

“rolling” the cube like a dice and then offers a prayer according to what symbol is on top:

Symbol Pray for

a gingerbread person gifts you're glad God has given you

some footprints where did God go with you today?

a sad face things we want to tell God we're sorry for

a broken heart prayers for someone who is hurting

a world signs of God's presence and power in the world

a cross in what way were you Christ like today

FLOWER PRAYER-in groups of six or eight participants lay on the floor on their backs with heads touching in the center. Each person offers a prayer and raises his or her arms to God.

FOUR SEASONS PRAYER-a favorite season and why

FRIGHT-DELIGHT PRAYERS-begin meetings, lessons and small group time by letting each person share the highs and lows of the previous week.

FRISBEE PRAYER (or use a football, Frisbee, pillow, bean bag or even a water balloon) one person begins by holding the object, offering a prayer and then tossing the object to someone else across the circle. Continue until all have caught the object and offered a prayer

GATHERED COMMUNITY- see addendum

GOD'S SPEED PRAYER-whether you're saying goodbye to someone who is moving across the country or headed out for a weekend ski trip, take time to pray for God's guidance in holding the travelers in safe keeping.

HEADLINES PRAYER-lay out the local newspaper or school paper and let each person choose a story to pray about.

HAND SQUEEZE PRAYER-(a verbal version of the electricity prayer) Hold hands in a circle. Eyes closed. Someone begins with the first petition. When they are done, they squeeze the hand of the person next to them

and so on around the circle. Offer the opportunity for those uncomfortable praying outloud to simply pass on the squeeze.

LIGHTHOUSE PRAYER-use a darkened room, and soft music playing. Each person has a flashlight (colored tissue paper covering the light adds variety) and with each prayer that is offered, the light is flipped on and then turned off. This can be done in circle fashion or randomly creating a wild light show!

LITANY PRAYER-create a simple statement that can be said, sung or expressed with actions. Invite individuals to offer petitions and the whole group answers with the response statements such as God is awesome! or Thank you, Jesus!

MERGE PRAYER -(like cars merging onto the highway). Everyone in the group prays silently. As each person finishes at their own pace, they begin to repeat softly, “Thank you, God”. By the end of the prayer, everyone has joined the “flow of traffic” in the common litany.

OREO PRAYER-the filling in the middle does the praying! Ask each person to offer a brief prayer for the person standing to the left and to the right. After the Amen, serve Oreo cookies!

PAPER AIRPLANE PRAYER -ask each person to write a simple prayer petition on a sheet of paper. Form into a shape of an airplane and shoot it across the circle. When each person has a plane in hand, go around the circle and offer the petitions on behalf of each other.

PAPER TOWEL PRAYER -each person is given a roll of paper towels and is asked to write a person's name or a personal prayer concern on each sheet. Re-roll. Each day tear off one sheet and lift up prayers for that particular concern or person.

PARACHUTE PRAYER-use a large sheet or piece of fabric. Participants each hold on to the sheet around the perimeter. Each time a petition is offered, raise the sheet high then lower it slowly. The motion of the sheet reminds us of the Holy Spirit's action in our prayers.

PRAYER POWER

VOLUME ONE



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How many ways to pray????

**How many stars in the sky!!!
Here are some ideas for leading
children and youth in prayer**

[http://www.elca.org/eteam/assessment/
Leading%20Children%20Youth%20in%20Prayer.htm](http://www.elca.org/eteam/assessment/Leading%20Children%20Youth%20in%20Prayer.htm)

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Some thoughts on prayer from Martin Luther...

To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing.

Every Christian who desires to train himself in the spirit of prayer should acquaint himself with the Book of Psalms.

If I should neglect prayer but a single day, I should lose a great deal of the fire of faith.

Simple ways to think about prayer

PRAY ABOUT SOMETHING,

NOT FOR SOMETHING!

Don't tell God how big your problems are...Tell your problems how BIG GOD is!

ACTS-adoration, confession, thanksgiving, supplication

BEGIN WITH SILENCE-prayer begins with silence to allow the Holy Spirit to shape and form our words.

BODY PRAYER-touch your *head* and remember the ways you are close to *God*; *forehead*-for *wisdom*; *mouth*-to speak kindly and *Christ-like*; *heart*-be open-hearted and love generously; *belly*-feel deeply, belly laugh, belly cry and deep compassion; *hands*-service; *legs*-walk in the way of the lord.

CRESCENDO PRAYERS-begin your prayer in a normal tone of voice and get louder and louder until you are shouting with praise, gradually reduce the volume to a whisper.

FOXHOLE PRAYERS-those spontaneous prayers for help when we are in trouble

NAMING GOD-think of all the ways we think of God. Father, gracious Lord, Creator, Christ Jesus, tender Shepherd, heavenly King, Holy Spirit, beautiful Savior.....

PARALLEL PRAYER-while an event or activity is taking place, a parallel prayer effort is held.

Parents may gather for prayer while the youth group is on a retreat or...youth may gather for prayer while the church council is meeting.

PLEASE, SORRY, THANK YOU-an easy way to help young children in their prayer life

PRAYER AS CONVERSATION-prayer is as simple as talking with a close friend.

RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE-don't wait for a "special occasion", as you meet children, youth and adults at church, in the mall, at school, offer a short 10 second prayer. "Dear God, may their day be....." or "O God,needs your strength, comfort, wisdom, etc. right now."

SIGN OF THE CROSS-making the sign of the cross is a powerful witness to our risen Lord. Traditionally, one touches the forehead, the chestbone, the right shoulder, the left shoulder and repeats the words, "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

T.R.I.P.-take a prayer trip by remembering we are called to offer prayers of Thanksgiving, Regret, Intercession and Purpose (what God wants from us)

WHISPER-for those uncomfortable or unaccustomed to prayer... a one word whisper is still a prayer.

WINK PRAYER-often used in restaurants or when others remind us of the presence of God.

Circle prayers

Each person is invited to offer a prayer about....

ABC...-a different letter of the alphabet

ANIMAL OR INSECT- a favorite animal or insect or

to overcome a fear of one.

ANTIPHONAL PRAYERS -the leader begins and participants respond by repeating the same phrase or using other phrases. (The Psalms work well here).

AROUND THE WORLD PRAYER-a different place in the world; can be a favorite vacation spot or a place needing prayers for peace, justice, healing or rebuilding

BLACK ROSE PRAYER- prepare beforehand a cross formed by two boards nailed together with a long nail (sharp end exposed) sticking out of the center. Individuals are each given a square piece of paper(s). About 20 prayers are ideal for the desired effect. Prayer petitions are privately written on each square. Attach the prayers to the cross by piercing the papers to the nail in random fashion (you do not want the corners to line up). Take time for silent meditation and light the edges of the paper with a match and watch them burn. As the paper turns black the edges curl forward forming what looks like a black rose.

BONFIRE PRAYER-each person selects a twig or small piece of wood that is tossed into the fire with a silent or spoken prayer symbolizing our prayers are given in trust up to God.

BUBBLE GUM PRAYER-give each person a colored gum ball and ask them to pray for something represented by the color they chose. Close with a big bubble Amen!

BUILDING BLOCK PRAYER-Use a stack of children's building blocks. Place one block on the table proclaiming Christ as the cornerstone of our faith. Invite each person to add one block as a petition is spoken. The finished structure will look differently each time but always firmly grounded in God's love.

BREAKFAST PRAYER- gather a group at the church or a designated fast food place to start the day off with prayer. What a witness!

CUBE PRAYERS-on a wooden block or small square cardboard box, draw or stamp a different symbol on each of the six sides. Each person takes a turn at