On my bed is a patchwork quilt my grandmother made for me. She had 18 children and 63 grandchildren, and before she died she managed to make a quilt for each of her grandchildren. In a very real sense, it was her legacy.

I've thought a great deal about that quilt recently. Maybe it was because my Uncle Jim died; he was the last of my mother's siblings. It seems to me that life is a lot like a quilt and that we spend our lives trying to put the pieces together.

It occurred to me that mission is like a quilt, too. Mission brings together the fabrics of people's lives; it gathers together the pieces that eventually make a whole. A quilt's pieces come from old clothing: from remnants or bolts of fabric that have not yet taken form. And the Scriptures say we are a "remnant" people.

And not only is mission like a quilt; it is also like the act of quilting. People who are involved in mission stitch together the pieces gathered. We look for ways to make sense of things that, in themselves, don't always make sense. We gather together the pieces of a history and tradition that can be said to have endured the breaking of many "threads." We use the names of our founding congregations and their individual members, those who have gone before us, as the thread that weaves the pieces together. We proudly tell the stories of the giants of our congregations, the living and the dead. We know that if we are willing to stick with it long enough—if we are willing to see the whole emerging from the separate pieces of "fabric"—the pieces will begin to form a pattern: a pattern for our lives.

Like most quilting bees,
Integrity Hospital Company is unique.
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Integrity Hospital Company is determined.
We guide underperforming and distressed hospitals through:
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We collaborate with the governing board, medical staff and senior management to achieve immediate results.

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