

## 3.5 INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP

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# *How Covenant Churches Pray*

The following statements and descriptions are gleaned from Covenant church websites and are included here with permission from the church. If you would like to add a church to the list, please contact [Christian.Formation@covchurch.org](mailto:Christian.Formation@covchurch.org)

A caution related to confidentiality and prayer requests: As you read the following descriptions, you will notice that several mention that permission to share the request must be received before it can be shared. Also note that the churches that mention sharing prayer requests on their website use a password-protected page.

## Bloomington Covenant Church, Bloomington, MN

<http://www.bcov.org/node/50>

### Prayer Warriors

A Prayer Warrior is a person who is convinced that God is omnipotent, has the power to do anything, change anyone, and to intervene in all circumstances. God promises us in Jeremiah 29:12, "Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me and I will listen to you." How awesome that the Creator of the Universe invites us to come to him in prayer and promises that he listens to us as we bring our praise, our confession of sin, our thanksgiving for his many blessings, and our petitions.

This miracle is available to every child of God; however, while you can read about prayer, attend prayer seminars, and read contemporary Christian literature about prayer, you must eventually develop an active prayer life. Personal, private prayer is a must in every Christian's life, but the joy and bond of fellowship that is developed in praying with others is an incredible blessing binding our minds and hearts together. It is a time to share our burdens and rejoice over God's goodness in response to our prayers. It is a time to pray for the Holy Spirit to permeate our church life and bring his power to our efforts.

There are opportunities for you to be a prayer warrior at Bloomington Covenant Church and join with others here in the wonderful experience of corporate prayer.

### **Sunday Morning - 10:00am - Prayer Room**

Pray for the morning worship service, that it will be God-honoring and Christ-revealing, that the Spirit will anoint our pastor as he provides a scripture-based challenge, and that it will be a time to enjoy the fellowship of corporate worship.

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### **Tuesday Morning - 7:00 a.m. - Sanctuary**

Pray for our church: pastor, staff, all church ministries and programs, and the weekly church prayer list, our nation, and our world.

### **Tuesday Morning - 8:00 a.m. - Prayer Room**

Pray for the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit in the life of our church.

### **Any Day - Any Time - Any Place**

Pray for the needs of our church and for requests within your group. Create a small group of your choosing, meeting wherever it is convenient.

"The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective" (James 5:16b).

## Cape Cod Covenant Church, Brewster, MA

<http://www.capecodcovenantchurch.com/DesktopDefault.aspx?tabid=51>

Prayer is such an important piece of the Covenant Church. From our pietistic heritage we believe that prayer is the "spiritual breath" of a disciple's faith. Personal prayer and devotion is an essential element of a relationship with our Lord. We encourage times of study and devotion in our everyday life. Alongside of a personal relationship with our Savior, we gather together to pray in smaller groups, and also as a congregation of believers and seekers, every Sunday morning.

In our "members only" tab (you must login to access this tab) we list CURRENT prayer concerns, ONGOING prayer concerns, and PRAYERS FOR SENIOR FRIENDS. Members are asked to please check this tab as often as they can so they can join us in remembering these people in their devotions and prayers. If you would like to bring a request to pray for someone to the church, you can e-mail the pastor.

## Cascade View Covenant Church, Vancouver, WA

<http://www.cascadeview.org/Prayer.htm>

### What is Prayer?

Simply put, prayer is entering into a conversation with, and in the presence of, God the Father. Like a conversation with a friend, sometimes you talk and sometimes you listen. God wants us to turn to him, rely on him, and gain our direction from him. He wants to hear from us, and he's ready to listen to all our questions, fears, and pains.

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### What Do I say?

Say whatever is on your heart. Be natural. It's not about saying grand or flowery things, it's just you talking to your Creator about... stuff.

