



LOCAL

Sewing ministries make life better for others. A3

assembly line that turns out countless numbers of items each year.

The Knotters make quilts and donate them to organizations that help people.

The Quilters raise money to support the Knotters and community organizations such as the fire company and local food bank by accepting donations on quilts that they make for people.

Many of the Quilters also belong to the Knotters.

"We're a Christian outreach," said Nancy Schrock, coordinator of the Knotters and a member of Holy Trinity.

"The Knotters last year made over 900 items," she said, adding that their goods included lap robes, neck pillows, wheelchair and walker caddies, prayer shawls and cancer caps.

The Knotters send the items to numerous places including Somerset Oncology, nursing and veterans homes, Lutheran World Relief, Red Cross and Ronald McDonald House in Morgantown, West Virginia, she said.

"We do it for the good Lord," she said about why the Knotters and Quilters volunteer their time. "He's telling us to take care of his people - the poor, the sick and the afflicted."

She said there are a couple of women who cannot come to their sessions so they quilt or knot at home.

The volunteers range in age from 30 to 93 and come from various churches and as far away as Meyersdale.

She said they operate the two organizations entirely on donations.

"God provides," she said.

"It's a wonderful ministry, and we all have a good time."

Carol Leydig, a member of the Quilters and Knotters, said all the women enjoy old-fashioned

the call of duty and always prepares a fabulous lunch for the volunteers.

For their efforts, the 30 members of the Knotters and Quilters are the Persons of the Week.

The remaining members of the Knotters and Quilters are Carol Burcaw, Carol Petenbrink, Nora Virtue, Karol Saylor, Judy Emert, Judy Maust, Dod Dilling, Joan Saylor, Amy Bittner, LaRue Engleka, Betty Hay, Dorothy Bittner, Alice Trent, Lana McClemons, Darlene Hillegas, Jean Furguson, Helen Barton, Eleanor Cober, Jane Scurfield, Shelby Ryan, Nancy Miller, Ashley White, Betty Brant, Elsie Leydig, Tammy Rhors, Anna Mae Wheighley, Maxine Kerns and Edith Hoffman.

The Rev. Dr. John W. Harmon said during the more than 10 years he has been pastor of Holy Trinity, he has witnessed many times how valuable the two groups have been to the ministry of the congregation.

"Meeting now several days a week, they spend countless hours creating items of love and care for those in need," he said.

"The two affiliated groups are sponsored and housed by our church with a core of many of our devoted members.

"However, there are a number of ladies from other churches who participate, forming a vital ecumenical Christian witness to this community and others."

Frank Sojak is a reporter for The Tribune-Democrat. Follow him on Twitter @FrankNews10. Tribune-Democrat editors select a Person of the Week from nominations made by readers. To nominate someone, call 532-5058, 24 hours a day.