



Healing Prayer Ministry

Church of the Resurrection

Ministry Description

Healing Prayer Ministry is critical to the life of the Church. God's people come seeking to encounter God's presence through his Word and the Sacraments. The ministry of prayer applies the work of God's Word and the Sacraments to the individual at his or her point of need.

Prayer Ministers are to be people of:

- **Christian character and life:** As spiritual leaders in pastoral ministry within the church, prayer ministers must exhibit personal integrity and Christian character. You will sign the "Invitation for Leaders to Live a Confessional Life," which outlines Resurrection's understanding of what a Biblical lifestyle looks like.
- **Prayer:** Each prayer minister is responsible to cultivate both a personal and corporate life of prayer. Prayer ministers will be most effective when their daily lives keep them deeply connected to God through prayer and spiritual disciplines.
- **Faith:** Prayer ministers rely on the grace of God. Jesus' life, death, and resurrection are the cornerstone of the Christian faith and our ministry to others through prayer. We minister the Father's love, through Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Prayer Team prerequisites and application process

- To be a prayer minister, you must be baptized and a confirmed member of Church of the Resurrection.
- To become a prayer minister, please fill out [this application](#). A pastoral staff member will review your application and schedule an interview.
- Complete Resurrection's Child Protection process and sign the Confessional Lifestyle Statement.
- Participate in training workshops that are offered throughout the year.

Prayer Ministry weekly and yearly commitments

- Expect to be scheduled to serve an average of two times a month, but if you see people waiting in line on a Sunday morning, feel free to step in even if you aren't scheduled.
- Please arrive at 8:10am and 10:10am (20 minutes prior to service) to join the prayer huddle with clergy and other volunteers in All Saints Prayer Chapel.

- Receive Communion at the beginning of distribution, then pick up a prayer minister lanyard, holy oil, etc. from the white table on the pulpit side of the sanctuary and move to the sides of the sanctuary to offer prayer.
- Whenever possible, work together in pairs.
- Prioritize participating in corporate prayer opportunities, including RezFasts and the Maundy Thursday Blessing of Oil and Water service.

Prayer etiquette and guidelines

- **Learn the name of the person for whom you pray**

At the beginning of the conversation, introduce yourself, and use their name as you pray for them.

- **Ask permission before touching**

“Is it okay if I put my hand on your shoulder as I pray for you?”

“Is it okay if I anoint you with oil?”

- **Ask good questions rather than make assumptions**

Can you tell me what is happening for you as we pray?

Can you tell me what the tears are about?

You seem a little (anxious, agitated, angry, etc.). Can you tell me more about that?

I notice you are (trembling, shaking, etc.). Can you tell me what is happening for you?

- ***Propose rather than impose any prophetic impressions***

Something spoken in gentleness will have great impact if it is from God.

Share with humility the images or words that come to you during prayer. For example, you might say, “This may or may not be meaningful to you, but as I was praying, I thought of _____ or imagined an image of _____.”

Be gentle with a person’s hopes, especially when praying for physical healing or another possible future outcome, such as finding a spouse. We are careful not to impose our own optimism or certainty about a specific future outcome. We point people to the goodness and love of God.

- **Keep confidentiality and ask for help**

In general, what is shared with you as a prayer minister should be kept confidential.

As a prayer minister, if you get overwhelmed or feel out of your depth, ask for help from a pastor right away.

Always ask for help from a pastor if the person tells you about thoughts of suicide, about being a victim or perpetrator of abuse of any kind, or about committing a crime.

Prayer Ministers are mandated reporters for minors (children under 18), per our Youth and Child Protection Policy. (include link)

Prayer Ministers are discouraged from praying for minors without parents present.

Encourage the person to call or email the church office to inquire about additional pastoral care if needed. For example, the person may need additional care from the church if they ask for prayer about a marital crisis, or serious mental or physical illness.

- **Maintain healthy boundaries**

In general, prayer appointments take place at the church offices. If you want to schedule a prayer appointment with someone, find a partner and coordinate with a member of our pastoral team.

Recommended Reading

· At Church of the Resurrection, the ministry of healing prayer has been shaped by two leaders of charismatic renewal, Leanne Payne (1932-2015) and Francis McNutt (1925-2020). Both leaders were authors of numerous books. The following titles provide a practical and theological introduction to the rich tradition of Christian healing.

- Francis McNutt, Healing, Notre Dame, IN: Ave Maria Press, 1999.
- Leanne Payne, Healing Presence: Curing the Soul through Union with Christ, Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2007.
- Leanne Payne, Restoring the Christian Soul: Overcoming Barriers to Completion in Christ through Healing Prayer Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1999.

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