



Prayers & Squares International

The Prayer Quilt Ministry – Spring, 2011

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

I don't like to focus too much on numbers. Numbers don't seem important; numbers aren't people. However, you may be interested to hear about this particular number: over 1000 Prayers & Squares chapters. Here is the list of our newest members, including our first in Alaska, and a new country for us, South Korea:

*Chapter 996, Grace Episcopal Church,
Lake Havasu City AZ*

Chapter 997, Shepherd Hands, Nikiski AK

*Chapter 998, First Baptist of Buford,
Buford GA*

*Chapter 999, New Jersey Presbyterian Church,
Carlisle OH*

*Chapter 1000, St. Brendan The Navigator Parish,
Avalon NJ*

*Chapter 1001, Celebration Community Church, Hays
KS*

*Chapter 1002, Westside Church of God, Greeneville
TN*

Chapter 1003, St. Matthias' Church, Dallas TX

*Chapter 1004, First Christian Church (Disciples of
Christ), Charleston SC*

*Chapter 1005, Presbyterian Church of the Lord,
Seoul, South Korea*

Chapter 1006, Ellendale UMC, Ellendale DE

Chapter 1007, Ignite Church, Poway CA

*Chapter 1008, St. John's United Methodist Church,
Lugoff SC*

*Chapter 1009, Urbana United Methodist Church,
Urbana OH*

*Chapter 1010, First United Methodist Church of
West Chicago, West Chicago IL*

*Chapter 1011, Ridgecrest Baptist Church, Madison
MS*

*Chapter 1012, Christ the King Church,
San Diego CA*

*Chapter 1013, Reno Christian Fellowship,
Reno NV*

CHAPTER NEWS:

As always, the stories from our chapters are inspirational and heartwarming. We are glad to share the good news of what chapters are doing:

From Chapter 689 in Augusta, GA

I thought you might like to know that after the Ladies Luncheon, where I recently gave a Prayer Quilt Ministry presentation, a Mother & Daughter from another church were in attendance and asked if we would teach their church how to make a prayer quilt. Of course, we said 'yes'. Today was the day. What a wonderful experience we had with these young Mothers from Kookee Baptist Church – some with sewing experience and others with absolutely none. Our church, Aldersgate United Methodist, became involved with Prayers & Squares through another Augusta church (St. John United Methodist). There has been some interest shown at St. Mark Methodist. This wonderful ministry just keeps on spreading its wings of comfort. Thank you so much for all you do.

Helen Marie Kirby

From Chapter 949 - Cherokee Sound, Abaco, Bahamas

Mrs. Lorraine Sawyer was presented with a Prayer Quilt made especially for her by The Saturday Afternoon Cherokee Ladies Quilting Group, under the direction of Mrs. Joanne Sturup. The lap quilt is only big enough to cover her legs when sitting in a chair, but it was made with love and covered in prayer knots tied by all the members of her church, Epworth Methodist Chapel. The quilting ladies hope that God will Bless the many prayers said for Lorraine and give her comfort and ease her pain.

Our first Prayer Quilt given to Nel Roberts in June of 2010 and the prayers it held have certainly done their job as Nel is still with us. We can only hope that our second Quilt for Lorraine will have a similar effect and she will be with us for a long, long time. May God Bless you and all the Prayer Quilts.

Lee Pinder

From Chapter 828 - Montgomery, Alabama

We have made 30+ black/white twin size quilts for local homeless shelter and 60+ coin quilts for Japan and for an orphanage in Moldova called Stella's House. We have volunteer groups from the US Air War College and local colleges help us as volunteer groups. We have over 38 7th and 8th graders helping last Friday. Awesome!!!! If there is anything we can to help other groups or you, just let me know!

Nikki Butler

***From Chapter 841 - Suncrest UMC
Morgantown, West Virginia***

We are celebrating the beginning of our third year with a special Prayer Quilt Ministry Sunday service. We are doing a power point presentation with those that have received the quilts wrapped in them with music to match the healing prayer theme...we are also doing a power point on the "journey" of a prayer quilt from the decision of what pattern to use up to the recipient wrapped in the quilt. We have asked everyone that can to bring their quilt in fir a special blessing and announcing. So far we have presented 229 quilts, so we hope to have the church full!!! The pin and bag, I have bought for the ladies that are on the Prayer Quilt ministry. We started out with just 17 and now have 55. I will be doing a witness moment during the service and our pastor will have his sermon related to this ministry. This is an absolutely wonderful ministry. We are so blessed to be able to bring peace and comfort to so many with the quilts. I have also heard it said, many times, that tying the threads brings them peace. I know that making the quilts bring me peace. Thank you so much for all you do!!!

