

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Knitting Into the Mystery. The making of a prayer shawl is a spiritual practice which embodies our thoughts and prayers for the receiver. We strive to knit God's love, care, and warmth into shawls for those who need them. (Example: those who need healing, for one who grieves, the mother of a new baby, those going on a journey, etc.) The word 'mystery' comes from the Greek word *myein* and means 'to shut our eyes.' The prayer shawl ministry invites us to 'shut our eyes' so we can be open to seeing what happens within ourselves and within an encounter with God. The mystery that unfolds silently in the rhythm of Knit 3, Purl 3, asks us to experience the Divine in ways that may feel unconventional.

Emmanuel's Prayer Shawl Ministry was founded in the fall of 2007. We meet the second Sunday of each month and typically have 6 or 7 knitters present. We also have several who are not able to meet at our scheduled time and lovingly knit at home and contribute shawls. Our group is very close and supportive of one another. No matter how hectic a day it is, it is always calming and uplifting to come together and knit meditatively.

It is extremely rewarding to be able to do God's work by giving away 'wearable prayers'. Even though it is not at all necessary, we have received many calls and notes of appreciation. This ministry is for those with a need, but it blesses all who participate. We welcome anyone who knits or would like to learn to knit. Anyone who knows of someone who would like a prayer shawl, please contact the ministry leader whose name is on the contacts page.