

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### PRAYER GROUP

#### **Purpose**

The Prayer Group prays for members of the congregation of Metropolitan United Church, their friends and relatives, and for concerns that come in requests from individual members of the congregation, as well as for the work and spiritual well-being of our whole congregation, those responsible for the ongoing work of carrying out the mission of our church and for our church leaders.

All information that comes to the Prayer Group is kept strictly confidential within the Prayer Group. No such information is divulged outside of the Prayer Group except with the person who requests the prayer.

#### **Activities**

1. Prayer requests come to the Prayer Group verbally and in writing. All prayer requests come with the approval of recipient where possible. Prayer is continued until the individual who asked for the prayer removes the request or until that prayer is answered.
2. Details of prayer requests are kept brief to protect the privacy of the prayer recipient and to protect the integrity of the Prayer Group. If additional information is known by the Prayer Group member, it should be verbal only.
3. A member of the Prayer Group regularly follows up with individuals for updates to prayer requests. All updated information to a former prayer request must come only from the person who has initially made the request.
4. When prayer requests come in, three questions are considered by the Prayer Group before prayers are offered:
  - a. Is it truth rather than supposition?
  - b. Is it kind?
  - c. Is it necessary?
5. When a prayer is answered, the Prayer Group offers a prayer of thanks and expresses praise to God.
6. The Prayer Group normally breaks up into groups of two individuals or more after having a prayer circle together. Prayer requests are then divided amongst the groups for prayers by each group.
7. Yearly, the Prayer Group reviews this Terms of Reference and the Risk Management policy with its members. If changes are made to the Terms of Reference, it is then sent to the Board of Elders for approval.

#### **Frequency of Meetings**

The Prayer Group meets every other week throughout each entire year on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the Church parlour except on those Tuesdays the church may be closed.

#### **Resources**

The church parlour or an alternative room is provided. No funds or other resources are required.

**Membership**

The Prayer Group is comprised of six (6) members. New members are welcome at any time. An appeal for new members is placed in the Church Bulletin yearly. Because the group meets all year, the numbers attending a meeting can vary. Attendance at meetings is generally six in number. The only requirements of a member are a caring heart, discretion and a belief that God listens and responds to each individual.

**Term of Membership**

Individuals may be members of the Prayer Group for as long as they wish to participate.

**Minutes**

None are taken.

**Related Metropolitan Policies**

Risk Management Policy

**Related Documents/External Resources**

The Bible – all devotional material which is supplied by the members of the Prayer Group

PRAYER GROUP	
Approval Meeting of Board of Elders:	April 2019
Approved by Prayer Group:	April 2019
Previous Version Date:	April 2018
Group/Committee Responsible:	Prayer Group