



Prayers & Squares International



The Prayer Quilt Ministry – Summer, 2012

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Happy 20th Birthday, Prayers & Squares!

The first Prayers & Squares quilt recipient, Kody, was covered with prayers in the form of a prayer quilt twenty years ago and in doing so this prayer ministry was started. A small group of quilters combined their strong belief in prayer with their passion for quilting when they made Kody's quilt in vivid primary colors. It did not take long before new chapter communities were formed spreading the growing joy of making quilts to bring comfort to others. Leaders emerged devoting countless hours to setting up and refining the organizational structure and maintaining the international ministry.

At this benchmark of 20 years, it is humbling to imagine the amount of people that have dedicated themselves to the simple and basic intentions of the founders to share prayer through quilts. It is even more humbling to imagine how many millions of prayers are lifted up each year for quilt recipients.

It is with a grateful heart that I say, THANK YOU to each and every person who has shared their time, talents, passion, donations and PRAYERS to grow and support Prayers & Squares.

As we celebrate our birthday, may we continue to share our belief in prayer and our passion for quilting with the world.

Blessings,
Corky Kuhlman



Chapter News



Welcome to our **14 new chapters** that have been added since the last newsletter. We have added 3 chapters from **Georgia**, 2 from **Virginia**, 2 from **Texas**, 2 from **North Carolina** and from **South Dakota, Florida** and **Alabama**. We have also grown internationally adding a chapter from **Ontario, Canada** and a chapter from **Victoria, Australia**.

***Chapter 1064**

Camp Crook United Methodist Church
Camp Crook, SD

We are a small congregation, but we understand the power of Prayer.

***Chapter 1065**

Fairview Baptist Church
Dobson, NC

***Chapter 1066**

Hope Girls
Mocksville, NC

From Corky's conversation with Barbara: I spoke with Barbara today. What an inspiration. They have many quilt and many quilters. The quilts will be blessed at the church then distributed at a summer RV park in the North Carolina mountain at a place called Glendale Springs. They will give out quilts for summer residents as well as travelers with prayer needs.

***Chapter 1067**

Turning Point Ministry, Inc.
Chiefland, FL

We are a small non-denominational church in North Central Florida. Some of our members have read about Prayer Shawls and a member has received one. Her story of the comfort and love she felt has inspired our group to join the ministry. We have chosen the name "Quilted Blessings" for ourselves. We wish to be connected to the national group and to gain support

***Chapter 1068**

Gainesville First United Methodist
Gainesville, GA

Gainesville First UMC is a large (3400 member) congregation in northeast Georgia. We have had a prayer quilt ministry for the past 5 years and hope to continue to grow this ministry as our church continues to grow. Currently we have about 8 very active members in ministry and another 7 or 8 that participate as time and schedules allow. Part of the ministry is creating baby quilts that are given to parents when their infants are baptized. This has become a very meaningful gift to baby, parents, and the congregation. We look forward to being part of Prayers & Squares.

***Chapter 1069**

St. Anthony of Padua
Ontario, Canada

Our Church is located on the shores of Lake Huron. We enjoy the company of four-season travellers. The foundation for our ministry are parishioners who are members of the Kincardine Sunset Quilters' Guild. We became aware of this ministry through the CWL Chapter of St. Mary of the Assumption, Owen Sound, Ontario.

***Chapter 1070**

Our Lady Help of Christians
Wendouree, Victoria, Australia

OLHC is a rural/regional parish in Victoria, Australia. I have been a quilter for over 25 years and have used quilts as a way to comfort and help people along the way. So when I read the book "Fabric of Faith" I felt the Lord said "do this", so I'm doing it, and the parish will just have to come and sew and pray with me!

***Chapter 1071**

New Hope UMC
Locust Grove, GA

New Hope is a very small, rural church with mostly older members.

We have a number of members who are sick or having surgery, so we embrace the idea of the prayer quilts for them. The pastor at another church had received a quilt when he had cancer, and I was there to pray over it. Our pastor's young son broke his hip a couple of years ago, and his grandfather's church sent a quilt for him. There are at least four avid quilters at New Hope, so this seems a fitting ministry. I've purchased three books that tell about the ministry and have patterns, so we are set to begin, and just need labels now.

***Chapter 1072**

Hope Crossings
Jefferson, GA

When I belonged to Berkmar UMC in Lilburn, GA, I started a P&S group at that church. I heard about the group originally from our preacher, who was asst. pastor at Duluth UMC before coming to us. Now I have moved to Jefferson, Ga to Hope Crossings church and mentioned your group. We used Berkmar group for prayer quilt requests but now want to start our own group.

Since we are a small church it would help if we could borrow quilts if necessary from other groups and make ones to replace them. Currently our group consists of 2 members, (Pray for us to grow) I am sure my original group would be glad to help. Has this been done before?

