with dying patients in private homes, facilities and inpatient hospital settings.



**Find registration information at this link: <https://lutheranfcna.org/event-5745990>**

*This nursing continuing professional development activity was approved by Montana Nurses Association, an accredited approver with distinction by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. To receive contact hours for this event, attendees must attend the entire event and submit a completed evaluation form.*

Ms. Valborg Tollefsrud was a founding member of ELPNA (now LFCNA). She served as Professor in Nursing at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN for 44 years and served in the Army Nurse Corps Reserves for 29 years, retiring as a Colonel. Following retirement, she served as a Parish Nurse in the Twin Cities. She was a faithful mentor and role model for many nurses and parish nurses. LFCNA and many nursing professionals are blessed to have had her touch our profession, our organization, and our hearts.