***Descriptions of topics***

***Praying the Word***, *led by Doreen Bennett*

This session will cover exercising our faith by choosing a scripture and praying it back to God. This will increase your faith to receive answers to your prayer and there will be opportunity to be coached on how to practice this type of prayer.

Doreen lives in Rocky Hill, CT and for the past 20 years, she’s served as a small home group leader, equipping the saints for the work of ministry, teaching seminars on how to pray and leading as intercessory prayer leader. She currently serves in the Hartford House of Good Hope as virtual prayer leader.

***ACTS****, led by Joy Niemiera*

This session will utilize the ACTS (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving & Supplication) format. You will be encouraged as you spend time in thoughtful/mindful praise, grow comfortable using scripture to pray including using it in your requests. This method is useful in both personal and corporate prayer.

Joy lives in Townsend, Massachusetts and has been active in the Moms in Prayer International ministry as a leader & area coordinator for the past 22 years. A registered nurse, she is also a mother, wife, grandmother & active prayer warrior. She is also an advocate for people with disabilities in both schools as well as group homes & has taught numerous medical related trainings.

***Going from Duty to Delight***, *led by Dave Hill*

This session will involve learning how to pray so that it is refreshing and a joy rather than a duty, so that you want to pray rather than just feeling you should pray.

Dave is married to Ingrid and they have lived in Brighton, Massachusetts for the pat 32 years. He pastors Abundant Grace Church which meets in Brighton. Dave helped organize and lead the Greater Boston Prayer Summit for pastors and prayer leaders for 17 years.

***Our Prayer Histories****,* *led by Anne Freeman*

To help us understand where we are now with our experience of prayer, we will do a short-written exercise, developing a time line of our prayer histories. We will focus on what we’ve done, what it was like and have a chance to identify areas we want to develop in.

Anne lives in Boston and currently serves as the Coordinator of New England Deaf & Hard of Hearing Ministry under TABCOM (The American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts). She served as prayer coordinator at her home church for four years and helped set up and run the New England Deaf Ministry Prayer Journey, covering all six New England states with annual prayer meetings for 15 years.

***Contemplative Prayer and Lectio Divina***, *led by Lorienne Schwenk*

Lorienne lives in Cambria, CA and worships at St. Benedict’s Episcopal Church in Los Osos where she is involved with liturgy, music, education, pastoral care, the Altar Guild and the Parish Council. She also hosts a podcast using sacred reading practices to engage with the writings of JRR Tolkien. She shares her home with 3 cats and her husband Fred.

Contemplative prayer (also referred to as centering prayer, breath prayer, meditation or listening prayer) is one of the oldest and most esteemed spiritual disciplines taught in spiritual formation. In both practice and purpose, contemplative prayer stands in relationship with what Scripture teaches about prayer. Lorienne will introduce contemplative prayer and how to use scripture to enrich that process.

***Intercession:*** *led by Kathleen Verna*

Kathleen has been married to her husband Ronald for the past 32 years and is mother to their adult son Kenan. They planted Cross Town Church in Boston’s inner city, which is an urban missional congregation. They also established Pure Spring Global Commission and are co-conveners of Communities of Apostolic and Prophetic Practices. She oversees healing ministers through the Boston Healing Rooms.

This session will address the foundations of intercessory prayer, helping us to better understand what it means to “stand in the gap for others. It will help us learn how to be more effective in this type of prayer and how it differs from general supplication.