



# Prayers & Squares International



The Prayer Quilt Ministry – Spring, 2012

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

*Thank You for sending in your inspirational stories about the good works of your chapters and about quilt recipients. We sincerely appreciate hearing from you. Keep up the good work and continue sending your stories to: [Newsletter@PrayerQuilt.org](mailto:Newsletter@PrayerQuilt.org).*

*Here is an idea to enrich your next Sit & Sew with quilting music. Check out the website for Cathy Miller, the singing Quilter. She offers music and songs about quilts and quilting. She now has 5 CD's with song titles that include: "The Quilt Teacher's Life", "Done is Better than Perfect", "Shop Hopping", "Frog Stitch" and "You Just Might be a Quilter".*

*As you piece each prayer quilt, may the process bless you with peace.*

Blessings,  
Corky Kuhlman

**\*\*UPDATED INFO ON ORDERING LABELS\*\***  
Prayers & Squares Fabric Labels

Plan ahead if you need to order labels this summer! The company that prints our labels, Cornerstone Graphics, will be closed for the month of July. So be sure to order your labels before June 15 to be sure they can be shipped before July 1st. Otherwise, orders won't be processed, printed or shipped until August.

Did you know you have 3 options for custom quilt labels?

1. Order and pay online with a credit card through PayPal. This is the fastest, most accurate way to place your order!
2. Download the current label order form and mail it in with your check. Please be sure to download the **CURRENT order form**, since prices for fabric and postage are going up.

3. Download a Word file from our website that has our logo and standard information formatted. Type in your chapter's information and print with an ink-jet printer on pre-treated fabric.

How to find the label order page: From the home page at [www.prayerquilt.org](http://www.prayerquilt.org), click on "For Our Members", then "Order Fabric Labels." We also have Lapel Pins and purple vinyl zipper bags with the Prayers & Squares logo.

## **Welcome NEW CHAPTERS!**

My how we have grown! Since the Winter 2012 issue, we have received applications for 18 new chapters, representing 11 states. Texas has added 5 new chapters! We try to include some of the comments written on the application to learn the inspiration for starting a new chapter. Welcome to our new chapters and many blessings as you start your prayer quilt ministry.

**Chapter 1046**  
**Adams Memorial Baptist Church**  
**Jasper, Tx**



*Adams Memorial Baptist Church is a very small congregation with a group of ladies with a heart to "make a difference". I have seen the impact of Prayers & Squares in my son's church in Mont Belvieu, Tx and think this ministry is just what we need to be involved in.*

**Chapter 1047**  
**Englewood United Methodist Church**  
**Englewood FL**

*I was blessed to be part of a similar ministry in upstate New York. Our God appears to be "tapping me on the shoulder" to begin a similar ministry for His Kingdom here in FL... .. We're excited to be part of this prayer centered ministry!*

**Chapter 1048**

**Hillsdale Presbyterian Church  
Hillsdale, KS**

*I originally found out about this wonderful ministry thru the book Fabric of Faith. I help start a chapter at another church (chapter 655). I now attend Hillsdale and was telling people about this wonderful and Special Ministry. The next step was to start a chapter. Everyone is so excited about it.*

**Chapter 1049**

**Pearblossom Community United Methodist Church  
Pearblossom, CA**

*About 3 years ago I was a recipient of a Prayer Quilt from Christ Our Savior United Methodist Church, Chapter 70 in Quartz Hill, CA. I joined their group right after that and have been a member of Prayers & Squares Ministry ever since. Because of the Ministry and having met such a wonderful group of ladies, I will remain as a part of their group, but I have been attending Church at our Pearblossom Community United Methodist Church for over 2 years. Our new Pastor - Glenn Hoskins is familiar with the Prayers & Squares Ministry and we would like to start our own Chapter since there is always a need for our Prayer Quilts. Having received a quilt and knowing all the prayers that went into the making of it, it will always be a comfort to me and I know the comfort the Prayer Quilts have brought to others.*

**Chapter 1050**

**Thornwald Home  
Carlisle, PA**

*The prayers and squares ministry will become part of our "Faith Potpourri" group which meet weekly.*

