



Care Through Prayer



A church's guide to consistently pray for people year-round



Why Use Text Messaging For Prayer Requests?



Church leaders are increasingly using text messaging to collect prayer requests, leveraging modern technology to foster stronger community connections.



- 90% of text messages are read within the first three minutes of being received and 45% of text messages get a response
- Texting allows congregants to share their prayer requests conveniently and quickly in real-time
- People are more likely to respond to a text asking how you can pray for them because they don't have the vulnerability of being face-to-face
- It increases engagement but also provides a confidential and personal way for individuals to seek spiritual support
- Prayer can open doors to minister and meet needs for people who are struggling or need encouragement
- Churches can reach a broader audience, including those who may not attend services regularly



Bottom line: Asking people how you can pray for them gets them talking to you! You can pray, care for them, and continue to build a relationship with them.





A Real Text In Church Story



“Today I texted a simple, ‘May the fourth be with you! How can I pray for you today?’ I got more than 30 prayer requests and was able to pray on the spot for those people and send them a note that I had done so. The number of people who asked how they could pray for me was amazing. Not only did I get to pray for hurting people in our community, but I was also overwhelmed by their love poured back into me. It’s crazy how just a little message can make people feel so known and cared for.”



- April Buske





Adding Prayer Requests to Your Schedule

Incorporating prayer into your weekly routine isn't anything new. But the idea of texting and replying to everyone at your church about their prayer requests is probably something that's not currently on your schedule.

Here's some things to consider...

Manually texting everyone at your church can be time-consuming and overwhelming.

Avoid the mistake of sending a mass blast message to your whole congregation at once, which can result in an unmanageable flood of replies.

Space out text messages to different segments of your congregation.

Scheduling your messages not only saves time but ensures you follow through and follow up.

So let's dive into a texting strategy that will involve a connection point for prayer every single week of the year.

Here's an example of how you can organize your prayer requests into groups:

First Monday: Elderly and Empty Nesters

Second Monday: Families

Third Monday: College Students

Fourth Monday: Singles and Widowed Individuals

This rotation ensures that everyone in your congregation is asked how you can pray for them at least once a month.

Pro Tip: Make sure to carve out time on Mondays (or whatever day of the week you choose to send prayer request texts) to check your messages and reply.





How to Schedule Prayer Request Texts in Six Steps



With a system like Text In Church, you can schedule all of these text messages ahead of time. Plan for each step to take an hour or less!



Step 1:

Start your free trial of [Text In Church](#)

Step 2:

Schedule text messages for a specific group for the first Monday of each month

Example: Elderly and Empty Nesters

You will schedule a total of 12 texts (one for each month) to get a year's worth of prayer prompts.

Example text message prompt:

Happy Monday, [First Name]! I hope you had a great weekend. How can we be praying for you this week? -Pastor Tim

Step 3:

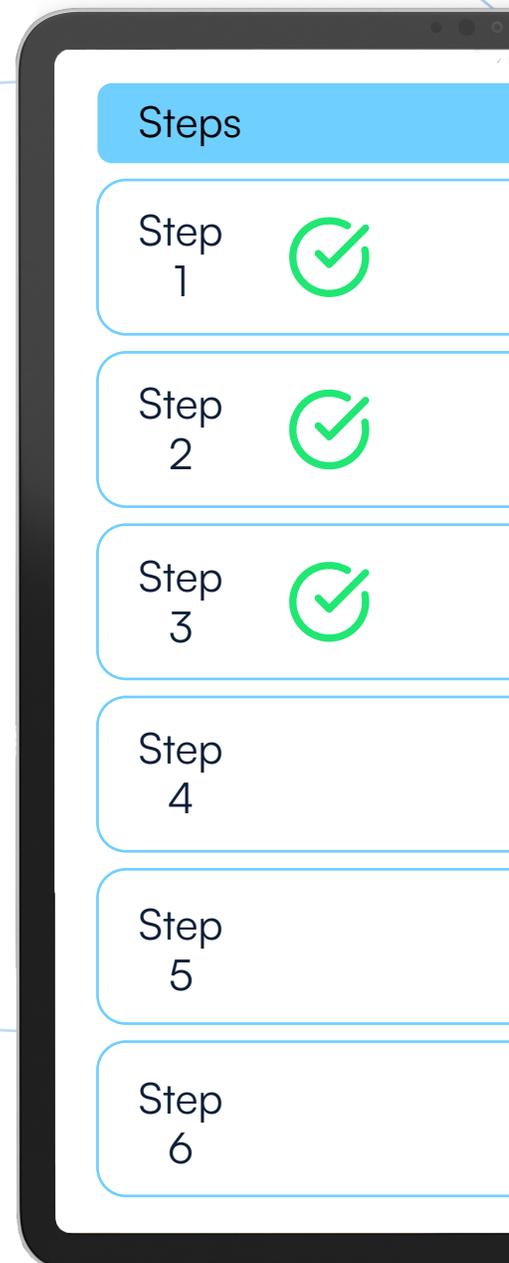
Schedule text messages for another specific group on the second Monday of each month.

