



You and I share something in common: we love teenagers and strongly dislike COVID-19 with a burning passion. Before you go any further in this resource, remember this simple truth: COVID-19 is the bummer, not you. We are truly pioneering in youth ministry right now, connected to the first youth workers who were trying something new in order to reach a lost generation. So, how did the original youth workers learn? Trial and error. Try something; if it works out, implement it. If it doesn't, tweak it, or set it aside to try something new.

This Online Night of Prayer was something new for us. We have done in-person nights of prayer every semester with stations throughout the room with different prompts guiding the students to engage with God in different ways. The whole purpose was to get them alone with God. The only sound was from the soft music we had playing through our Spotify playlist (found below).

We already had a night on the calendar when COVID-19 hit, and at that time, we were still optimistic (perhaps foolishly) that the quarantine would not last through April. When it became obvious that that was not going to be the case, we decided to keep this night on the calendar, but to make it an online experience. We sent care packages to everyone on our roster and proceeded with our online night of prayer.

We prerecorded our service and set it as a premiere on our church's YouTube channel. We had our youth worship leader sing a handful of songs, and in between each song, we put a prompt on the screen that acted as instructions for the students to follow.

Here is what you will find in this resource:

- A sample letter (Word file) that we sent to students.

- An optional care package idea, complete with a list of extra stuff to send to enhance the night (pens, strips of paper, communion elements, etc.).
- Graphics for the prayer prompts for YouTube.
- The same graphics in a sidekick file to use with Zoom.
- Instagram graphics to help promote the night or to use as prayer prompts throughout the week.
- This link to a Spotify playlist that we normally would play.
<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/2J1tiLHPkrf1COuLQCzauL?si=8ppXSCZ-QRCFSxYJ2I0hHw>.
- This link to our Concert of Prayer <https://youtu.be/rKSr-rOHgX0>

This evening worked well for us using a prerecorded service, because we were able to send out the YouTube link through our Remind Account. Note: if you go this route, we recommend using live music, as YouTube will more than likely block your video from being published (or shut down your stream if you go live) if you use music with a copyright on it.

It can also work through Zoom by sharing the screen of the prayer prompts and playing the Spotify playlist.

If you are one of the lucky ones meeting back together, this can still be used in-person. Display the graphics on the screen while either live or pre-recorded music is played. Just make sure they have their items in advance.