

**Remarks made by Richard Thayer, Chaplain, Ingleside at King Farm,
during the 2014 Peace Certification Ceremony**

Welcome, honored guests, dear colleagues, and amazing Inglesiders all, to an auspicious occasion in the life of IKF.

After –

- Celebrating our Pond-side peace picnic party well over a year ago
- Accepting the invitation and challenge to become a Certified Peace Community of the Mattie JT Stepanek Foundation
- Acquiring a complete library of Mattie's books to add to our own library here at IKF
- Travelling to Mattie's Park for inspiration
- Constituting a Sheet—a literal bed sheet, flat, not fitted, atop a table at our pond side peace picnic party—on which you wrote your many proposals for the IKF peace certification project
- Considering, with our Spiritual Life committee and members of our B&G comm and with the help of other residents, which proposals to pursue
- Commuting all across the region, for the gathering and preparing of various quilting materials
- Creating the quilt blocks themselves—something close to a dozen dozen panels were created
- Collaborating with our IKF artists to select how best to aesthetically arrange our panels into quilts by spreading all of the panels all across our chapel floor—which was the one and only time all of the panels were side by side in one place at one time, offering a unique look of how our Peace Quilt might have looked as a single quilt—rather like a banquet hall sized Persian rug if Persian rugs were made by the Amish
- Assembling the peace quilts in a marathon of pinning and stitching in the IKF activity room and elsewhere, including several of your homes and Colleen's dining room table
- Shuttling and Quilting the unfinished layers of fabric into completed and labeled products of our community's visions and convictions regarding peace, and,
- Closing the circle, back to where we began and doing what IKF does very well indeed; after all of these we are...

...celebrating again—and this day we celebrate not a vision but a realization; this day we celebrate the conviction, a child's conviction, and an honorable human aspiration, in spite of history's endless stream of evidence to the contrary, that **Peace Is Possible**, through the collective willed creativity of friends, and friends of friends, and outright strangers, all living a quality of life, a quality of spirit, that Mattie's short years and our many, long years manifest this day, and every day, as the spirit of IKF.

So, friends, and strangers who are now friends, all here gathered, if you were engaged in any one of the many and varied steps of this peace project for our certification, please raise your hand.

Now take that same hand to shake the hand of someone near you whom you may or may not know, and wish them peace.