



# Prayers & Squares International



The Prayer Quilt Ministry – January, 2009

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## President's Message:

Happy New Year! We have some great stories to share with you and some regional conference/workshop dates to put on your calendar.

**Melodie England** from **Pasadena, TX**, Chapter 485, sent out invitations to 11 area P&S chapters as well as 5 Methodist Church quilting groups in the area for a Sit-and-Sew, Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>. contact her at ([melodieengland@hotmail.com](mailto:melodieengland@hotmail.com)) .... **Carrie Meth** at Palisades Presbyterian, Chapter 14, **San Diego** is coordinating a Regional Workshop on March 14<sup>th</sup> ([carrie.meth@gmail.com](mailto:carrie.meth@gmail.com))... **Mary Grandgeorge** is looking at a workshop in **Virginia** and the gals in Canada are thinking about another one! You may know that most of our new member funds go to support these regional meetings to encourage the work of this ministry. Let us know if you would like to do a daylong sit-and-sew or a workshop with speakers etc. because we have a great format to give you ideas!



## Wonderful stories abound....

Sunni Winkler from Chapter 787, Vienna VA., has sent us some updates recently. She currently has 3 quilters in her group and they make whole cloth quilts to save time and cost. Their chapter started out on July 7, 2008 and they have given out 38 quilts and now have an inventory of 15. Both Sunni and her pastor feel that all quilts requested should be prayed over on the next Sunday. These last 2 weeks they have prayed over 7 quilts each Sunday! Sunni, your chapter may be tiny but it is mighty! Our prayer for you is that more people are called to help you because your congregation clearly believes in the comfort and healing that the prayers are offering!



*Praying All Ways*

## Grateful for God's Blessings:

This is a note from JoAnn Roth, Chapter 195 in Apopka, Florida. As I remember, they have about 40 quilters in their group...

*I am writing to tell you about our **Benefit (sale)** for our **Ministry**.*

*Early in 2008, while discussing the needs of our ministry our pastor suggested that we have a little sale to benefit our ministry to help cover some of our costs such as batting. Our quilting leadership group discussed this idea and decided to plan for a sale in November 7 months away. Our first thought was that God has truly blessed our ministry and we have had need for nothing. Our needs have been met so why do we need to have a sale. At first I thought we would be showing our doubt that God can and will provide for our needs by having the sale. Pastor McCoy assured me this was not so and that having the sale could broaden our ministry. The decision was made to go ahead with the sale. ALL funds would be dedicated to our ministry. Fabrics we have in our "stash", plus new that the ladies would purchase on their own would be used. We have been the benefactor of several complete fabric collections and our "stash" was just about unmanageable it was so big.*

*We began making quilts, table runners, place mats, baby blankets, etc. My counsel to them was to "decide before" they began work on the quilt if it was a sale quilt or a prayer quilt. I did not want a prayer quilt to be made and then decide to sell it. So we dedicated ourselves to working on our prayer quilts and our prayer quilt ministry sale items. We are nearly at 1,000 quilts given and should reach that mark in January and on March 3 we will celebrate four full years of this ministry. Our requests for quilts are many, sometimes seven in one week. Many of our quilts go to community friends, military and to families and friends in foreign countries as well as our church family. Even with the demand high for our prayer quilts and a sale to prepare for, the ladies never failed to have quilts on the shelf*

*for anyone that needed one. We have never had to ask someone to wait for a quilt.*

*I need to cut this short as I could go on and on. We had our sale in November and hoped to make \$7,000 (that was what we had in priced items) I was praying for \$5,000 but when all was said and done we had over \$10,000 in purchases and just plain offerings for the support of our ministry. Can you believe it? At present we have our prayer quilts, our baby dedication quilts, our prayer squares, our Cancer center Children's quilts and our hospital Chaplin quilts and we are now looking for another. God will provide. I must also tell you that we had tables set up, one for each process of making our quilts, one for each of the following; cutting, sewing, batching, quilting, bindings, ties, and labels. Visitors could come to the tables and see how a quilt is made and ask questions. Many had no idea of the time and work it takes to make a quilt. We also had a display of all of our picture history books. Many pictures of quilts as they are presented along with notes and cards received from the families regarding what the quilt means to them.*

*I have attached a couple of pictures for you. Praise God, He continues to bless this wonderful ministry we thank him everyday for bringing this into our lives. The quilting ladies give God praise every week for just what being a part of this ministry has meant to their personal lives and how it has affected their prayer life.*

*I pray God will bless you and your family and all of the quilt ministries in 2009.*



*The picture above is the room of quilts waiting for pricing. The picture below is the quilts laid out for sale. Wow!*



Thanks for this JoAnn! Very inspirational! If you would like to contact her to get some ideas on how to do this, I am sure she would love to talk to you.

Her email is [kroth2@cfl.rr.com](mailto:kroth2@cfl.rr.com).

We have also done this type of sale (but not this big!!) at my church if you would like ideas. Our goal was to make \$1000 with 60 quilted items and we made \$1650. You might want to try it!

### *Blessings for the New Year*

Here is a prayer from our book of devotionals and Sharyn Craig, who has written many quilt books and is also a member of Chapter 60, El Cajon, CA.

*Heavenly Father, be with us today as we create comfort out of cloth for people in need. May they feel the comfort of our Lord and the prayers of Your people as they receive the quilts of our hands. Guide us in our quest for patterns and fabric that will bring peace to all who both create and receive these quilts. In Your name we pray.*

Be blessed!

– Kathy Cueva, President, Prayers & Squares