**Chapter 1051**

**Visitation Parish  
Elmhurst, IL**

*I was a parish nurse in OH and we started a prayer quilt ministry there which is still going strong. We moved to Chicago area to be near our new granddaughter and felt a strong urging that I should approach our pastor about beginning a prayer quilt ministry here. He was most receptive and so we are beginning this ministry at Visitation Parish! Excited!*

**Chapter 1052**

**Pilgrim Lutheran Church  
Chula Vista, CA**

*I have been the church secretary here at Pilgrim for just over 10 years and have wanted to start this ministry for about 2 years. I heard from a couple of our members how blessed they felt when they received a "Prayer Quilt" and just knew that I need to start a prayer quilt ministry.*

**Chapter 1053**

**Guardian Angels Catholic Church  
Santee, CA**

*I first heard of Prayers and Squares from a friend who had received a prayer quilt. I was touched and impressed by the whole idea and concept of a "quilt of prayers." I researched P & S on the internet and through another Church in our area. I am quite enthusiastic and ready to start!!*

**Chapter 1054**

**Smithfield United Methodist Church  
North Richland Hills, Texas**

*We have been making and giving Prayer Quilts for our congregation for several years. The previous contact (Tammy Rice) is no longer active. I would like to become the contact and to receive information about the ministry for our church. Thank you! Laurie*

**Chapter 1055**

**Retired Sisters Quilting & Sewing  
Milwaukee, WI**

*I was a parish nurse in OH and we started a prayer quilt ministry there which is still going strong. We moved to Chicago area to be near our new granddaughter and felt a strong urging that I should approach our pastor about beginning a prayer quilt ministry here. He was most receptive and so we are beginning this ministry at Visitation Parish! Excited!*

**Chapter 1056**

**Sabra United Methodist Church  
Morgantown, VA**

*We are a small church in Morgantown, West Virginia. We came across the prayer quilt at our charge conference held at Suncrest United Methodist Church. Several of those in attendance fell in love with the idea of the quilt ministry and thought what a wonderful idea for our church especially since we have several quilters in attendance. We initially were going to do the idea on our own and then found your website. When the idea was presented to our group - everyone loved the idea. We are excited to get started in our prayer quilt ministry.*

**Chapter 1057**

**Society Baptist Church  
Mocksville, NC**

*Heard from another and we have ladies that love quilts*

**Chapter 1058**

**Asbury United Methodist Church  
Washington, NC**

*We are so excited! This is a ministry that everyone in our congregation can participate in. One where we can reach out to our community and show the power of prayer and God's love. Thank you for this wonderful opportunity.*

**Chapter 1059**

**Waller Baptist Church  
Waller, TX**

*I was part of this ministry at Friendship Baptist Church in Hockley Texas and have changed churches. Waller Baptist did not offer this ministry as of yet and so I ask if I could start it. The Senior Pastor agreed and so here we are asking to join.*

**Chapter 1060**

**First Baptist Church Horseshoe Bend  
Weatherford, TX**

*We are a small country Church With a big Heart. We heard about Prayer & Squares from a Member of another Church in our area and thought it would be something we would like to be a part of.*

**Chapter 1061**

**Mount Zion Baptist Church  
Prarieville, LA**

*I am a long time quilt. Our church is small and wanted to have a project that was not overwhelming for our small group of ladies. They were hesitant at first because they were not quilters, but they quickly came on board. This awesome ministry is a perfect fit. I heard about the ministry from the quilting book, The Giving Quilt.*

**Chapter 1062**

**Temple Church  
Nashville, TN**

*We are an African American church and our group grew out of our church bookstore's book club---we read Yada Yada Prayer Group Book 3 and made friendship quilts. It ignited the desire to bring comfort to those in our congregation who were on the prayer list or who asked for help. I have been quilter for 15 years, but the others needed to learn, so we have been taking classes at a local quilt store for the past year.*

**Chapter 1063****East Paris Baptist Church****Paris, TX**

*I heard about someone receiving a prayer quilt and loved the thought and prayers behind it. A couple of women in the church got together and wanted to start this prayer ministry in our church. We are all relatively new to quilting and this would be new for our church, so any support would be greatly appreciated. We are excited about getting started!*

***Coming Full Circle:*** Below is the story of Marilyn Clements, Secretary on the Board of Directors who had a personal connection with one of our new chapters.

