

## Prayer Strands – a no-sew project

You will need:

Lightweight, neutral color fabrics, in solids or patterns. Preferably cotton.

red/burgundy, light or dark blue, tans/browns, muted greens.

You may use any color combinations. Two neutral strips with one colorful strip works well.

**Please avoid bright, rainbow-type fabrics.**

Each prayer strand requires three fabric strips.

Please note: Perfection is NOT the goal. The fabric will fray and each prayer strand will be unique – just like us! We are striving for a memorable prayer tool, but it should not be perfect. Please do no sew seams.

### **Directions:**

Cut 2 x 80 inch strips (the 80-inch length is the most important measurement, but it need not be precise!) Eighty inches is pretty long. If needed, you may certainly sew two lengths together.

At 14 inches, gather all fabric and tie a knot. (The goal is to have about 12 inches of fabric for the prayer tassels on each end. The location of this knot will depend on the thickness of your fabric.)

From knot, braid the three strands, striving for a loose, flat look. It does look nice to “fold” the fabric in half as you braid. (You can start the braid, then tie that end to a doorknob or whatever works best. Please share your technique ideas!)

Continue braiding until just 14 inches remain unbraided.

Gather all fabric and tie a knot.

Cut each 12-inch fabric end in half, up to knot, creating six (1-inch) fabric tassels at each end.

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## Packaging

Loosely fold the prayer strand in half. Starting at the folded end, wrap around your hand, forming a coil.

Place one prayer strand into a quart-sized zipper baggie.

Add an information card, which has been printed on card stock and cut into quarters.

Zip the bag to lock it, squeezing out the air, so the bag is as flat as possible.

Put 50 baggies of prayer strands into a box for delivery to Annual Conference. (Lidded boxes, such as the boxes that hold copy paper are best – but we'll take whatever you have!)

Please identify the church group who has assembled the prayer strands so that we can recognize you. (Use a label or permanent marker on the box.)

Send box(es) to Annual Conference May 4, 2017 with your pastor or lay representative.

Note: I have been asked to create an instructional video and will do my best to send it the last week of March. Meanwhile, feel free to experiment!

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Thank you so much for your creative act of worship and service!  
We are both happy to answer any question you may have!  
Layne Miller 717-880-7886 or [layne.miller@aldersgateyork.com](mailto:layne.miller@aldersgateyork.com)  
Kelly Kocher-Ross 570-4410765 [kkocerross@wesleybloom.org](mailto:kkocerross@wesleybloom.org)