***Chapter 1073**

Elkmont United Methodist
Elkmont, Alabama

Elkmont UMC is working in conjunction with Pettusville UMC in this project. I am the pastor's wife and I love to quilt so I presented the idea to the church ladies and the support was overwhelming. My husband is a cancer survivor, he had a prayer shawl and I know what it meant to him during his treatment. We are excited about this new ministry and would appreciate any help or information in getting us started.

***Chapter 1074**

St. Louis Catholic Church
Alexandria, VA

I first heard of the ministry when my son with special needs received a blanket 4 years ago. I have been searching for a ministry closer to my house in VA. I recently linked with Good Shepherd parish and Lisa got me started here. I look forward to help with blanket patterns and helpful tips on how to keep from getting behind. :) The ministry is a wonderful thing and I am excited to start it at St. Louis.

***Chapter 1075**

First United Methodist Church
Vernon, TX

This is a new ministry for First United Methodist Church, Vernon Tx. I was involved with the chapter at Trinity United Methodist Church in Denver, CO. I have recently moved to Vernon and want to start a similar ministry here. The prayer quilts have been a blessing to make and give and the quilters are the biggest blessing!

***Chapter 1076**

Gethsemane Baptist Church
Boones Mill, VA

We are a very small church (about 25 active members) in a rural area. We are focusing on our prayer lives, and I ran across your site a few months ago. I am an avid quilter, so it immediately clicked that I could help others with my love of quilting, as well as improve my prayer life and that of our church ladies. I particularly like the statement the says the ministry strives to show others the power of prayer. We are looking forward to getting this ministry up and running.

***Chapter 1077**

Fellowship Baptist
Liberty Hill, TX

I helped start a chapter at Crestview Baptist in Georgetown, Tx and now attend Fellowship Baptist. So, another chapter will be started at Fellowship.

No News must be Good News.

We have received no stories or news from our existing chapters so we are making the happy assumption that you are all busy making quilts and offering prayers. Remember, if your chapter has something to share we will be happy to include it in the newsletter. 'BYk g`YhhYf 4 DfUhYfei]'h'cf[



***Prayers & Squares Turns Twenty
1992-2012***

It is time to celebrate the 20th birthday of Prayers & Squares, The Prayer Quilt Ministry which began in 1992 at Hope United Methodist Church in Rancho Bernardo (San Diego) CA. It started with a small group of quilters making a quilt for one very sick little boy. Hope UMC is the home to Chapter 1 and, as of July, 2012, Prayers & Squares, The Prayer Quilt Ministry has 1077 chapters in 12 countries and 49 states (we are still hopeful a chapter will start in Hawaii). The primary focus of this interdenominational organization is prayers through quilts. Thank you to each and every one of you who has contributed to Prayers & Squares throughout the years with your prayers and tying knots, time, talent and donations.

Can you imagine the amount of prayers multiplied over 20 years, through 1077 chapters on each individual quilt or prayer square? The amount of prayers that will be said is beyond what can be counted because prayers will continue to be said over these quilts long after they are presented.

The idea that from a small group of women, working over one quilt for one boy would grow into this loving, worldwide ministry is mind boggling until you realize that this ministry grew through the power of prayer. While the quilts we making are beautiful to the human eye, their real beauty lies in the prayers. Remember, it's not about the quilts, it's about the prayers!

Chapter 1 at Hope United Methodist Church celebrated their 20th anniversary with a two day sit and sew at the church Friday afternoon through Saturday afternoon working on a strip quilt pattern. Quilters stopped working on their projects around 5:00pm on Friday night and celebrated by going out to dinner together for the first time in 20 years. Fifteen Chapter 1 members representing at least 5 local churches were in community together including three of the founders: Wendy Mathson, Cheryl Dumas, and Carolyn Wright. Cheryl humbly told us that when they started they had absolutely no idea that the ministry would grow that way that it has. On Saturday strip quilts were sewn together each with a unique color design patterns within the quilt pattern.



Where in the world are Patches And Flat Pat???????



Our traveling ambassadors, Patches and Flat Pat have been “missing in action”. However, being the sleuth that I am, I have learned locations of where they might be.



Patches: The last we heard from her, she was in **Mocksville, NC** with **Chapter 148 First United Methodist Church**. She then was reported to visit **Chapter 203 St Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Mocksville, NC**. We think she may have moved on to **Chapter 393 Jerusalem Baptist Church, also in Mocksville, NC**.

Flat Pat: She flew in her flat rate package from San Diego to **Charlotte, Tennessee** and spent time with **Chapter 244 Mt Liberty Cumberland Presbyterian Church** and then continued on her journey to **Chapter 16 Brighton First United Methodist Church Brighton MI**

PLEASE REMEMBER TO LET ME KNOW WHEN YOU SEND OR RECEIVE PATCHES OR FLAT PAT SO WE CAN KEEP TRACK OF THEM!

Wendy Mathson, founder of Prayers & Squares and author has the opportunity to teach a quilt class on an Alaskan Cruise in June, 2013. If you are interested in taking a class with Wendy while cruising the high seas, follow this link <http://quiltcampatsea.com/>