If you are not sure, ask God through his Holy Spirit to guide you and bring to mind those issues that need to be resolved. Prayer serves many purposes, such as dealing with issues with self, issues with others, relationship problems between God and ourselves, and spiritual warfare, to name a few.

Still not sure? Take a look at Matthew 6:9-13(NIV). In these verses, Jesus teaches us how to pray when he says, "This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.'"

#### Prayer Request Form

Please use the following form to send a request for prayer. Your request is confidential and will only be seen by our prayer team. Items marked with " \* " are required.

Name:

May we contact you?

E-mail Address:

How can we pray for you?

## Faith Covenant Church, St. Petersburg, FL

<http://www.faithcovenantchurch.us/#/connect/prayer>

Faith Covenant Church has a rich history of prayer. God has richly blessed FCC as a result of the faithful prayers of the saints. You can get involved in the prayer movement at Faith Covenant by committing to any of the following ministries:

**Just Prayer:** Sundays at 5 p.m. meet with like-minded believers to pray for personal, local, and global concerns.

**Prayer Companions:** Prayer companions are trained to pray with people during the worship services. They are available at the end of the service to intercede with those who desire prayer.

**Saturday Prayer Force:** Each week one church council member volunteers to pray at the church on Saturday afternoon in anticipation of the Sunday worship services. Each council member pairs up with a person from the congregation to engage in this ministry.

**Sunday Prayer:** Those who feel called to pray for and during the worship service do so each week in a room outside the sanctuary.

**Monday Prayer:** You are invited to come pray in the sanctuary on Monday mornings at 9 a.m.

**Prayer Chain:** The prayer chain is composed of dedicated members of Faith Covenant who will intercede on your behalf. All you need to do is call or e-mail the church office and the request will be forwarded to

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the church prayer warriors. We also welcome follow-up e-mails to let the prayer chain know how God is answering your prayer. E-mail: [Prayer@faithfcovenantchurch.us](mailto:Prayer@faithfcovenantchurch.us).

**Special Events:** Occasionally, the body of believers at Faith Covenant Church gets together to pray corporately. We call these Concerts of Prayer. Everyone is invited to participate!

## Good Samaritan Community Covenant Church, Valley Springs, CA

<http://www.gsgccc.net/PrayerRoom.dsp>

### Internet Prayer Room

Welcome to Good Samaritan Community Covenant Church Internet Prayer Room.

Our church recognizes the importance of prayer in our daily lives. Our prayer team counts it a privilege to pray for people. Through prayers, we have seen God respond to the many prayer requests from our church family and community. Good Sam's Internet Prayer Room ministers to everyone who is in need of prayer. Submit your prayer request and experience the power of prayer through our dedicated Prayer Team praying on your behalf.

If you desire to receive e-mail support, please indicate it at the end of your prayer request. We truly believe with you, as we seek God through prayer and in the name of Jesus, that your prayer needs will be answered in accordance to his promises in the Bible.

Good Samaritan Community Covenant Church welcomes you to come and share in worship, fellowship and prayer each Sunday. God has reserved a seat for you at Good Sam. Join us.

*A prayer request form follows the above text.*

### Prayer Chain

The purpose of the Good Samaritan Church Prayer Chain is to widen the circle of prayer for those people and concerns that are brought to the attention of the prayer chain team.

The Objective of the Prayer Chain is:

1. To make immediate prayer available to anyone in the church body at any time.
2. To unite our hearts in prayer, therefore, availing ourselves of the tremendous power available when we take our requests to God.
3. To cause the body to be knit together in love through prayer for one another.

