

Community Prayer Net



At first glance, the structure by the Blessing Box at First UMC, Edna on the Allen Street side, could easily be mistaken. A second look will reveal brightly colored ribbons tied to the netting. The idea of the netting goes with Jesus calling His disciples to be fishers of men. A sign, with directions, reads Community Prayer Net and invites all to fill out a request card, tie a ribbon to the net, and drop the card in the prayer box. Ribbons tied to the net symbolize a prayer request. Members of First UMC will pray for each card received and their ribbon on the net. The ribbon on the net expresses the prayer on your heart. By this ministry and ritual, we come closer to the Holy Spirit, who prays with us. The idea is to get people comfortable being involved in the church and the net and ribbon show that prayer is still topmost on people's minds. There are people who just want someone to pray for them and the church wants to be involved. We, as a church, are here to pray for each other.

Philippians 4:6-7 "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God."

This advice on prayer was written by Paul to the early church members to encourage them to pray to God about anything and everything that troubled them. It gives a pattern for a straightforward way of praying where we are encouraged to present our requests to God with thankful hearts. This Bible verse tells us God's ears and heart are always open to hear about anything, big or small, that makes us feel anxious or worried. What may seem like a small matter to someone may be a big thing to someone else. God cares and He listens. Jesus always highlighted the importance and power of prayer.

This is an opportunity for the church to serve the community and each other.

First UMC Edna