### HOW CAN YOU BECOME PART OF THIS MINISTRY?

Whether you want to become a creator of shawls or just want to support this ministry, you are welcome! Contact the office at 724-238-2627 for more information.

Donations to assist with the purchase of yarn are always welcome! Make checks payable to Heritage Methodist Church (earmarked Prayer Shawl Ministry) and mail to:

Heritage Methodist Church 107 S. Market St. Ligonier PA 15658

For more information on the Prayer Shawl Ministry, go to <a href="http://www.shawlministry.com">http://www.shawlministry.com</a>

## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



Heritage Methodist Church 107 S. Market St. Ligonier PA 15658 724-238-2627

www.ligonierheritagemc.org office@ligonierheritagemc.org

#### How We Began

The prayer shawl ministry began in our church some years ago, with several "Circle of Ruth" members. including Louise Wagner, Gina Ziegenfus and Judy Hoffer, and others, knitting shawls for friends that through were going cancer treatments and young pregnant The ministry grew and mothers. many Heritage friends and family knitted and crocheted individually and as a group, giving the finished shawls to those in need.

To date, approximately 60-70 shawls have been prayerfully given, including to an infant that had been severely burned.

Those who have been doing this would like to make it more known to the church and invite others who would like to join in this ministry. The experienced knitters/crocheters are always willing to assist those who are beginners, or who are re-learning the craft.



# What is the Prayer Shawl ministry?

Prayerful ministry and spiritual practice is what happens when you combine compassion and the love of knitting and crocheting. You can reach out to those in need of comfort and solace, as well as in celebration and joy. Many blessings are prayed into every shawl."

Each Prayer Shawl session includes prayer, special readings, meditation, and lots of sharing in the form of laughter (and some tears). Members remember in prayer those who are facing adversity, as well as those who are celebrating happy occasions.

Prayer Shawls are distributed to church members, as well as friends and family near and far. Special prayers are said as the recipients are wrapped in the Prayer Shawl.



#### KNIT. CROCHET. PRAY.

# Blessing of the Shawls

Each Prayer Shawl is blessed before it is given to its recipient. In most cases, this is the Prayer that is offered:

May God's grace be upon this shawl...
warming, comforting, enfolding and embracing.
May this mantle be a safe haven...
a sacred place of security and well-being...
sustaining and embracing in good times
as well as difficult times.
May the one who receives this shawl be cradled in hope, kept in joy, graced with peace, and wrapped in love.

(Prayer by Janet Bristow)

