

ABOUT THE PRAYER CHAIN

Regular church attenders and members are encouraged to refer urgent, serious, emergency and life-threatening situations, or circumstances requiring breakthrough or extra support, to our prayer chain. The process is as follows:

1. Requests are made directly to Co-Ordinator [Vanessa Poskus](#) or one of our [pastors](#).
2. Unless a person isn't in a life group or able to attend church regularly, the Prayer Chain is intended to be **added** prayer support. First port of call is your life group or fellowship network. Think of it like air support for a ground offensive in battle.
3. Prayer chain requests are limited to attendees/members and their family only. Exceptions are made for church prayers and events and community prayers.
4. In general consent needs to be given by the person being prayed for to be on the Prayer Chain. Exceptions are obviously made for events where the person is unable to give their consent ie. a parent is unconscious. Please ask the person as soon as you are able to and confirm their permission.
5. The Prayer Chain is confidential so only those who have asked to receive requests can read them. They are not forwarded onto others. Confidentiality is also maintained by not using names or using just an initial to identify the person.
6. Updating the Prayer Chain on the status of requests is a partnership between the original referee and the Co-Ordinator. We understand that if you are in the middle of an intense situation updating on that situation can be difficult, but nor do we want to be following up intrusively. If you can 'keep us posted' please do, as those praying like to pray specifically for your situation and are encouraged by your testimony. Follow up by the Co-Ordinator occurs weekly if possible.
7. Requests can be made at all times of day and night and the Chain doesn't stop for holidays. Time sensitivity is of the highest priority. Please be considerate though in understanding the management of the Chain can at times be affected by personal factors, consideration of priority/seriousness of current requests and a desire to wait for several requests that can be sent together (in consideration of not wanting to overload our faithful prayer team with emails and texts :)). In general the request posted within 24 hours (and in time for deadlines of surgeries etc) is our aim.
8. A lengthier weekly update is generally released each weekend. This can be Friday to Sunday, depending whether more time is needed for the collation of updated information. This lengthier email includes church and community prayers.
9. Ongoing prayers are not normally the focus of the Prayer Chain and the aim is always to release requests and people from the Chain as quickly as possible. This won't happen however until there is a sense that the situation has had some resolution. The

exception to this is where there remains a clear risk to life throughout treatment and early recovery, or in the case of grief which may take longer to carry in prayer. In addition, if there has not been an update for a month the original referee will be asked whether they want the request to stay on the Chain or not. Again, if there is no response it will be released.

10. If someone is wanting to be on the Prayer Chain and receive requests, they need to contact the Co-Ordinator directly at church or via Elvanto. Requests can be received via email, texts or both. Someone volunteering for this needs to understand that it can be 'feast or famine' in terms of receiving requests, where you may get only the weekly email or several updates across several days. It is a commitment of time, heart and faithfulness and we appreciate so much the sacrificial service of those who pray for their church family and community.