Example: Families

You will schedule a total of 12 texts (one for each month) to get a year's worth of prayer prompts.

Example text message prompt:

Hey there, [First Name]. Thinking of you and your family this week. Is there anything specifically we can be praying about for you? - Pastor Lyla





Step 4:

Schedule text messages for another specific group on the third Monday of each month.

Example: College Students

You will schedule a total of 12 texts (one for each month) to get a year's worth of prayer prompts.



Example text message prompt:

Hey [First Name], Pastor Micah here. How are classes going?
Can I be praying about anything for you?

Step 5:

Schedule text messages for another specific group on the fourth Monday of each month.

Example: Singles and Widowed Individuals

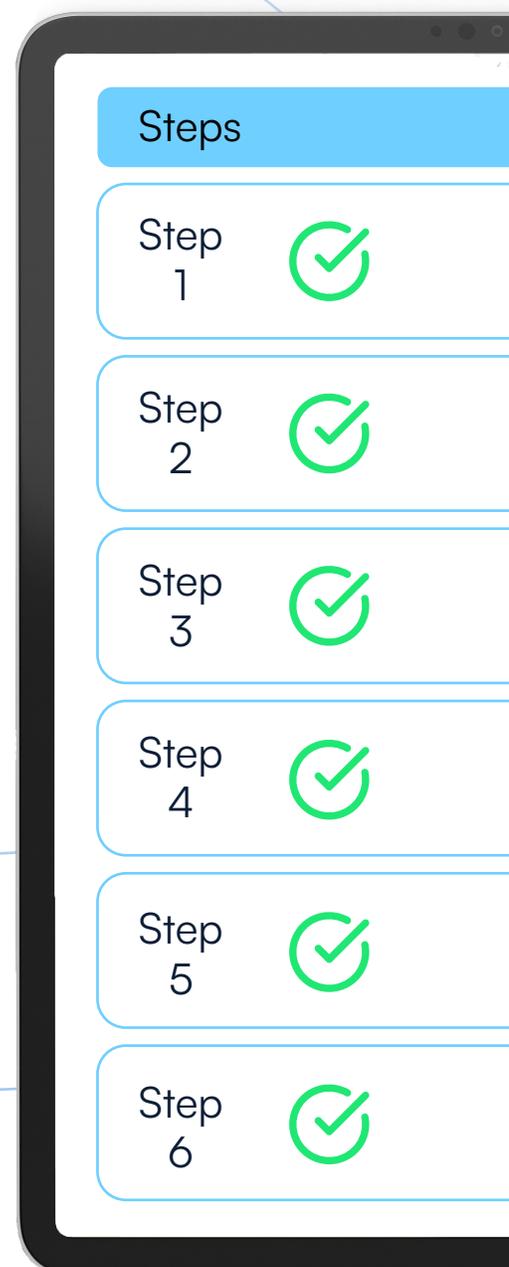
You will schedule a total of 12 texts (one for each month) to get a year's worth of prayer prompts.

Example text message prompt:

Hi [First Name], I'm reaching out to see how I can pray for you this week. Let me know! - Pastor Ben

Step 6:

Schedule recurring reminder messages for yourself each Monday to check your inbox and reply to people that send in prayer requests. People WILL be responding so we want to make sure we are responding to them in a timely manner.





A Real Text In Church Story



“Because of Text In Church, we can CARE for our people, and the greatest example of this is when we text and simply ask if there is anything we can pray with them about, the response is so huge!! Over and over people have commented how they love that we take time for them and they are connected to us.”

