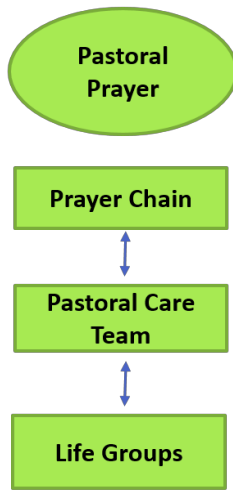


## Pastoral Prayer - What is it?



One aspect of the Lakeside prayer ministry is **Pastoral Prayer**. This refers to prayer that is engaged in praying for the pastoral care needs of individuals in and outside the life of the church. These Pastoral Care needs include health, relationships, life circumstances, spiritual and emotional wellbeing.

James 5:14 says

*Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord.*

This verse is specifically referring to the elders of the church praying for individuals who are sick. The passage then goes on to say in Verse 16 that all Christians are to "...pray for each other that you may be healed."

All this highlights that we are called to pray for people who have Pastoral Care needs.

### Pastoral Prayer happens in three ways:

#### Prayer Chain

**Lakeside Prayer Chain:** A prayer chain is a way for people to gain assistance in prayer and receive prayer support for any serious or pressing problem – whether that be health, relationships or circumstances.

A prayer chain is a specific type of prayer ministry. It consists of a group of people willing to take time to pray when the chain is "activated."

### Responsibilities and Expectations of being a member of the Prayer Chain.

#### Discipline and commitment to pray:

- Once you have received the information regarding the prayer need – your role is to pray. The prayer request may be
  - To pray there and then – urgent prayer request.
  - To pray on a certain date and time, e.g. Someone may be having a surgical procedure.
  - The prayer request may be praying for a situation over several weeks.
- There will be a Prayer Chain team leader – who is responsible for communicating with you regarding prayer requests and needs.

#### Confidentiality:

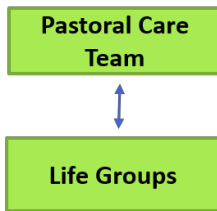
- As some of the information that your ministry team leader may share will be of a confidential nature there is a necessity for confidentiality. As a prayer chain team member you are committing to being faithful in upholding the trust of others by being confidential.

#### Spiritual Health

- As a ministry team intercessor your own spiritual health is of high importance and therefore you are committing to "loving the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind." You will practice your own spiritual disciplines of abiding in Him.



## Pastoral Care Team & Life Groups



**Pastoral Care Team:** The pastoral care team meets weekly to discuss and pray for the Pastoral Care needs of the Church. This also involves visitation and contacting people to bring encouragement and prayer support.

**Life Groups:** Pastoral care is what underpins community, because we can demonstrate our love by practical works of support. Through supporting each other we have the basis for growing together, because we rely on each other and have opportunities to bless each other. Galatians 6:2 says we are to "bear one another's burdens". So one of the best avenues for Pastoral Prayer is inside of Life Groups.

Life Group leaders can also bring to the attention of both the Pastoral Care Team and Prayer Chain any Pastoral Care needs and Prayer requests.

It's also important to note that we want to develop a "culture of prayer" where prayer happens whenever the Spirit leads and prompts us to prayer for individuals.

We desire that the Prayer Point after our Sunday services would be place where people would go to be prayed for, that would be a people who would not be afraid to ask for prayer.

