

October Ministry Partners



NEEDY SCHOOL CHILDREN'S ORGANIZATION

The mission and purpose of the Needy School Children's Organization (NSCO) is to keep children in regular school attendance by removing such barriers as lack of clothing or shoes, personal hygiene items and school supplies. We also strive to help youth gain self-esteem and life skills by participating in field trips and extracurricular activities such as summer camps, gymnastics/dance programs and some music programs.

The NSCO provides parents and volunteer shoppers with vouchers to local merchants to purchase school related items. We work closely with the Boys and Girls Club to provide after school and summer activities for "latch key" kids that would otherwise be at home by themselves. We have also assisted families in obtaining items needed for band and music lessons. Over the past years the Fund has also helped parents obtain birth certificates and get ID cards to assist families in getting services through HRS. We have assisted parents in purchasing medications and obtaining school entry physicals. During the 2008-2009 school year, 298 students were assisted here in Taylor County. First Presbyterian Church will donate \$1500 to this fund. For additional information you may contact Rhonda Brooks (838-2520) or Diane Whitfield (838-2536).



Sew Much Comfort (SMC) was organized in December 2004, to provide custom-made adaptive clothing at no cost, to injured service members from all branches of the military and national guard, injured while serving in our current conflicts. We hope to aid in their recovery and provide an added

measure of comfort and dignity as they recover from their injuries and return to everyday life. SMC also supports many previously injured as their needs change during the recovery process. Many injuries require prosthetics and casts that are too bulky to fit under ordinary clothing or underwear. Without adaptive clothing the only option for them is a hospital gown. SMC is the only organization providing adaptive clothing at no cost to wounded service members.



Thornwell

Thornwell Home for Children began as a dream in the heart of a young Presbyterian minister in Clinton, SC. Following the devastation of the Civil War, William Plumer Jacobs, of First Presbyterian Church in Clinton, wanted to build an orphanage. His dream was energized when 10-year-old Willie Anderson of a nearby community gave Reverend Jacobs fifty cents and said, "This is to help build your orphanage." Named for Dr. James Henley Thornwell, theologian, Thornwell opened its doors on October 1, 1875, to 10 orphaned children. Dr. Jacobs' belief "that God so willed and would, therefore, support the endeavor," carried him and his beloved orphanage through the post-war years up until his death in 1917.

As a ministry of the Presbyterian Church (USA), Thornwell is a joyful Christian community offering hope and wholeness to children and families.

First Presbyterian Church will donate \$1300 to this ministry partner in 2009. We will also collect an additional offering during the month of November.