

Faith In Action

A new series profiling members and friends of SMCC

Cathy Ude

Cathy Ude says, “I think God leads us, don’t you?” Born in Pasadena and having spent part of her life in New England (New Hampshire, to be exact) Cathy and her husband, Ken, moved to San Marino in 1986 and raised their three daughters here, in San Marino Community Church’s Nursery School and Sunday school. Carolyn, Kristen, and Allison were confirmed and involved in SMCC’s student ministries.

Allison and her husband, Spencer McCrosky, and their pre-school sons live in San Marino and are now actively involved at the church. Over the years, Cathy served in VBS, as well as leading her long-term exercise class and working in real estate. She recently spoke to our Community Church Women, encouraging strengthening and balancing exercises in their chairs for senior women.



God has led Cathy into a unique ministry through re-connecting with a high school friend on Facebook. As a new grandmother to her young grandchildren, her heart was touched when she learned about “Afghans for Angels” which offers hospitals small, handmade knitted and crocheted afghans to give to parents who suffer the loss of their infant through miscarriage, stillbirth, or infant death.

When Cathy met with the C.E.O. of Huntington Hospital last year, she learned that approximately 30 newborns/infants die each month. With HMH’s Coordinator of Volunteers, now these recently bereaved parents receive a 14”x14” – 20”x20” handmade square to wrap their little one in when they briefly meet and say “Good-bye”. These grieving parents also receive a prayer, and if possible, a lock of the child’s hair, with the afghan. This ministry affirms that though this child did not live long, these are parents of a much-loved child. Just recently, a very dear friend of the Udes lost their newborn daughter. and thus received one of these beautiful blankets. It was then that Cathy knew why she was led to this caring organization.

More knitters and crocheters are always needed. Volunteers are encouraged to use soft yarns in baby colors. In our area, Cathy picks up the completed afghans and send them to her friend for washing and processing. The afghans are then sent to the many hospitals caring for their patients in this way. Each crocheter and knitter receives a hand-written thank you from Cathy’s long-time friend, who as a young mother experienced the loss of a baby, herself. To knit or crochet contact Cathy at cathyude@gmail.com or (626) 289-8019.

In God’s economy, nothing is wasted. And as each person is open to the Holy Spirit, it is obvious that God does lead – to love and serve others.

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