



# Getting Started with Prayers & Squares

## Introduction

We are delighted you have decided to become a part of Prayers & Squares, The Prayer Quilt Ministry. We know you will find this ministry a blessing to all who enter in.

## Support from pastor(s)/congregation

Getting the pastoral staff and the congregation firmly behind you is a very important first step in ensuring the success of this ministry.

Present this ministry to the pastor to see if this is the kind of spirit filled ministry he/she could support. Once you have the support of your pastoral staff, present this ministry to your congregation as an opportunity for them to enrich their prayer lives, and a challenge to become more active in prayer. We usually recommend that you introduce the ministry to the congregation by showing a prayer quilt to the whole congregation, telling them about the recipient of the quilt, what prayers the person is asking for, and then extending an invitation to everyone to tie a knot and say a prayer for the recipient.

## Who gets a prayer quilt?

Any person in physical, emotional or spiritual crisis who feels like they can benefit from being “covered in prayer”.

## Receiving Requests

In most cases, someone will request a prayer quilt for another person who is in need of prayer. The requestor is the “sponsor”. In many chapters, the sponsor needs to be a member of the congregation. The sponsor is responsible for ensuring the recipient of the prayer quilt is willing to accept the quilt and the prayers, and will be talking to the recipient about how the congregation may direct their prayer efforts on his/her behalf. The sponsor will also ensure that the quilt gets to the recipient after it is tied. Refer to the Prayers & Squares “Three Commandments”.

You may be wondering where that first request will come from before your congregation is fully familiar with the requesting process. There is most likely someone in your congregation who is in need of prayer, someone experiencing physical, emotional, spiritual or other difficulties. Let that person know about Prayers & Squares and ask them if they would like a prayer quilt. In many instances, once the ministry begins, the first quilt recipient becomes readily apparent.

The process of requesting a prayer quilt for someone is most effective when one person is designated to receive all prayer quilt requests. This will especially reduce confusion within a new chapter.

## Record keeping/reporting

There is no record keeping required by Prayers & Squares. However, we have found it important to keep records within your chapter to track what you’ve accomplished, to be able to envision changes, and to inspire further growth. Sometimes, you just need information that would be otherwise unavailable unless records are maintained.

Many chapters have instituted a numbering system for quilt requests that include both the year of the request as well as the number of the quilt.

Once a year, you’ll be asked to renew your membership. At that time, we would like you to share with us how your chapter is doing, where this ministry has taken your chapter during the previous year, and how Prayers & Squares might help you with any challenges.

And always, we want you to share your amazing stories. They are an inspiration to all of us.