



*Understanding, Organizing,
And Structuring a Prayer Ministry
With
Church Member-Link's Prayer Wall*



CAA Ministries, a Division of CAA Software Inc. · P.O. Box433 · Dahlonega, GA 30533
· Local (706)864-4055 · Atlanta (404)551-4230 · Toll Free (866)475-1699
Copyright© 2012 CAA Software, Inc.

Understanding, Organizing, and Structuring a Prayer Ministry



UNDERSTANDING:

Establishing an organized and structured prayer ministry within the church should be the first and most important ministry within the church's organizational structure. It should be understood that the prayer ministry is the most important ministry of the church. Why do we come to this conclusion? Because it is Biblical and Jesus said "My house shall be called a house of prayer" Three times in the New Testament (Matt 21: 13, Mark 11: 17, Luke 19: 46) Jesus refers to "My house shall be called a house of prayer" that was first written in the Old Testament in the book of Isaiah. (Isa 56: 7)

Isaiah 56: 7

Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people.

Let's also look at other scripture that emphasize the importance of prayer;

Matthew 18:19, 20

19-"Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven.

20- For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them."

Acts 1:14 they all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

Acts 2:42 they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Hebrews 10:25 Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another —and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

*"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone."
"...and what you have heard from me through many witnesses entrust to faithful people who will be able to teach others as well." (1Timothy 2:1 & 2Timothy 2:2.)*

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice...Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God," Philippians 4:4,6.

Ephesians 6:19 he said: "Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel." In Romans 15:31 Paul said: "Pray that I may be rescued from the unbelievers in Judea and that my service in Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints there." In 2 Thessalonians 3:1 he said: "brothers, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored, just as it was with you." And in Colossians 4:3-4 he says: "pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should."

Now, you should understand why we have come to the conclusion that the prayer ministry is the most important ministry of the church's organizational structure.



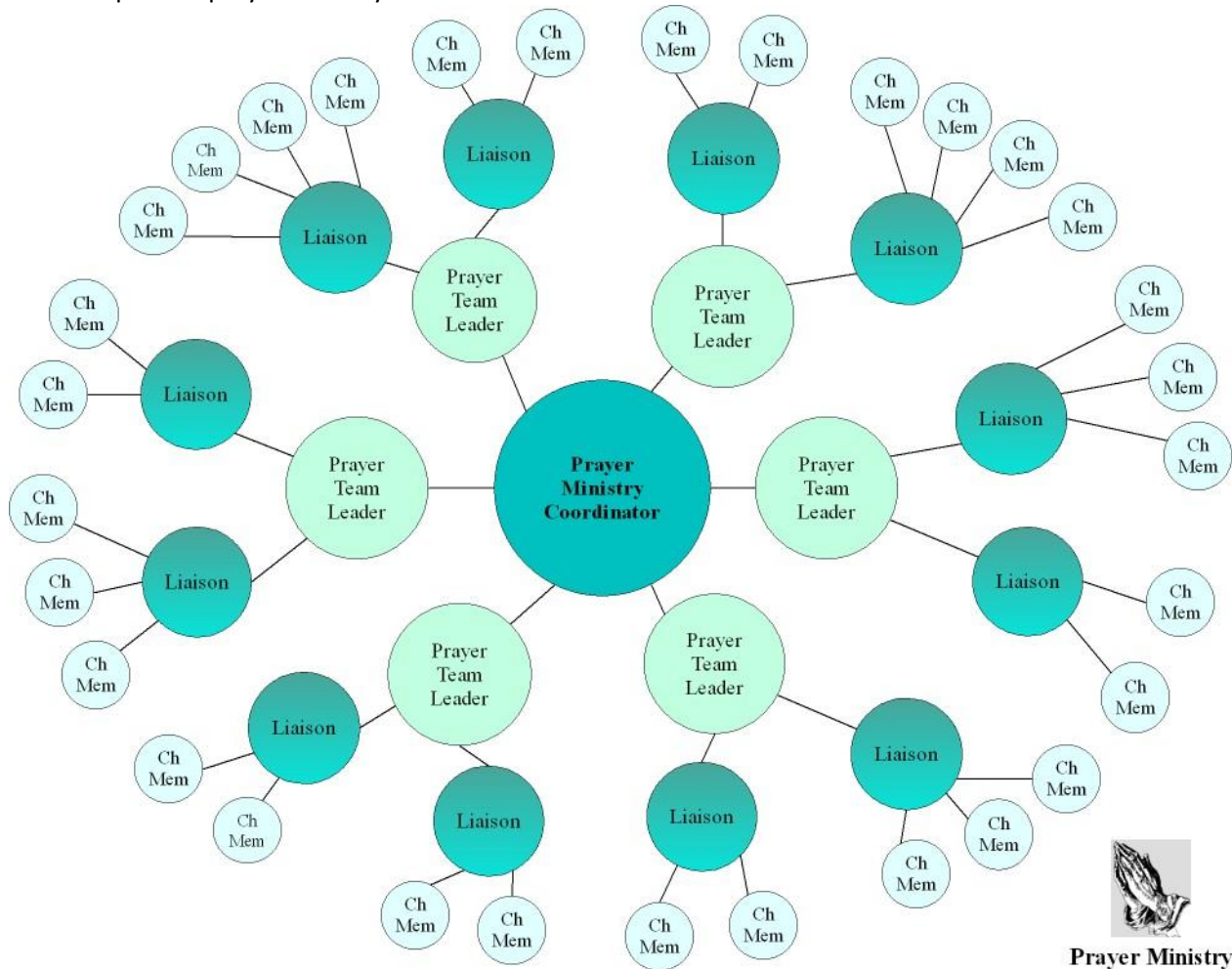
ORGNAIZATING:

