

F A L L 2 0 1 7



Sew Much Love

"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40



From the Director

To God be the glory; great things he has done!

From eight volunteers in 1998, Threads of Love SA has grown to about 500 volunteers. The volunteers are in 20 satellites in and around San Antonio, from all over Texas and across the nation. We are blessed.

We have just celebrated our 19th birthday and look forward to many years ahead.

Joe and I wish you a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas!

Liz

Thank You Jan!

Jan Mobley, a TOL board member, is very unique. Jan is the Production Manger on Tuesdays at SARAH'S Workshop; on Wednesdays she does much of the shopping for Threads of Love; and is sewing and preparing for the Bulverde Satellite she has led on Thursdays for four years. Jan is very involved with her family, overseeing her mother's affairs and visiting with her during the week. Thank you Jan for your continued dedication to Threads of Love!



Joe and Liz Page

Meet Our Satellites

Meet some of our Sarah Chapter satellites and learn about the people and projects that make each group special.

Community Bible Church

“For Heaven’s Sake” at Community Bible Church is one of the newest, fastest growing satellites. Linda Coward, a flight attendant with Southwest Airlines, is the leader of 25 enthusiastic volunteers, both from her church and the neighborhood. Meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month from 9:30 – 2:00 PM. Volunteers make quilts, memory boxes, burial gowns plus knitted and crocheted items. A unique feature of the CBC satellite is that this group has several male members. Jerry, Linda’s husband, describes himself as the “pack mule” that carries everything. All are welcome!

Contact Linda Coward at 210 -268-4351.

Bulverde

The Bulverde satellite meets every Thursday from 9:30-3:00 PM at the Clubhouse at the 281 RV Park. Bob and Dorothy Park set up the facility and start the coffee. All 25 active members are “diligent, hardworking, practice teamwork, are fun-loving, exhibit Christianity and are welcoming,” said Jan Mobley, satellite leader. The youngest member is seven who works at home with her grandmother, up to 98 years young. Thelma, 98, and Zelma, 91, both celebrate their birthday on January 1st.

Contact Jan Mobley at 210-325-4949.



Linda and Jerry Coward



Jan Mobley and her mother, Thelma

NuStar

Dawn Wiley is the leader of the NuStar satellite numbering 50 volunteers on I10 West. Members meet once a month at lunchtime to learn to crochet or knit and then drop off completed items at her desk. Their unique feature is the wide variety of ages and stages of the volunteers, most of whom are NuStar employees with a few family and friends joining them. They participated in our newest project this year making over 100 Christmas preemie covers for a Christmas morning surprise for the parents. Members are in-house.



Dawn shares the Christmas preemie covers with Phyllis at TOL

St. Paul Lutheran Church

St. Paul Lutheran Church is affectionately known as the Red Roof Church on Hwy 281. It is unique in that Darlene Griffith, the assistant leader, leads the meetings on Tuesdays and Janice Walker, the leader, leads the meetings on Wednesdays. Both groups meet from 9:00 -12:00 PM. The 18 volunteers are mainly church members but all are welcome. The satellite meets in a house on the church property. They, like other satellites, are excited to make new Threads of Love items as needed. They have wonderful husbands that support them and their work. Contact Janice Walker at 210-508-8847.



Satellite members from St. Paul's

Lord of Life Lutheran Church - Kirby

Eight years ago Julie Scheper started a Threads of Love satellite at Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Kirby, Texas. Julie has had two faithful friends who have made many items. They all do their work at home and bring them to church on Sundays. Julie's husband, Elmer, has been a faithful supporter and is always there to help her. A unique feature of their satellite is that their items are placed on the Communion rail and the pastor blesses the items before they are delivered to TOL. Members are in-house.



Julie and Elmer Scheper



St. Thomas Episcopal Church

On the first Monday of the month the satellite at St. Thomas Episcopal Church meets at lunchtime for fellowship, "show and tell" and then turn in their items. Mannes Bumstead, who poured her heart and soul into this group, started the satellite. Carol Keith and Louise Miner now faithfully carry on the satellite. St. Thomas is one of the first San Antonio satellites of TOL. The volunteers are primarily church members but all are welcome.

Contact Louise Miner at 210-497-4281.



Satellite members from St. Thomas

Meet more satellites in our next newsletter!





TOL Volunteers Create Handcrafted Items

So often members are asked what we make at Threads of Love. Currently, more than 20 items are handcrafted for babies and families in need. Over the next several issues of our newsletter we will highlight items that are made at TOL and why they are so important to our families.

Caskets – Paul Schmoker has handcrafted more than 300 caskets for financially challenged families in need of a dignified way to bury their child. Each casket is beautifully lined with fabric from wedding dresses donated to TOL. There is no fee for the casket.

Memory Boxes – Memory boxes are created for parents who have lost a baby. Each unique box contains scripture, a small crocheted baby hat and booties, a CD narrated by Max Lucado, a cross, Forget-Me-Not flower seeds, a crocheted bookmark, a small bag for a lock of hair and a small handmade teddy bear. The purpose of the box is to celebrate the life of the baby, no matter how short it was, and is intended to go home with the mother when she leaves the hospital.

Isolette Covers – Isolette covers are important to the development of premature infants. The 36 by 42 inch handcrafted quilts minimize the impact of heat, light and sound to the isolette. The undisturbed sleep helps to promote neurological development in the babies. The handmade quilts are made with lightweight batting and bright, cheerfully colored fabrics. Parents and the nurses share that the quilts brighten up the NICU. And when the babies go home, the isolette covers go home as the baby's first quilt.



Remarkable Rena

Rena Mimms is another unsung hero at Threads of Love. For the past ten years Rena has cut fleece for the most requested item at TOL – our positioning aids. She cuts the fleece for both the large and small positioning aids at her home and frequently delivers the cut pieces to our door. Thank you Rena!

Thank you...

Many thanks to Mary and Judy Leatherwood for working behind the scenes at TOL to create beautiful cards and Christmas stockings for the upcoming holiday season!

A huge **Thank You** also goes to Valero for their recent grant award to Threads of Love. Debbie Chin and Bryan Biediger, co-chairs of the Valero satellite and authors of the grant proposal, graciously accepted the award on behalf of TOL.



Mary and Judy Leatherwood work on Christmas stockings



2017 Holiday Dates

November

23 – Thanksgiving (closed)



December



12 – Christmas Potluck, 12:00 – 1:30 PM

21 – All Christmas Pack – Everyone invited, 9:30 AM – bring a sack lunch, dessert provided.

25 – 1/1 Closed

January

2 – Volunteering resumes



2018 TOL

It's official! Mark your calendars and save the date, **April 25-27, 2018, for the next TOL Conference.** The conference will be in Greenwell Springs, Louisiana (located just outside Baton Rouge). We will meet at the Greenwell Springs Baptist Church, 19421 Greenwell Springs Road. Exchanging ideas, learning, sharing and getting to know others in the TOL organization is a real encouragement as we minister to the babies and their families. Hotel information will be forthcoming.



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