

Quilting for God

In 2011, the pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church in Algona, Iowa, gave a sermon on the importance of adults connecting with youth and helping them grow in their faith. The sermon inspired a group of church women to make quilts for every child confirmed at the church. The color palette (blue, gold and red) was inspired by the water of baptism, the blood shed for them, and the Holy Spirit within each of them.

Their ministry grew and expanded far beyond the doors of the church and their local community. They now create several styles of quilts, Kids Komfort Pillows, Cuddle Blankets, Mighty Moses Monkeys, Noah and Rebekah Bears, and more. Kids at the Ranch are the lucky recipients of some TLC Quilters' handiwork and compassion. They recently donated a variety of handmade items, including an entire family of Mighty Moses Monkeys!

Each Mighty Moses Monkey comes with a note that reads, "Hi! My name is Mighty Moses, but you can call me by your favorite name. I was named that because every little boy needs a friend, and in the Bible, Moses was a mighty man. You can talk to me because I'm a good listener. Did you know you can talk to Jesus too? He's a good listener too. By the way, did you know that he loves YOU? He does. Let's be best friends—Jesus, you, and me! Your friend, Mighty Moses and all the quilters at Trinity Lutheran Church."

Thank you, TLC Quilters, for this amazing ministry that touches the lives of so many.



Mighty Moses Monkeys on their way to Dakota Boys and Ranch.



Barb Bitterman, coordinator of the TLC quilters, shows off some of their creations.

Crafty Kindness for Animal Friends

One of our Bismarck residents had some one-on-one time with Jan Nelson, Youth Advocate at the Ranch, and wanted to do something nice for animals at the Humane Society. They found scraps of fleece and made fuzzy cat and dog toys. Several of the girls asked to join in and they soon had six girls tying fleece into toys. The kids with pets at home each selected a toy for their pet, and they bagged up the rest to donate to the Bismarck Humane Society. What a wonderful way to spend a Sunday evening and show compassion for homeless animals in the community.



Ranch kids share the love by making toys for furry friends.

Adventures in Gardening

Gardening was a big event this summer on all three campuses. Kids planted, weeded and watched the plants grow. Now, they are looking forward to harvesting the vegetables so our cooks can serve fresh produce, grown by our kids!

