



Prayers & Squares International



The Prayer Quilt Ministry – September, 2007

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Welcome to September! It is still quite hot here in San Diego, if you can believe it! I always look at this month as the beginning of a new year because of all of the return to school excitement. So in this light, we are going to try something a little different with the newsletter. We are looking at the website and how everyone uses it. One of the things we have found is that the Newsletter and Message Board are very widely read. Last month we talked about updating your chapter info. Please click on the link below if there have been any changes. We are about to send out a broadcast e-mail and don't want you to miss it!

www.prayerquilt.org/infopages/lostcontacts.asp

We are still looking at the Midwest for a conference preferably the first weekend in April, 2008. We need a place that can host 250-300 attendees and 5- 6 workshops at a time. We would be there Friday night and Saturday of that weekend. Please email me if you can host our conference.

(President@prayerquilt.org)

Also, we are hard at work on the new book, The Giving Quilt, which will be filled with 11 patterns designed by Prayers & Squares members. We will unveil the book with Cozy Quilt Designs at the International Quilt Show in Houston this October. I can't wait for you to see the beautiful quilts that are being tested and made! All are lap-sized and just perfect for giving away!



WE LOVE HEARING FROM YOU!

JoAnn Roth, chapter leader at Chapter 195 - *Forest Lake Seventh-day Adventist Church* recently sent us a long and loving update on her very busy chapter. Here is some of what she said:

"Our ministry began in February, 2004 and it has continued to grow and bless many lives. There are so many wonderful stories I could tell you but you would not have room for all of them... We have 30 members in our group with a weekly attendance of 17-20 and sometimes more..."

Our church provides us with a house for our ministry. We make use of the entire house except for one small bedroom which is used for storage by the church. We need this space when all of the ladies are there and especially now as we were donated a Hinterberg Quilting Frame and a used Nolting Hobby Quilter (longarm.) These were direct answers to my prayer as my shoulders were worn out from doing all of the quilting on my home machine.



Our ministry is a teaching ministry. I feel when we 'teach' we can draw ladies into our group that would not come because they don't know how. We rarely piece quilts when we meet as many of our ladies are piecing at home. Before we start our work on Tuesdays we have what we call 'show and tell' This is where the ladies bring in their quilt tops they have made during the week. We discuss color and construction and more.

Seeing one of our quilts presented to an individual during one of our church services is a blessed event. This is where the pastor calls the person forward and he and the person or family or/and friends of the one who is receiving the quilt

pray and tie the last knot in the quilt. Just recently we had a very ill lady give the most moving and touching testimony of her love for Jesus and what the prayer quilt meant to her. As the quilt was taken off the quilt rack and handed to her she immediately wrapped it around her shoulders as she left the platform. She sat with the quilt wrapped around her during the rest of the service.”



Members of the Forest Lake Chapter praying over the quilt.



Prayer Quilt Ministry Display



Chapter 618



Chapter 61 – First Community Church in Columbus, Ohio is led by Barbara Davis. She has a great opportunity for chapters that might like to be in “mission and ministry”. She says:

“I think I mentioned to you that our P&S chapter has made a commitment to create quilts for all of the orphans at the Rafiki Children's Centre in Nairobi, Kenya. We have made about 60 and will be doing another 40 or so, until all of the new children arrive there later this year.

A good friend and volunteer who went with us to Nairobi to be at the orphanage is now in Uganda at another similar facility for very young orphans - many under 3 years old. She wondered if there were other Prayers and Squares chapters who might want to take on a project similar to the one we are doing in Kenya. There are 30 children in two facilities that she is working in. Her name is Loretta Raiford and she has a blog site at rhizogenic.blogspot.com that gives regular updates about her experiences, both in Kenya and now in Uganda.”

Let me know if you would like to get in touch with Barbara. So many opportunities to do His work! Our ministry is only a small part.

Peace and grace to you all,
Kathy Cueva, President
President@prayerquilt.org



Chapter 618 – Kernan Blvd. Baptist Church in Jacksonville, FL sent us a link to some very fun pictures of all of them at their first workshop!

[Check this out!](#)

www.homepage.mac.com/roberson8/PhotoAlbum25.html

ASTRID'S CORNER:

Hi Busy Quilters,

Grandkids are back in school, vacation is over, time to get back to what I love to do... create prayer quilts. Our church has a ministry fair every September to introduce the many opportunities to serve our Lord. This gives our Prayers & Squares Chapter the opportunity to encourage new quilters to join us by offering a beginner's workshop at our first meeting in October. In the past we have used the Rail Fence pattern. It is such a good "learning" quilt. This year I am busy getting another simple pattern ready and will share it with you soon. In the meantime, here is a great idea from **Sylvia Kent from Chapter 413 in San Diego, CA**. She learned about it in a newsgroup: [Quilts & ATCs: Disappearing 9 Patch Tutorial](http://www.quiltsatcs.blogspot.com/2007/04/disappearing-9-patch-tutorial.html) (www.quiltsatcs.blogspot.com/2007/04/disappearing-9-patch-tutorial.html)

It caught my attention immediately... my wheels were spinning... I went to our closet of donations... picked out all the small pieces that have been there for a while and started cutting 5" strips. You can use any size strip but I chose 5" instead of 4½" for a few reasons: The finished size of the quilt using a 3x4 grid... I can always cut leftovers in half for the 2½" scrappy tub... 5" scrappy squares can be used in another idea I am working on. This is really a fun quilt to work on. Thanks, Sylvia.

Editor's note: For step-by-step instructions, download the "Square and a Half" pattern from our website (Member's Only/Pattern Archives.) Nancy Brenan Daniel pioneered this technique in her book "Disappearing Nine-Patch Quilts" published by the American School of Needlework. It's a great little book with even more ideas of how to cut up 9-patch blocks to create new patterns. Ask your local quilt shop to order the book for you!



Terna Ronan from Chapter 598 in Newton, KS sent us a great idea to involve many in prayer:

We have printed the prayer requests for each quilt recipient on business size cards and stacked them

on the quilt for congregation members to take home and continue to pray for the quilt recipient.



As you read in Kathy's newsletter, **JoAnn Roth** sent us lots of great news. I particularly wanted to share her idea for a Prayer Journal. JoAnn writes:

"We keep a Prayer Journal in which every person that has received a quilt has their name written and their prayer request. Members are given the opportunity to add a name of someone to that list before we pray. Members are encouraged to remember our prayer journal in their daily devotions. We can't read off all the names but God surely knows every name written there. We do have a wonderful ministry here. We thank you and the ladies in California for bringing this ministry into existence. We have taken your guidelines and developed our own ministry in what works for us."

It really is important to develop your own prayer quilt ministry, whatever works for you, using the simple "Three Commandments" as your guideline. Remember our motto: **"It's not about the quilt; it's all about the prayers"**.

I am so enjoying hearing from you and thankful for you and all your wonderful ideas.

God Bless,
Astrid

PrayerquiltAstrid@cox.net



Disappearing Nine Patch