

The "Vial of Life" Program is designed to help provide emergency responders with immediate patient information in the event of a medical emergency.

This has been accomplished by developing a standardized method for the storage and identification of vital medical information. The program consists of training, a standardized vial(s), medical information sheet, and identification stickers. The "Vial of Life" itself is a small container that contains a medical history form and pertinent emergency information.

It is important to print all information clearly when completing the medical information sheet. Also, consult with your doctor if you are unable to answer specific medical questions. After the medical information sheet is completed, it is placed inside the plastic vial. Bright colored "Vial Alert Stickers" are then placed on the vial and on the refrigerator door and front window adjacent to the entrance or door of the residence. As nearly all homes have a refrigerator that can be easily located, the top shelf of the refrigerator or on the door has been adopted as the standard vial storage location. In the event of an emergency, first responders will see the alert stickers and recognize the presence of a Vial of Life. Since fire departments and other emergency responders are aware of this program, they know exactly where to locate the vial. Once the vial is retrieved, life saving information may be obtained, even if the patient is unable to speak. The information inside the vial will identify the patient's current medical history, allergies and medications, as well as insurance information and an emergency contact. You may have a separate vial for each member of the household, for children as well as adults. The vials are particularly important for people who live alone. Protect yourself and all of your family members. All it will cost you is a little time...and it could save your life!

To contact a member of the Parish Nursing Team, call the church office at 874-1982 or email mtmumc@sbcglobal.net

