



How Can the Pastor Pray for You?

I hope by now you have heard me say or read in the bulletin or an email — about the renewal I am experiencing in my prayer life. For years, I have tried to pray for my church members. In my opinion, I have not been very good at doing so. There are so many of you, and I get overwhelmed by trying to pray for each and every person.

I have found a system that seems to work for me. I am creating an electronic note card for each person. On that card I am going to write the things for which

that person wants me to pray. Rather than trying to pray for everyone each day, I am praying for 8 of you each day based on the specific needs you have voiced to me. Each day I will pray for a new set of 8 persons. I have tried to meet personally with some of you and determine what you need me to pray. It is taking too long.

So, I need your help to make the process move more smoothly. On the bottom of this page, please write your name and some specific things you want me to pray about you or your family. I'll create a card for you and pray for those needs when your card rotates through the system.

Name: _____

Please pray...

Second Sunday of Advent: December 7, 2014

[Light the first candle in the Advent wreath.]

The prophet Isaiah wrote, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" (Mark 1:2-3,, NRSV.)

And John, the messenger of God, proclaimed to all the people who came to him in the wilderness that they must repent of their sins and be baptized. Many people heard his message, repented, and were baptized in the river Jordan.

It has become our custom to prepare for the birth of the Messiah by decorating our cities and homes, hanging lights inside and out, singing "Frosty the Snowman" and "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer," and measuring the quality of our Christmas morning by the number of gifts we receive.

[Light the second candle in the Advent wreath.]

As we light this second candle in preparation for the coming of the Messiah, perhaps we need to listen again to John the Baptizer's message, preparing the way of the Lord:

...make straight the paths

...repent of your sins

...be baptized

...and live holy lives devoted to God.

ALL: COME, LORD JESUS. AMEN.

The Choir Will Sing: "Prepare, Ye the Way of the Lord"

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Special Christmas Offering Being Taken for Church Staff

We are continuing our yearly tradition of taking a special offering for our church staff: Becky Rogers, Rick Galyean, Robert Holbrook, Jan Tate, Lisa Soechtig, and Steve Guerrant. We will equally divide the amount given between these persons. Gifts need to be given by Sunday December 14th. We will then give them checks for their portion in the week following the 14th. Please note, you cannot get an IRS deduction for the amount that you give to this special offering. So, we encourage you to donate cash in an envelope or to make your check out to cash. The church will then cash your check and deposit the cash for use in the check that will be written to the staff members.

Kids In Christ is Next Sunday

Kids In Christ will be meeting on Sunday December 14th immediately after the church service. This will be a Christmas Party where they will be making Christmas ornaments, playing games, singing Christmas Carols and lunch will be provided. Come and join in the fun.

Special Thanks

A very special thank you to those individuals that have agreed to give of their time in preparing soups to raise funds for the Outreach Program. More details will be provided on the schedule and the processing of this project.

Spread the News

At this time of year, there are people who may not have anyone to celebrate the holidays with. Please invite friends and other family members to the Christmas Cantata, Christmas Eve Service and the Blue Christmas Service. This may be their only chance to celebrate the real reason for the season and share in fellowship with others.

Poinsettias for Christmas

You may place a poinsettia plant in the sanctuary in memory of, or in honor of a loved one by filling out the information below & placing your money in the collection plate marked "Poinsettias".

Your name _____

Total amount placed in offering for poinsettias: \$ _____

In Memory of _____

Placed by _____

1 plant per pot \$16.00

2 plants per pot \$21.00

3 plants per pot \$35.00

4 plants per pot \$45.00

In Honor of _____

Placed by _____

1 plant per pot \$16.00

2 plants per pot \$21.00

3 plant per pot \$35.00

4 plants per pot \$45.00

For more information, contact the church office at 523-0789
or Betty Cline at 523-0197 or 679-3290. Thank you.

Ways I Feel Called to Serve in 2015

In response to God's call on my life, I feel that in 2015 I can serve the church in the following ways. Please check as many as you feel apply. I understand my name will be give to the appropriate team leader and I will be contacted at some point in 2015.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Preferred Contact # : _____

Sunday Morning Servants:

- Greeter Usher Be an acolyte
- Make Announcements Read Scripture
- Serve Communion in church
- Serve Communion in homes
- Sing in the choir Deliver the Children's Message
- Play a musical instrument during worship
- Assist in the video production of worship service
- Assist in the audio production of the worship service
- Help provide breakfast items before Sunday School
- Teach a Sunday School Class: Adults Children
- Be a substitute Sunday School Teacher: Adults Children
- Be a Nursery Worker Assistant (once a month)
- Ride on the van to pick up children (8:30 am)
- Ride on the van to take children back home after church

Specific Ministry Servants:

- Help maintain a church web site
- Help maintain a church Facebook page
- Help with Kids In Christ (one Sunday afternoon per month)
- Help with the UMYF (as needed, when available)
- Help with minor repairs at the church or parsonage
- Be available to help out in the office on projects
- Be a member of the United Methodist Women
- Be a member of the United Methodist Men
- Help maintain/create a bulletin board in the church
- Regularly change the outdoor sign wording

Assist the Nurture Team

- Serve as a member of the Nurture Team
- Provide Bereavement Meals
- Help with Vacation Bible School
- I would be willing to visit our homebound members
- I would be willing to visit members in the hospital
- I would be willing to visit members in nursing homes
- Attend a small group on a topic that interests me
- Sends cards and notes to members that have missed church
- Help to decorate the church for various events
- Be a member of the Prayer Chain
- Pray for the church and its leaders regularly.
- Adopt a child for Sunday Service

Assist the Outreach Team

- Serve as a member of the Outreach Team
- I am interested in outreach events (water give-away, Pop-n-For Jesus, etc)
- Make a dessert to take to a first time church visitor
- Deliver a dessert to a first time church visitor
- Write a note/send an email to a first time visitor
- I am interested in mission events (Imagine No Malaria, etc.)
- I am interested in contacting visitors who come to our church
- I am interested in working at the Food Bank
- I believe God has blessed me and would be willing to share my story during worship or in a written manner.

I have read all the ways you have mentioned. None of them are things that I can do. However, I do feel that I can serve in the following manner in 2015:
