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The Homesteader



A Publication of Homestead Presbytery

May 22, 2012 Issue

Dear Kris

Welcome to the The Homesteader!

Please share this with other members of your congregation - You are welcome to use it as a Sunday bulletin insert, forward as an email, print copies OR include all or part of it in your own church newsletter.

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FRIENDS SEW "LITTLE DRESSES FOR AFRICA"



Auburn First Presbyterian Church is participating in this nondenominational Christian mission that was founded by Rachel O'Neil to provide simple dresses for orphans and school children in Africa. At least 560,000 dresses have been distributed to 31 countries in Africa. They also have sent dresses to countries in crisis, when requested, such as Honduras, Guatemala, Philippines, Cambodia, Mexico and thousands to Haiti. In addition they have also sent dresses to children in need right here

in the United States, in the Appalachian Mountains and South Dakota.

Commercially produced clothing is not acceptable, as customs regulations for those items make import fees prohibitive. People from all over the United States, as well as Australia, Canada and the UK, join together to make little dresses out of simple patterns. Some sew some donate-some go to Africa.

"Friends in Fellowship" is the women's organization of Auburn's church, comprised of about ten regular members and guests from time to time. They meet for a brown bag supper, fellowship and bible study once a month at the Church Fellowship hall. They were looking for a worthwhile project when they heard Little Dresses For Africa's (LDFA) mission statement - "To plant in the hearts of little girls that they're worthy!" The project was explained to the congregation during several Worship Services and gained the support of many. "Friends" goal is to send at least 50 dresses to Brownstown MI where they arrange for distribution by mission teams or mailing them. Sewing nights bring the group together for a common mission as well as fellowship but others in the Church have made dresses at home to donate or have donated supplies. The patterns are very simple and can be made with a yard of material, elastic and bias-tape, plus any decorative touches the sewer might add! One of LDFA's major needs is the vacuum space bags that they pack the dresses in for shipping - they need the small and medium sizes for easy distribution. Boxes cost approximately \$40 to send approximately 100 dresses to mission teams to distribute when they travel. Boxes cost approximately \$130 to ship internationally. It is through generous donations that Little Dresses for Africa



Message

[Homestead Presbyterian Women Reading List 2012-2013](#)

Synod School 2012

Register now
"Singing the Lord's Song in a Strange Land."
Annual midsummer ministry of the Synod of Lakes and Prairies
July 22-27

Buena Vista University
Storm Lake, Iowa

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is able to pay for the supplies and shipping of the little dresses to Africa and other countries.

Anyone interested in donating vacuum bags or make a donation for shipping may send donations to the non-profit organization Little Dresses For Africa at 24614 Curtis Drive, Brownstown MI 48134 or send to First Presbyterian Church, 1322 19th Street, Auburn NE 68305 and they will forward on. Checks should note what the donation is for i.e. shipping fees for LDFA. Contact persons are Betty Filbrandt (402-4144-0264) or Ruth Ann Wakelin (402-856-2505)

Closing Headline

Tell us what's going on in the life of your congregation -
Church news, event promotion, mission articles and photos are all welcome!
Please submit articles to krisp@homesteadpres.org
or mail to 1135 Eastridge Road, Lincoln, NE 68510

Contact Information

Congregational Resource Coordinator, Kris Peterson

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