

# Helping Us to Help You

At West Kirby United Reformed Church, we believe that caring for one another is every member’s responsibility. We want pastoral care to be natural and to include everybody. We also recognise, though, that pastoral care needs to be sufficiently organised so that nobody gets left out. For this reason, everyone who becomes a member of West Kirby URC is assigned an elder who will: pray for them; be there for them if they get in touch to talk or pray together; seek to ensure that any members who share with them that they are experiencing difficult times are well supported.

To help your elder to help you, and to help the staff team to understand more about how pastoral care is working overall at West Kirby URC, we would appreciate if you could take a few minutes to complete this survey. Your response will be treated confidentially by the staff team and elders but **if there are any questions you would rather not answer, please feel free to leave them blank**. Please drop completed surveys into the blue drums at the front and back of church. *Thank you.*

## About You

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a church member? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, who is your Elder (if you know)? \_\_\_\_\_

## Friendship & Care at West Kirby URC

Who do you look to at church when you need some pastoral support?

- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friends   | <input type="checkbox"/> Your own Elder          | <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer ministry team | <input type="checkbox"/> Minister          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fellowship Group                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Another Elder           | <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer chain         | <input type="checkbox"/> Reach Counselling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Team I volunteer with                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Fellowship Group leader | <input type="checkbox"/> Pastoral assistant   | <input type="checkbox"/> Church staff      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friends at bookshop, men’s events or other groups | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____            |   |  |

Are you in a West Kirby URC fellowship group / home group?

- No      If no, would you like to join one? \_\_\_\_\_
- Yes      If yes, is that fellowship group a place you would feel able to:
- Share honestly about a difficult situation?
  - Ask for some practical help?
  - Receive prayer support?

Do you have friends at church who you could go to in a time of need?  No       Sort of       Yes

If sort of or yes, could you give a few names below to help us to understand your support network?

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**“God is... an ever-present help” (Psalm 46:1) “Cast all your anxiety on Him because he cares for you” (1 Peter 5:7).**

How does, or could, the church family help you to walk close to God when times are hard?

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## Your Love Language

Different people give and receive love in different ways, and we want to pastorally care for you in the ways that ‘get through’ to you. Gary Chapman writes that “there are five emotional love languages — five ways that people speak and understand emotional love”. These five ways are:

Words of affirmation      Quality time      Receiving gifts      Physical touch      Acts of service

Rank the following statements in order of importance to you, 1 for least and 5 for most.

### I feel loved and cared for when...

- I hear or read affirmative words about me, like when people comment on my work or write to thank me for something specific.  / 5
- I spend quality time with somebody, talking with a friend when we go for a walk for example.  / 5
- I am given thoughtful gifts – the gift need not be expensive, it’s just special that they thought of me.  / 5
- Somebody is physically affectionate towards me, giving me a hug to say ‘welcome’ for example.  / 5
- Somebody helps me in a practical way, like making me a drink – their actions back up their words.  / 5

You can find out more about love languages and take a quiz to find out yours @ [www.5lovelanguages.com](http://www.5lovelanguages.com).

## To help your Elder...

Have you read the new ‘Love One Another’ pastoral care leaflet?

Yes |  No

If you’d like another copy please tick here

The best ways to contact me to ask how I am are:

- Phone call       Text message       In church on a Sunday  
 Arrange a time to meet up       Social media or Messenger apps       Email

True or false... “If I’m feeling low, I find it hard to ask for others’ time or help”

- True       False       Maybe true... sometimes...

Would you be happy for your Elder to contact you if someone else in the pastoral group needs help with...

- A lift e.g. to the doctor’s       A meal e.g. after a new baby       Something else \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like your elder to have contact details for your next of kin, in case you take ill at church for example, please note them here: \_\_\_\_\_

## If you are, or become, unable to attend church due to illness or age...

Would you like someone from church to visit you at home?  Yes |  No

Would you like an Elder or the Minister to bring you communion at home?  Yes |  No