One of the privileges of being the new secretary for Prayers and Squares is that I receive a copy of each of the new Chapter requests. One of the first copies I received happened to be from the Church where I grew up as a child, Pilgrim Lutheran Church, in Chula Vista. I was thrilled and it brought back all those childhood memories of the love and education I received from my church family as a little girl. I asked if I could be the one to meet with Gail, the person beginning the chapter, and see if I could help out my former church family. Joyfully, I took fabric and patterns down to meet with Gail and see how I could help her get started.

Gail was excited to begin the new ministry that she had been working on for two years. She had already purchased many supplies and had some material that she had bought and other material that had been donated. This was all before the organizational meeting. Needless to say, the church has changed a bit since I left there 53 years ago, but some things were still very familiar. What a blessing to return again. After our meeting, I drove by my old home and my two elementary schools just for old time's sake.

I was truly blessed again when Gail asked me to attend the organization meeting a few weeks later. I was able to meet with a fantastic group of women who were very enthusiastic about the new ministry. Volunteers for different needs were found quickly and I can see that the ministry has been blessed by many willing workers.

It always thrills me when I can look back and see God's hand in my life. I agreed to a new role which allowed me to see the membership application that led to my meeting new sisters in Christ dedicated to prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn Clements

***TIPS, TRICKS AND TECHNIQUES***

If you have any easy tricks or tips you use that you would like to share, let us know! We are always looking for ways to make things easier. Here are some of ours. What are yours?

**Porcupine Quill Stiletto:** Terrific for feeding material under the presser foot and it keeps fabric together accurately.

**Eyebrow Shaver:** Can be purchased at drug store inexpensively (\$3-5) and is a great tool to rip the stitches of a seam quickly.

**Cuticle Sticks:** Great when turning corners to push out the fabric and get a nice sharp corner.

**Bumpy, Rubbery Shelf Liner:** Great to put under the ruler to keep ruler from shifting while cutting and is also very good to put under the foot pedal to keep the pedal in place.

**Magnetic Pin Tray:** Can be purchased inexpensively \$4-5. Great for putting pins in as you are sewing and removing the pins. Caution: Keep away from electronic sewing machines.

**Magnetic Wand:** Another tool to keep pins in one place as you are sewing. GREAT for picking up pins that land on the floor.

**Wooden Clothespin:** Take apart and use the flat end as a finger pressing tool.

## **STORIES FROM OUR CHAPTERS**

**From Chapter 754:** *The New Harvest Christian Fellowship in South Africa. Lorna Burness sent in this very heartwarming story. It is well worth the read!*

I thought to share this very touching story of a very pretty 2 1/2 year old little girl called Isabella Kruger. It certainly has touched the heart of all that have heard of Isabella. This is the original e-mail I received about Isabella:

*"On New Year's Eve 31/12/2011 Isabella Kruger (2) of Ellisras in Limpopo very badly burnt. Her dad had lit a braai and the fire lighter gell bottle exploded in his hand. Isabella was playing just a little bit away from her when the flames reached her and burnt her whole body badly. She has 3<sup>rd</sup> degree burns across 80% of her body. Her dad's hands were just as badly burnt. Isabella is currently in ICU at Garden City clinic in Johannesburg." Please keep little Isabella close to your heart and in your prayers. Pray for Isabella's healing of all the burns inside and outside of her body, for her to have relief from pain and suffering, for her flesh to heal quickly, for strength, peace for little Isabella now in intensive care away for so long from her Mom & Dad. Pray too for her parents Anice & Erwin Kruger, for their strength, faith, hope, encouragement they desperately need for little Isabella as well as for themselves. Pray too for the healing of Erwin's hand. Pray that God will bring about a miracle, that will enable Anice & Erwin Kruger to pay for all Isabella's astronomical future medical expenses. May God bless you, hear and answer all your prayers.*

I was shocked to reading that email and immediately contacted Isabella's mom to ask her if she would accept a Prayers & Squares quilt for little Isabella. Of course she agreed it would be wonderful. I had never met nor heard of this young family until the 23/01/2012.

