



All prayer requests are submitted to the church office. You may indicate with whom you would like the prayer request to be shared with. Requests are gathered daily.

Ways to Share Prayer Requests:

- WEBSITE:** Log on to www.havenchurch.org and click on "Request Prayer" link
- PHONE:** Contact the Church Office at 772-2400.
- E-MAIL:** E-mail your request to prayer@havenchurch.org
- WRITTEN:** Submit a written request to the office drop box. Forms are available at the Information Center.

February 19, 2012

Weekly Meditation

Haven Ministry Teams

By Vicki Zylstra

In the last year, you've probably seen many communications regarding Haven's Ministry Teams. The most recent Haven Highlights featured each team's quarterly goals. But if you are not on a team, you may have some questions about these teams. Below, I've attempted to answer a few questions you might have.

Why were the Ministry Teams formed? Haven's Ministry Teams are an important part of Haven's organizational structure. Ministries, both inwardly and outwardly focused, provide a way for the Word of God to be shared. Each ministry plays an important part in this...yes, even the Finance and the Building & Grounds teams! The teams were also formed so that Ministry Leaders would not feel like they were working autonomously and so leadership would be able to understand and approve each ministry's activities.

What teams are there? Children's Ministries (nursery-6th grade), Student Life Ministries (7th-college), Adult Ministries, Family Life Ministries, Worship, Communications, ACTS (outreach), Building & Facilities, Finance, Technology and Specialized Ministries.

How are the teams constructed? Each team has a leader and team members, including a Council representative. Team members may or may not be directly working in that ministry, but can provide valuable insight into the ministry. Example: a parent may be a part of the Children's Ministry Team. The team leader usually builds the team, with the Administrative Team's approval.

Why do teams meet quarterly, together? Quarterly team meetings incorporate the following: a message and devotions from the pastor, an administrative review of any policy or structural changes that teams should be aware of, a time to work together as individual teams, then a time of sharing ideas between the teams. This time of sharing promotes unity and allows teams to collaborate ideas. Example: youth helping out in worship, or the ACTS and Finance teams collaborating for outreach fundraising opportunities.

How can the body of Haven know the Ministry Team's activities? Teams operate from a set of mandates that are set at the beginning of the year and are approved by Haven's Administrative Team. Each quarter, team goals are set. Those goals are then reviewed and approved by the Administrative Team and presented to full Council. After approval by leadership, the goals and activities will be shared with the Haven family in the Haven Highlights.

How can I share a suggestion with a team? The Haven Ministry Teams value input from the congregation. The team leaders are listed in the membership directory or you can call the church office. Feel free to submit ideas to the team leaders or contact Vicki Zylstra in the Haven office to submit requests to the team for consideration.

How can I become involved? God has gifted each person with gifts and those gifts should be honored by using them! Each person has something to give so that we can spread the love of Jesus to so many that need to know Him. That is done by the teams such as Children's Ministry, but also the Tech team, the Worship team, the Communications Team. Where are your gifts? Please contact that team and let them know you are willing to serve. I promise that you will not be turned down if you are willing to share your gifts! If you are able to serve or not, please pray continually for those serving through the ministries, asking God to show the paths of His choosing.

If you have any questions that were not addressed above, please contact Vicki Zylstra in the Haven Office.

Prayers of Concern

Lindy & Dustin VerBeek were informed that all the tumors are growing but they are growing slowly or as oncologists call it "slight progression". They did not find any new cancer. Praise God! What they did find, however, was a slightly enlarged lymph node in my abdominal region, but they're not concerned about it right now. The doctor has recommended that Lindy have the stereotactic radiosurgery done on the brain. This is the as Gamma Knife which she did at Mayo in 2010. Chemo is not needed right now. Praise God! Lindy will be going back to U of M Monday for a very specific MRI, to meet the neurosurgeon, and to meet the radiation oncologist. Pray for wisdom for the medical team as they decide what procedures to be best. Pray for peace the Lindy and Dustin as they put their trust in God and the medical team.

The **LIME** youth will be returning home today from their winter retreat. Pray for safe travels and for the growth they experienced in their relationship with God and each other to become a daily enjoyment for each of them.

"Think Spring" dinner is Saturday. May it be an evening of adults of all ages coming together for a time of fun and to build relationships and make new friends within the Haven family. Pray that all the planning and work will provide a wonderful night for everyone.

Prayers of Praise & Thanksgiving

Congratulations to **Jim & Rebecca Peterson** (Life Group #3) in the birth of their son, Hezekiah James, born Friday (2/10) at 7lbs 11 oz.. Rebecca and Hezekiah joined the family at home last Sunday and all are doing well.

Thank you so much for praying for the Search Team. We are blessed to have people covering us and this process in prayer. We met this past Sunday and will be meeting again this coming Sunday. Pray that we would lean on God's incomparably great power. That we would look to the Lord and His strength and see His face always. Pray the Holy Spirit would give our team the wisdom and strength to interview well. **The Search Team**

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Jesus Christ. Philippians 4: 6-7