

Ten Ways to Gather Prayer Requests

Low Tech

1. Set up a prayer request bulletin board in a busy hallway in your church. Supply it with sticky notes and pens, and invite people to post their non-confidential requests.
2. Put a prayer request insert in your church bulletin, and invite people to fill it out and drop it in the offering plate.
3. Set up a “guest book” style notebook in your church foyer/narthex for people to list requests and make note of previous requests.
4. Make a practice of gathering prayer requests at meetings, Sunday school class sessions, mission projects, etc. by simply asking “How can I be praying for you today/this week?” and writing down the responses.
5. Set up a “free prayer” table in a public place (make sure to get permission first) where people can come and have someone pray for them. Pray on the spot and make a list of requests for ongoing prayer.
6. Make a practice of asking restaurant servers and others you encounter throughout the day how you can be praying for them, and make a note of those requests.

High Tech

7. Establish a prayer chain (in which people call a designated person by phone, who then begins a chain of phone calls to pass the concern along to a list of people), and ask the person at the top of the chain to collect requests.
8. Set up a designated email address for people to email in requests.
9. People can also send a text message from their cell phone to your designated email address. (Try it – it works!) Invite them to include your address in their “contacts” list.
10. Create a Facebook prayer group. Use privacy settings and an “administrator” for the group to restrict access to only members of your church.