- Neill Rowe



Bonus Tips





Additional Ways to Collect Prayer Requests

Use a keyword. You could set up PRAY as a keyword and when they text the keyword they will then be entered into the Prayer group and you would be able to ask them how you can pray for them using an automated reply.

Bonus: With our Tasks feature, this can be assigned to you or another user to follow up with them.

Dedicated phone number. You can set up an additional phone number in your Text In Church account that is dedicated solely to prayer requests. This would be your Prayer Line. Then, you can simply tell your people to text their prayer requests directly to this phone number that you and your prayer team have access to.

QR code. This QR code could be included on your church bulletin, flyers, seatbacks, and bathroom stalls just to name a few areas. This QR code would put them into a prayer group in your Text In Church account.

Pro Tip: Continually remind your congregation how they can send in prayer requests in your welcome speech, announcements, or when you close your Sunday service.





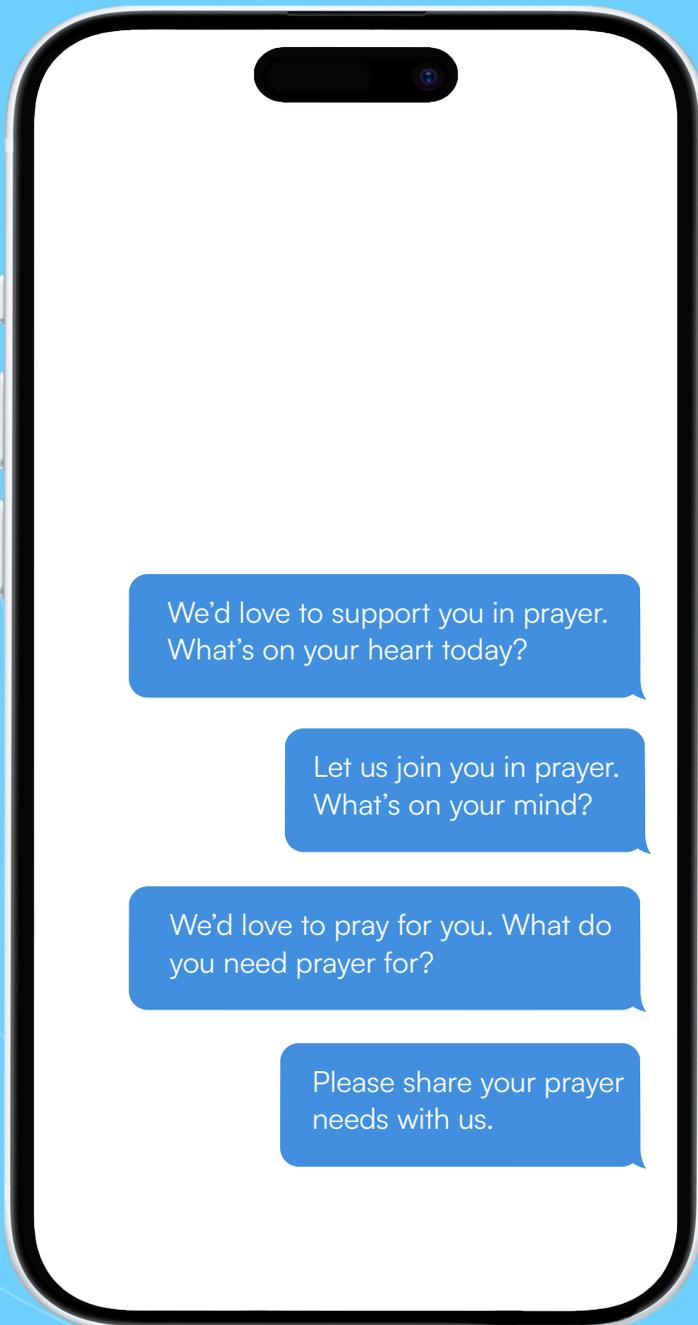
Not Sure What to Say?



SCAN QR CODE
to access templates

We've listed out 52 prayer request texts you can easily copy and paste! Feel free to tweak them to make them your own.

CLICK HERE to access them.
https://textin.church/prayer_templates



FREE FOR 14 DAYS

 **TextInChurch**



Stay connected through prayer with ease. Text In Church helps you schedule monthly personalized prayer requests, keeping your church engaged and cared for.

SIGN UP HERE

<https://textin.church/ctp14>

