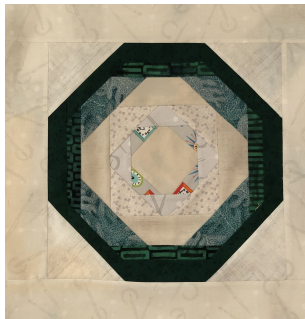


MPQG BOM December: 'Happy Xmas (War is Over)'

This song came about after more than two years of peace activism by John Lennon and his wife Yoko Ono. In 1969 John and Yoko rented billboard spaces in 12 major cities around the world, for the display of black-and-white posters that declared "WAR IS OVER! If You Want It – Happy Christmas from John & Yoko". Later, Lennon came up with the song as a way of continuing the themes of social unity and peaceful change, while attempting to convey optimism and avoiding the sentimentality he felt often characterised Christmas music. Have a listen to set the tone for your December block.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p8hdZVoLHrk>

In a normal year, the holidays are celebrated in many different ways in our community but this year many of us will be unable to experience these celebrations as we normally do. We'll miss the family gatherings and the normalcy of a joyful season. So let's make a joyful block! Since we celebrate in different ways, I'm including a few options this month. *Remember that you can always design your own block*, either 18 ½ or 12 ½ inches unfinished; 18 or 12 inches finished.



Option 1: Pineapple Block wreath

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l43hkvTvjUI>

Or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ju6t9Fp9Uo>

Use either of these tutorials to make a wreath, with plenty of green fabric in the middle.

The first has a free downloadable pattern and the second uses a fun “cheater” style. Just stop adding on when you reach the desired size.



Option 2: Wonky Christmas Trees

Many of you have made wonky Christmas trees but I haven't! And I feel that wonky is so appropriate for 2020. If you agree, this tutorial by Leah Day is lots of fun. Make a bunch of trees and use the extras for a table runner, perhaps.

[How to Make Wonky Christmas Tree Quilt Blocks - Easy Quilting Tutorial with Leah Day](#)

Option 3: Poinsettia

You might feel flowery and like this Poinsettia pattern with lots of negative space is simple and elegant.

<https://modafabrics.com/2019/12/december-24-poinsettia.html>

