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By RAY ROBINSON
Staff Reporter

With the Thanksgiving and the Christmas holidays fast approaching, the 50 Plus Ministry group at Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church jump-started the season last Friday with a gathering of warm hearts, warm hands and enough food to feed Santa, his complete team of reindeer…and the Grinch.

There were also a ton of newly-made lap throws, afghan blankets and quilts to boot. The blankets, along with many books, candy and other glittering gift items, will be donated to the sick and shut-in members of the congregation, and also to many residents of our area's nursing homes.

About 40 ladies congregated in the basement of the church to package the bright blankets of various sizes, shapes and colors. There were more than 90 throws available and they were all made by the loving hands of the women in the group. They also displayed some of the finest quilts ever made. You could see in the detail work that these were very nice quilts that took hour upon hour to create.

"We were looking to do something to help those who are less fortunate than ourselves. Our ministry has always been about helping others and, at the same time, we get an opportunity to do the work of our Father," explained the group's president, Eva Johnson, as she chuckled about the successful day.

Luevenia Johnson, project coordinator, spouted, "God always has something for us to do. And sometimes you just do the work and, in the end, you are amazed at what you can accomplish."

There were grins as large as the moon as the women held up their perspective crafts during a picture-taking session. Pastor Larry Harris was certainly aglow as he perused the finely crafted wares and chatted with members of the group in anticipation of the upcoming season.

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