Robin Renn

From Chapter 188 - Marysville, WA

This has been a ministry which God has richly blessed in our church and God abundantly keeps our fabric closets filled to the brim, even though we are continually making and giving out quilts. We have 9 ladies that make the quilts and we have given out almost 300 to people all over the world. Our ladies have added another Free Methodist project of making baby quilts for our mission hospital in Rowanda where we send quilts every February. This year, we sent 85 baby quilts, after we had a service where we passed out all 85 quilts to our congregation during both of our morning services and prayed over them and then collected them on the altar. It was a very moving time for the people and they felt much more a part of this outreach after this experience. God is at work and we give Him all the glory!

Carol Reed



REMEMBERING OUR MILITARY

Many chapters have worked diligently sending prayer squares to service members and support personnel stationed overseas.

Mr. Lea Billingsley, a military contractor serving overseas received a prayer square and sent in his thanks.

I received quilt M3986. I am a private military contractor and I along with others here in Afghanistan are very appreciative when we have US civilians showing support to all our efforts here. THANKS so much, may God bless you all.

You good folks like you all are my heroes, spending quality time doing projects such as this and bringing a smile to the heart of guys and gals like me here, the 'sometimes' forgotten private military contractors, thanks so much. Thanks again,

*Mr. Lea'Korey Billingsley
Castalian Spring TN*

Chaplain Herbert Griffin, a church member at HOPE UMC, Chapter 1 received a prayer square while serving overseas in Afghanistan. Soon, many other military personnel were requesting prayer squares. Cheryl Dumas of Chapter 1 (Rancho Bernardo, CA) oversaw the making and sending of over 50 prayer squares to Chaplain Griffin to distribute.



Board member, Corky Kuhlman, Wendy Mathson, Peggy Dunn with Chap 115, Spirit of Joy Lutheran



Wendy gives one of her time-saving tips.

FAITH, FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP WITH SPIRIT OF JOY: CHAPTER 115, RAMONA CA

Board members Wendy Mathson, Corky Kuhlman and Peggy Dunn took a road trip up the hill to Ramona (a 15 min drive) to visit Chapter 115, Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church. Wendy brought a new pattern to teach the group and upon arrival, the machines were set up and the ladies were ready to sew. A fantastic lunch was served making it a time of faith, food and fellowship and getting to know our “neighbors”. We enjoyed sharing ideas and tips of sewing, organization, record keeping. Each individual chapter tailors to their own specific needs but we came away that day with a renewed sense of being linked together through the power of prayer in quilts.



Quilt rack display at Chapter 115, Spirit of Joy Lutheran

Pattern for Prayer Pillow Cover

We received a pattern from Debbie Semple, Chapter 318, Salvation Army—Westminster Corps, London, Ontario.

To access the pattern go to our website, www.prayerquilt.org and look for the link.

Thanks, Debbie!

SIT AND SEW AT ST BART'S: CHAPTER 5, POWAY CA

St. Bartholomew Episcopal Church, Chapter 5, (affectionately known as "St. Bart's"), hosted a sit and sew for their "sister chapter", HOPE UMC, Ch 1 on Saturday, March 26, 2011. The hosts provided lunch and, of course, chocolate! A new pattern was presented and by the end of the day a kaleidoscope of squares was displayed on the board. As always, it is amazing how fabric choices can change the look of a square. A fun day was had by all.



Chapter 5 and Chapter 1, along with other invited guests, gather for a Sit and Sew at St Bart's, Poway CA.

Another Back Saving Tip

In response to the tip given by Chapter 645, Lancaster, CA, to put two tables together, the group at San Carlos Methodist, San Diego, gave us (St. Dunstan's Episcopal, San Diego) the tip to add 12" long, 1" diameter PVC pipe to our table legs. The tables are now at a much more comfortable height for tying quilts. Try it!

Sandia Tuttle

BIG NEWS!!!!!!!

We are currently in the testing stage with a new online Prayers & Squares connection. We have several "beta test" chapters working out the kinks and hope to launch by Fall 2011. We are hoping the new site will lead to better communication between chapters and allow for more current, updated information. We will keep you informed. (Our current website will still be there, and the website address will still be www.prayerquilt.org.)

WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE PATCHES AND FLAT PAT?

Last newsletter we introduced our new ambassadors, Patches and Flat Pat. But where are they now?

Patches is at Chapter 868, St. James Catholic Church, **Petaluma, CA**. She will return to Southern California at the end of May to continue her hand-carried journey.

Flat Pat has been sent to Carla Meade in **Tennessee** and we will follow her journey as she is sent through the mail.

Are you planning an event, or would you just like to host one of our ambassadors for a visit? Email me at newsletter@prayerquilt.org.