When organizing a prayer ministry you should first consider who would be the right person to head-up this ministry. In other words we need to recruit a "Prayer Ministry Coordinator". This person should be known as a real prayer warrior and have a great personality. The person should have a good reputation in the congregation and be comfortable in praying out loud in a large group, with individuals at church, in the hospital, or on the phone. The person should also be an organized person with computer knowledge and skills.

Once the Prayer Ministry Coordinator is in place he or she needs to take the lead in completing and organizing how the prayer ministry leadership team will be selected and how the overall prayer ministry will be structured.

We recommend that every ministry, committee, Sunday school class, and group of any size or type have one person that is appointed as a liaison to the prayer ministry. Your prayer ministry should be organized with one coordinator, and one prayer team leader for every two or three appointed liaisons, and then be open to everyone in the church for joining the prayer ministry team. Joining the prayer ministry team should be encouraged and recommended to all church members.

Here is an example of a prayer ministry team



Understanding, Organizing, and Structuring a Prayer Ministry



RESPONSIBILITIES:

Prayer Ministry Coordinator:

- Identify key people in the church who are willing to pray or serve as prayer team leaders and enlist their commitment.
- Establish a strategic Prayer Committee and serve as its chairperson. Committee is a five person committee that consists of the Prayer Ministry Coordinator as its chairperson and four Members that are selected from the prayer team leaders.
- Act as a liaison between the pastor, the church leadership, and the Prayer Ministry.
- Ensure that prayer is encouraged, engaged, and integrated into every ministry, class, group, and department of the church, and that each one has an appointed prayer ministry liaison.
- Lead a weekly prayer meeting of all prayer team leaders and liaisons.
- Encourages and leads prayer team leaders to assure they are actively and prayerfully fulfilling their responsibilities as a prayer team leader.
- Create an information network for prayer request and praise reports to be submitted.
- Lead a weekly prayer meeting that is open to the entire church body.
- Assures that prayer is always the foundation for ministry, and that the church is always recognized and known as a house of prayer for all people.
- To have a copy of the book, and read the book, “Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire” by Jim Cymbala

Prayer Ministry Team Leader:

- Prays for and follows the leadership of the Prayer Ministry Coordinator.
- Ensure that prayer is encouraged, engaged, and communicated by liaisons under their leadership.
- Responsible to assure prayer requests and praise reports are posted on the church’s web based Prayer Wall.
- Contacts church members that have prayer needs or request either by phone or a visit to personally pray with them, and let them know that their prayer needs are being offered up through the church’s Prayer Ministry.
- Assist with or leads in prayer meetings, or special prayer events planned and organized by the prayer ministry’s strategic Prayer Committee.
- To have a copy of the book, read the book, “Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire” by Jim Cymbala

Prayer Ministry Liaison:

- Prays for and communicates all prayer needs and concern of their ministry, class or group to their assigned Prayer Ministry Leader.
- Assures that all meetings and events are opened and closed with a prayer.
- Attends and participates in all organized prayer meetings and events.