*"The great people of the earth today are the people who pray. I do not mean those who talk about prayer, nor those who can explain about prayer; but I mean those people who take TIME and pray.*

*TIME must be taken from something else. This something else is important--very important and pressing, but still LESS important and LESS pressing than prayer" (S. D. Gordon).*

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To start the Prayer Chain:

1. Call one of the coordinators.
2. Prayer requests may come from any source (chain members, pastors, teachers, anyone in need of prayer).
3. Prayer requests may be for any need, concern, decision, or person(s) that has the need of God's care.
4. Include only the amount of information you want communicated; only the bare essentials. The Lord already knows all the details. If the prayer is too personal, then ask for "Silent Prayer" for God's help.
5. Verify that the person to be prayed for *wants* to be prayed for.
6. Answered prayer may also be called in to the Prayer Chain. It's a great encouragement to Prayer Chain members to know how and when their prayers were answered.  
"But the salvation of the righteous is of the Lord: He is their strength in the time of trouble" (Psalm 37:39).

### Grace Hills Bible Church, Angels Camp, CA

From: [Covenant Newswire, October 31, 2011](#)

The First Responder team at Grace Hills Bible Church, an Evangelical Covenant Church congregation, is letting people in their community know someone is praying for them.

A handful of members of the Covenant congregation meet each Monday afternoon at the local El Jardin restaurant to write notes of encouragement to people who attended on Sunday, but also anyone in the community needing prayer and encouragement.

"We identify those who need encouragement through word of mouth," says Pastor Dusty Bach. "We live in a tight-knit rural community, and word can spread rather quickly about those in our community who need encouragement."

At other times, Bach says, "God just puts the names of people on our hearts, and we send them a note on the prompting of the Holy Spirit. The team then gathers and discusses the needs we are aware of, and which needs are appropriate."

The ministry began as a way to connect with first-time visitors, but it quickly grew into an opportunity to respond to prayer requests received on Sunday and show appreciation to those who are serving in Grace Hills ministries. It quickly grew beyond its original intentions.

### Karmel Covenant Church, Princeton, MN

<http://www.karmelcovenantchurch.org/?110050>

For over eight years, the body of Karmel Covenant Church has committed to pray for all its members and regular attenders on a daily basis. We have made it our motto, "We care; therefore, we pray." As a result of

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this concerted effort of prayer, we have 45 individuals/couples who pray for three to four families assigned to them. Also, each deacon/deaconess has been assigned a group of these "pray-ers" that they are to pray for and communicate with about needs in the congregation. We simply do not want to leave any potential prayer needs left un-prayed for. Praying for one another is a core value of Karmel Covenant Church, and we are continually thankful, and often amazed, by the many answers to prayer that we see on a regular basis.

*“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints” (Ephesians 6:18).*

### Living Hope Covenant Church, Colorado Springs, CO

<http://www.livinghopecov.com/#/ministries>

#### Prayer Trail

If you're in the neighborhood, come take a walk on our prayer trail. Devotions are available and are routinely updated. The trail is connected to the Cottonwood Creek Trail, and is free and open to the public.

#### Foundations of Prayer

Meets at 7:00 p.m. on selected Monday evenings for more intercession for our church and community.

#### Prayer Shawl Group

Do you like to knit or crochet? Join the Prayer Shawl Group! Meetings usually take place at Living Hope on the 4th Saturday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

### The Evangelical Covenant Church of Alaska

The ECC of Alaska provides downloadable prayer cards on their website to encourage people to pray for the pastors and staff in Alaska: <http://www.eccak.org/prayer-cards.html>.

### Libertyville Covenant Church, Libertyville, IL

In 2011 one member of the congregation volunteered to send a daily prayer reminder during Lent to people who asked to receive it. These reminders included comments and prayer requests. It was a good prayer discipline for that season of the church year.

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### Faith Covenant Church, Burnsville, MN

#### Pray Without Ceasing

Faith Covenant people joined together for a continuous time of prayer in advance of their July 24, 2011 congregational meeting. The meeting determined, in large part, the leadership course our church would take. Pray Without Ceasing began at 6 p.m. on July 23rd and ended at 6 p.m. on July 24th. The congregation was invited to consider taking a moment to voice praise and petition for wisdom, guidance, and discernment for Faith Covenant Church during this time!