

# What is a Prayer Quilt?

Can you touch a prayer? Can you pull it close and feel its comfort? You can if it's part of a prayer quilt. The idea behind these quilts is simple, yet powerful. A heavy thread is used to take stitches through the quilt layers, and the ends are left free to be tied with a square knot. As each knot is tied, a silent prayer is offered for someone who those prayers will bring comfort. What makes each quilt so special is not the pattern, color, or workmanship, but the fact that prayer is symbolically tied into each one. These comforters are a statement of faith and a testimony to our belief in God and the power of prayer.

Prayers & Squares, the Prayer Quilt Ministry, began in 1992, at Hope United Methodist Church in San Diego, California. Since then the ministry has expanded to include chapters in churches of many different denominations across the world. Through Prayers & Squares, thousands of quilts have been distributed, each a special gift of love.

Westminster formed a prayer quilting group two years ago making pocket prayer quilts, which is an ongoing ministry. This past fall, we joined the Prayers & Squares interfaith ministry. We have now begun the lap quilt prayer ministry. We have been fortunate to receive lovely donations of fabric and recently worked in the This and That shop to help defray cost of batting and other quilting supplies.

How can you help? Come join us once a month on Saturday morning (watch for dates in the bulletin and Progress) to match fabric, measure, cut, sew, and add the knot tying threads. After the quilts are dedicated, your prayers will be greatly appreciated as you tie the knots.

Three things to remember regarding prayer quilts:

1. Prayers & Squares motto: "It's not about the quilt, it's all about the prayers." The goal is to encourage and involve as many people as possible to participate in the prayer effort, not merely to make and give away quilts.
2. Please receive permission to give a quilt as a gift of prayer, either from the intended recipient or, in the case of a child, from the parents.
3. No payment is accepted for a quilt. It cannot be sold — it is a gift.

For additional information, please contact Mary Wheeler—559-940-7312 or [mbw13@att.net](mailto:mbw13@att.net).

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## Prayer Quilt Request Form



\*Quilt number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of request: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of recipient \_\_\_\_\_

Requested by (sponsor) \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's relationship to recipient \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor's phone number \_\_\_\_\_

When is quilt needed? \_\_\_\_\_ Date quilt tied \_\_\_\_\_

Situation/reason for quilt \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Prayers requested for \_\_\_\_\_

Recipient's colors choices/other preferences \_\_\_\_\_

Quilt selected \_\_\_\_\_ Made by \_\_\_\_\_

\*Using a two-digit number followed by a dash and then chronological numbers work well (i.e. 05-22 = 22nd quilt from 2005).

\*\*Please be sure that the recipient has been asked and is ready to accept a prayer quilt, and the prayers requested are those of the recipient.