Strategic Prayer Committee:

- Plan and organize special prayer events for the church (i.e., prayer conferences, prayer seminars, National Day of Prayer, Church Renewal Prayer empowerment weekend, Prayer walks, etc.).
- Sets the agenda and structure for all prayer meetings including the scheduled weekly prayer meetings.
- Produces a printed and web posted prayer calendar for the church.

Church Members:

- Prays daily for the lost, the pastor, the church leadership, and submitted prayer needs and requests.
- Participates in all organized prayer meetings and events.



STRUCTURING:

Structuring your prayer ministry by utilizing the prayer wall features included within CAA Ministries' Church Member-Link Program is a great way to communicate and inform members of prayer requests and prayer needs. The web based prayer wall provides an easily accessed location where prayer requests and praise reports may be posted for members to view and respond. When requests are posted to the wall, prayer team members and/or church members can be notified instantly by e-mail and/or text messages by simply checking the preference box. Also, once prayer requests have been posted to the prayer wall, members may login at any time to review or reply. Members may choose to reply or respond to any specific requests they see on the wall. Utilizing the prayer wall feature included in your Church Member-Link program is an excellent way, and with today's technology, the most efficient way for a church to communicate prayer requests, prayer needs, or praise reports to their members. We recommend that posting and maintaining a current and updated prayer wall should be the responsibility of the Prayer Ministry's Coordinator, and all of the Prayer Team Leaders.

A structured prayer ministry may vary within different churches depending on the size of your prayer team and the church facility. However, always remember that prayer (praying) is your focus, and it is to be the number one objective when structuring your ministry. Here are some points and suggestions to help you in structuring your church's Prayer Ministry.

- Before structuring your prayer ministries activities and agenda please consider why your prayer ministry was organized to begin with, it was to PRAY. So with this in mind structure your prayer ministry where praying is the most important thing, and what consumes the majority of the prayer ministry's time. When having prayer meetings you don't spend 50-80% of your time discussing prayer request, you spend it in prayer.
- Develop a custom or purchase preprinted prayer request cards. These should be easily located and available through the church and promoted at all opportunities.
- There should be multiple options for submitting a prayer request. Several locations for returning completed prayer request cards should be available, such as placing in the offering plate, or given to the prayer teams Coordinator, prayer team leaders, or liaisons.
- Create a prayer room that is always open and has kneeling room and chairs for families or individuals to come to when troubled or in need of prayer for any reason.
- Work out some type of schedule or options where prayer team members are in the prayer room praying and available should someone come to the room in need of prayer.
- Schedule weekly a one or two hour prayer time at the church altar where all prayer team members are encouraged to come and kneel for prayer. It should be promoted as a time to kneel and pray where individuals can come by at any time during the scheduled time and pray for any length of time they wish. Also, prayer team leader should be available to receive written or verbal prayer requests that will be communicated and posted to the church's online prayer wall.

Commit thy way unto the Lord: trust also in Him; and He shall bring it to pass" (Psalm 37:5)

Understanding, Organizing, and Structuring a Prayer Ministry



CONCLUSION:

The lives of early Christians were characterized by matchless generosity, reliance on God, and a profound devotion to prayer. In Acts 2:46-47, Luke records, “They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.”

The Christian movement grew rapidly because of God’s response to the believers’ diligence, passion, and faithfulness in prayer. Jesus taught us in Luke 11:9-10 to “ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.” It is because Jesus told us that he will respond to our asking, seeking, and knocking, that prayer is to be a core commitment with Christians and the church. We believe that “we express our faith, love, and dependence on God through lives of prayer and worship.” The church demonstrates this with its commitment to an organized and faithful prayer ministry.

1 John 5:14-15 New King James Version (NKJV)

Confidence and Compassion in Prayer

¹⁴ Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

Suggested prayer resources: *“Praying Like Jesus” - 10 Brief Studies in Prayer*

http://www.lifeway.com/lwc/files/lwcf_PDF_Ezell_PrayingLikeJesus.pdf