



Prayers & Squares International



The Prayer Quilt Ministry – May, 2009

President's Message:

Hooray for the month of May! It feels like life starts to get a little busier right now. We have 8 new chapters that have joined us this month from Florida, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, North Carolina, Kansas, 2 in California and Washington! Michelle Hutton, leader of our newest Chapter # 866 in Florida was a member of Tierra Santa Lutheran, Chapter #4, here in San Diego. She is asking Florida chapters if they know of any good discount fabric stores now that many Wal-Marts are not carrying fabric. Let us know! We also heard from CB Hooper who used to belong to Hope UMC Chapter #1 and is now in Melbourne, Australia! Her chapter will have a booth at a quilt fair to present Prayers & Squares. Good job, CB!

Speaking of Australia...Daniela Stout who owns Cozy Designs and published our book, "The Giving Quilt" just shipped out 80 copies to Australia when a distributor called her and said he needed this "new book" that everyone was asking after. And Joann's Fabrics just started carrying "The Giving Quilt" in their stores throughout the nation! When the Spirit moves-stand back!

Regional conferences are cooking... We will be hearing soon about conferences in Florida, Georgia and Jackson, Mississippi so stay tuned! Have a blessed month! – Kathy Cueva. President

Thank you Notes

Lynn Miller, from Safe Harbor UMC, Chapter # 728 in Moss Point, Mississippi, sent us this wonderful thank you note they received recently from Carla Orr:

Thank you so much for the quilt and certainly the prayers. When I saw those members, young and old, tying the knots and praying, I was really touched, and it meant so much to know that people really do care.

The night I received the quilt, I had sprained my ankle and it was swollen and hurting. Sometimes my dialysis treatments hurt me so bad at night. But I went to sleep with the quilt and said my prayers and my dialysis did not hurt me. When I woke up my ankle was totally healed. I sleep with my quilt every night now and my dialysis has not hurt me at all since.

A Pastor's Thank You to all of you:

I know firsthand the power of the prayer quilt. It is a tangible sign of the intangible healing hope of faith.

In February of 1999, I was told I needed neck surgery to remove the disks between my 5th & 6th and 6th & 7th vertebrae. Due to a cancellation, I found out on a Friday that I would have surgery the next Tuesday. Through nothing less than a miraculous chain of events, on Sunday morning there was a prayer quilt in worship for me from my congregation at Foothills United Methodist Church in La Mesa California.

From the time I entered the hospital my prayer quilt was with me. The rich and warm colors transformed the sterile room. But more than that, the quilt transformed every person that entered. It was unavoidable. The quilt covered me. For the doctors and nurses to get to me, they had to go through the quilt. Again and again I shared the story of the prayer quilt. Each time the sharing brought us into a relationship that was more than procedures and treatment. It tied us to a relationship of healing as one nurse exemplified when she left my room with a wink and a whisper saying, "I'll pray for you too!"

When my older brother Daniel was diagnosed with liver cancer related to Hepatitis C, he too became the recipient of a Foothills prayer quilt. The quilt journeyed with him, wrapped him in healing love, and stayed with him even as he left us. The prayers that were tied to that quilt help keep me tied to him. To hold the quilt now is to hold fast through faith to Daniel's spirit that was as powerful and dynamic as the images of the colors and patterns of his quilt.

I have only one request of you quilters. Never quit.

*In Deep Appreciation,
Rev. John Farley
Lead Pastor
Foothills United Methodist Church
La Mesa, California*

It's not about the quilt! It's all about the prayers!