

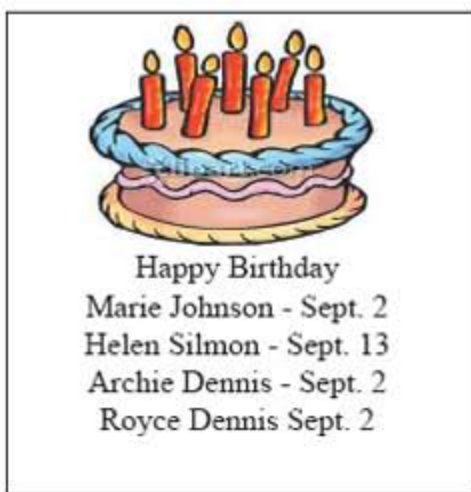
Opioids from page 1

12 and older. In 2014, more than 28,000 people died from opioid overdose, and at least half of those deaths involved a prescription opioid. Many more became addicted to prescription and illegal opioids. Heroin-related deaths have also increased sharply, more than tripling since 2010. In 2014, more than 10,500 people died from heroin.

In 2015 100 people died each day from drug overdose on prescription pain killers. Opioid abuse is a serious public health issue, but preventive actions, treatment for addiction, and proper response to overdoses can help. Southern states had the most prescriptions per person for painkillers, especially Alabama, Tennessee, and West Virginia. The Northeast, especially Maine and New Hampshire, had the most prescriptions per person for long-acting and high-dose painkillers. Nearly 22 times as many prescriptions were written for oxymorphone (a specific type of painkiller) in Tennessee as were written in Minnesota.

States can:

- Consider ways to increase use of prescription drug monitoring programs, which are state-run databases that track prescriptions for painkillers and can help find problems in overprescribing. Use of these programs is greater when they make data available in real-time, are universal (used by all prescribers for all controlled substances), and are actively managed (for example, send alerts to prescribers when problems are identified).
- Consider policy options (including laws and regulation) relating to pain clinics (facilities that specialize in pain treatment) to reduce prescribing practices that are risky to patients



Urban Ministers

church restricted to Sunday Service and occasional Wednesday prayers and study. Today circumstances and time are demanding a serious and sustained plan of action. It matters little how dark things may appear, God is ready and willing to assist us all the way until the victory is won.

The primary Objective is to bring together pastors, ministers and the members of lay community for the purpose of building an alliance

that is focused on the many problems of the urban areas all across the U S and the world. We believe that so long as the collective clergy remains divided, the local communities with many churches in their midst will continue to suffer, even to the point of death. It is the responsibility of the collective church body to address the ills of the community where it exists regardless as to what they are or the risks that might be involved. Please contact Minister Al Gipson for additional information (903) 722-4463

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 Monte Ethington, R. Ph.



Margarett Perkins, Laura Perkins, James I. Perkins and Dr. L. Michael Metke President of Tyler Junior College enter into agreement making possible the Rusk TJC Citizens Promise. The James I Perkins Family Foundation and Tyler Junior College established this scholarship program for Rusk High School graduates. The top fifty-percent/qualifying students have \$8000. scholarships to TJC which began with the class of 2014. Those TJC graduating students pictured above are the first to complete the requirements and be recognized this year.

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