I went to the fabric shop that morning, I told the shop owner about little Isabella and about the quilt that we are going to give her. A young Mom with her toddler, asked me to tell her more about Isabella. After talking with her, I went and found a fabric- sadly not Hello Kitty- but which still looks lovely for her. Quality fabric, turned out quite expensive. I said it was too expensive when this lady with her little toddler insisted that I take 6 meters and that she would pay for it! I thanked her for her kind and generous offer but said I would take just 2 meters max.; it would be ample. She accepted that and paid for the 2 meters.

Then I told the shop owner that I had to get the back for the quilt so he took me to see some lovely fabrics, expensive too. Between us, we chose one that would go with that lovely fabric that the lady had kindly paid for. It so happened that the first 2 meters of the second fabric - for the back of the quilt- had shop soil marks on it. (Nothing that won't go away in a wash)

I asked for just 1 meter, he cut a meter after the shop soil fabric part and gave me all the fabric- clean and shop soil section. I asked again, how much for all of that? He said no charge, it was for Isabella!! I'd also taken cotton to sew and he said that that too was for no charge!

I could not bring myself to cut up the main fabric to make into quilt pieces, it is such a lovely print with the print of quilted Teddy pictures. That mom had donated that fabric especially for Isabella, and the urgency to get it finished for last Sunday, I felt that P&S would understand this unusual P&S quilt.

As soon as the quilt was finished I went back to the fabric shop to show the shop owner what I had made with his donation and what a P&S quilt looked like. He read the prayer request page (that we put up on the quilt table for the knotting) and he said "the Almighty can do wonders"!

My Pastor, Calven Cilliers, went with me to Garden City Hospital here in JHB to take Isabella's P&S quilt to her Mom.

**From Chapter 641:** *St Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church Plano, Texas. Nancy LaVerdure sent in this story and photo of their milestone 1000<sup>th</sup> quilts.*

What a journey of faith our ministry has experienced in the past 5 years! We reached a milestone when we gave out our 1,000<sup>th</sup> quilt on Valentine's Day.

It all started with an article about Prayers & Squares Quilt Ministry in a Dallas newspaper. We were very inspired and knew we wanted to become a part of this organization. Our ministry became a chapter in May, 2007. We were fortunate to be able to assist in the pre-convention held in Texas in 2008. What a great experience it was to attend the convention and be able to pray, laugh, and interact with chapters from numerous states. One of the highlights of the convention was meeting the board members and realize what a dedicated group they are.

For the past 5 years, our group has met weekly for a 5 hour workshop. We also meet monthly for a dinner and meeting which enhances the camaraderie of the ministry members. From the beginning to end, many hands are involved in making the quilts. Members can make their own tops or pre-cut kits are also available to be taken home and sewn. When the completed top has been returned, another member selects the border, binding and backing. The group then pins, quilts, attaches the prayer ties and sew on the label. As many as 7 pair of hands are involved in making each quilt and that is a lot of prayers! We also make 4x4 prayer squares and insert a small wooden cross into each one and these are given with a prayer quilt. The many letters of thanks are testimony to the healing power of these faith based quilts. In addition, our ministry has participated in Project Linus, Quilts Without Borders, Little Dresses for Africa campaign & patriotic prayer squares given to the troops passing through DFW airport.

We feel we have been blessed with a large and active ministry along with numerous donations of supplies. We are reaching out to mentor any group in our area that may need assistance. Please contact us if we can assist you in any way so we can share what God has given us so abundantly.

Blessings,  
Nancy LaVerdure

Chapter 641 Members



### *Thought for the Day:*

Wendy Mathson, Co-Founder of Prayers & Squares shares this with us:

**When faced with a question or discernment in your chapter, ask one question. Which path will promote prayer?**

Our next issue will be out at the end of July 2012.  
Please continue to send us your stories and pictures.  
We love them!