

Film Screening of "Being Mortal" **A Community Event that Explores End-of-Life Care**

Peace Lutheran Care Ministry Program is hosting a "Being Mortal" Community Seminar on March 13th from 6 to 8 pm in the Fellowship Hall. This is a free event and no pre-registration is necessary.

The seminar will feature viewing of the PBS Frontline documentary "Being Mortal" followed by an interactive discussion with those in attendance. Several Aspirus providers and hospice & palliative care representatives will be there to participate in the follow up discussion.

Information about Advance Care Planning will also be shared and attendees will learn how to take concrete steps to identify and communicate wishes about end-of-life goals and preferences.

Pastor Dave Karolus from Peace will be there as well, to offer a faith perspective when involved with families facing these difficult end of life discussions & decisions.

"Being Mortal" explores patients and families facing serious or terminal illness and underscores the importance of people planning ahead and talking with family members about end-of-life decisions. The film investigates the practice of caring for the dying and explores the relationships between patients and their doctors. It follows a surgeon, Dr. Atul Gawande, as he shares stories from the people and families he encounters. The film sheds light on how a medical system focused on a cure often leaves out the sensitive conversations that need to happen so a patient's true wishes can be known and honored at the end of life.

"Being Mortal" underscores the importance of people planning ahead and talking with family members about end-of-life decisions. According to the Hospice Foundation of America, ninety percent of Americans know they should have conversations about end-of-life care, yet the majority have not done so.

Come see the film that brings medical professionals and community members together around the shared responsibility of discussing what matters most to patients and families facing difficult treatment decisions and how to have these conversations ahead of a medical crisis.

The film is adapted from Dr. Gawande's nationally best-selling book of the same name. Free screenings across the nation in recent years have been made possible by a grant from The John and Wauna Harman Foundation in partnership with the Hospice Foundation of America.

Peace Lutheran Ministries is located at 300 Lincoln Street. Attendees should park in the 8th Avenue lot and enter the Fellowship Hall entrance, Door #3.

Any questions, please contact Sarah Stoehr at 715-484-2393.

Thank you,
Sarah Stoehr
Care Ministry Program Leader at Peace Lutheran Ministries