

The Prayer Shawl Ministry of Independence First United Methodist Church is made up of caring volunteers who knit and crochet shawls with love and prayers in their hearts and in their hands.

Completed shawls are given to those who are in need of comfort.

For more information, please contact Donice Heriford at (816) 373-5325



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If you would like to help this ministry, monetary donations or gift cards for Hobby Lobby, JoAnn Fabrics or other yarn supply shops would be appreciated.

You may drop your donations in the offering plate at a worship service or deliver to the church office.



The Prayer Shawl Ministry of Independence First United Methodist Church combines knitting, crocheting and praying, as volunteers make beautiful shawls with love and care.

This simple act of knitting allows them to witness God's mysterious love in a very tangible, concrete form.

# Prayer Shawl Ministry

[www.shawlministry.com](http://www.shawlministry.com)



*"You created every part of me, knitting me in my mother's womb.*

*For such handiwork, I praise you. Awesome this great wonder!"*

*Psalm 139:13-14*



## About the Shawls...

In 1998, Janet Bristow and Victoria Galo, two graduates of the 1997 Women's Leadership Institute at The Hartford Seminary in Hartford, Connecticut gave birth to a ministry as a result of their experience in this program of applied Feminist Spirituality under the direction of Professor Miriam Therese Winter, MMS.

Care and the love of knitting (and crochet) have been combined into a prayerful ministry that reaches out to those in need of comfort and solace. Many blessings are knitted into every shawl. The knitter begins each shawl with prayers for the recipient.

Prayers are continued throughout the creation of the shawl. When the shawl is completed, it is offered prayers by members of the church before being sent along it's way.

As this gift has been sent along some recipients have continued the kindness by making one themselves and passing it on to someone in need.

Thus, the blessing is rippled from person to person, with both the giver and receiver feeling the unconditional embrace of a sheltering, mothering God!

Besides knit and crochet; the shawls can be woven, sewn, quilted, machine knitted, etc.



**Shawl Ministry Website:**  
[www.shawlministry.com](http://www.shawlministry.com)

*Shawls...made for centuries  
universal and embracing,  
symbolic of an inclusive  
unconditionally loving, God.*



*They wrap, enfold,  
comfort,  
cover, give solace,  
mother, hug,  
shelter and beautify.*

*Those who have received these shawls  
have been uplifted and affirmed,  
as if given wings  
to fly above their troubles..."*

Janet Bristow - 1998  
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