

CHAPLAINS PLAN OF ACTION

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of North Carolina
2018-2019

PRAYER REMEMBRANCE OUTREACH FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

PRAYER:

• Unit Chaplains open and close meetings with prayer and read a short devotional. Offer prayer at other Auxiliary functions.

(Note: All prayers and devotionals must be non-denominational, meaning not restricted to or associated with a religious denomination.)

Resource: Chaplains Prayer Book available at American Legion Emblem Sales.

- Pray for all leaders on all levels of our Organization, for government leaders, our country, our veterans, our military, and our members in need of prayer.
- Submit prayers, poems or inspirational quotes to the Department Chaplain for the Department President's Prayer Book.
- Put together and present a prayer book to your Unit President.
 (How to Make a Unit Prayer Book and the Rules on Making a Prayer Book are attached.)
- Facebook: If your unit has a Facebook Page, use it to let your members know of those in need of prayer, being ever mindful of *confidentiality*. Prayer requests an also be posted on the American Legion Auxiliary Department of North Carolina Facebook page.
- Contact the Department Chaplain by phone or email to let her know of members or others in need of prayer or a card of encouragement due to illness or condolences to family members.

REMEMBRANCE:

Hold an Annual Memorial Service for your deceased members.

Resource: Unit Handbook



•

• Use the funeral and/or graveside ceremony for a deceased member. Participate in other ways at services for deceased Auxiliary and American Legion Members. For example, you might present a Bible to the family of a deceased member.

Ceremony Resource: Unit Handbook

- Provide POW/MIA recognition.
- Honor Gold Star Mothers in a special way.
- Plan or participate in a Chapel of Four Chaplains Service of Remembrance. Contribute to the Chapel of Four Chaplains.

OUTREACH:

- Reach out to Unit Members struggling with health or in other ways by mailing cards, making phone calls, or visiting when possible.
- Unit Chaplains provide spiritual and emotional guidance to members or their families as needed or requested. This is always done with respect and confidentiality.
- Keep the Department Chaplain informed of other ways you are reaching out with the love of God for your neighbor.
- Attend Chaplain Training when provided.

HOW TO MAKE A UNIT PRAYER BOOK

The Unit Chaplain does not make the Unit Prayer Book alone. It is a collection of prayers, devotional thoughts and poems that mean something special to the Unit members. The Chaplain and members may write their own prayers and devotional thoughts for the book, or copy them from their favorite devotional materials. All members should be asked to give the Unit Chaplain something for the prayer book.

The Chaplain might want to type the material she receives and add pictures. If she so chooses, a great source for the Prayer Book is the church bulletins we get each Sunday at our own church services. Ask members to save these for you so these can be included.

Making a Prayer Book is a delightful job. It is a blessing when you receive beautiful prayers, devotional thoughts and poems from your Auxiliary sisters. Be sure to enjoy every moment you might spend on this special project.

There will be a Unit Prayer Book Competition held at the 2019 American Legion Auxiliary Convention in July 2019.



RULES FOR MAKING A UNIT PRAYER BOOK

- 1. The Book Cover can be in a three-ring binder with the Auxiliary Emblem and be decorated in an appropriate manner.
- 2. Prayers, devotional thoughts and poems are to be collected from members and included in this book.
- 3. Materials can be typed, hand written (*legibly*) or a mixture of both. Pictures can and should be used within this book.
- 4. This book must contain the Pledge of Allegiance and Preamble to the Constitution.
- 5. It must contain a Cover Page with the Chaplains Name, Address, Unit and Division number.
- 6. It must have a Dedication Page in the front.
- 7. A Point System will be used for judging the Unit Prayer Book. Points will be awarded as follows:

Format – 10%

Title Page/Pledge of Allegiance/Preamble – 20%

Contents (Prayers & Devotionals – 30%

Neatness/Grammar – 20%

Member Participation – 20%

For all Units wishing to participate in this competition, the Unit Prayer Books must be submitted to the Department Chaplain on Thursday of the first day of the NC American Legion/Auxiliary Convention held in 2019 in Raleigh, NC.

Awards will be presented during the Department Chaplains Report at Convention. I am excited that Auxiliary Chaplains and Unit Members have this opportunity to share their talents and faith in such a memorable way.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Shirley H. Thompson, Department Chaplain 2978 Laura Road Shelby, N. C. 28150

Home: (704) 600-6075 Mobile: (704) 692-4000

Email: shirleyhthompson@gmail.com