



Love Thy Neighbor Ministries

# The Good Neighbor

October, November, December 2018

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## Ministry Update

Steve Kacprzak, Executive Director

In a recent period of quiet time with the Lord I was thinking about what I was thankful for. Frankly I became overwhelmed at the blessings God has bestowed upon me and to list them all would take more room than we have in this newsletter. So, let me mention just two that are central to my life and ministry. I am thankful that 34 years ago I heard the Gospel and that the Holy Spirit lifted the veil from my eyes and heart so that I could receive Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior. And secondly, that Jesus trusted Virginia and me enough to call us to minister to those in the later years of their life, something we have been doing for 33 years.



Since our last newsletter, along with our regular ministry work, Love Thy Neighbor Ministries partnered with Vistoso Community Church to present a special program entitled *The History of the English Bible*. This was in preparation for the new educational program, of the same name, we will be presenting at adult long-term care homes beginning in January. A very special part of this program is the display of English language Bibles dating from 1380 to the present. If you're an Activity Director be sure to call us to schedule this informative and enjoyable program for your residents.

We also partnered with Calvary Christian Fellowship to present, as part of our continuing effort to help Pima County become a dementia-friendly community, a DVD program titled "The Journey of Dementia". This was a Teepa Snow teaching on Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia.

As the holiday season quickly approaches we are preparing for our *Blessings in a Bag* Christmas gift program for nursing home and assisted living

residents. This year we have a large variety of items we're planning to give as Christmas gifts. They include handmade items from our wonderful *Stitches For Love* program volunteers, a variety of items donated by others and Bibles we have purchased from specific donations and through funds received from the quilt raffle.



In addition, as we have in the past, Love Thy Neighbor Ministries is partnering with Calvary Christian Fellowship, Vistoso Community Church, Golder Ranch Fire District, and the community to keep our elders warm by providing Sweaters as gifts to nursing home residents. If you would like to bless a nursing home resident at Christmas with a gift here's all you need to do:

1. Purchase the sweater(s) – men's or women's size large, extra large, 2X or 3X.
2. Bring the sweater(s), unwrapped in a bag, to the collection box located at one of these collections sites, between November 18<sup>th</sup> through December 9<sup>th</sup> to be delivered in time for Christmas:

**Golder Ranch Fire District** (520) 825-9001  
3885 E. Golder Ranch Rd., Catalina

**or** 1175 W. Magee Rd., Tucson

**Calvary Christian Fellowship** (520) 292-9661  
3850 N. Commerce Dr., Tucson

**Vistoso Community Church** (520) 825-0652  
1200 E. Rancho Vistoso Blvd., Oro Valley

Be sure to call the location for hours. And spread the word!

**"For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom to indulge your flesh, but through love serve one another." Gal. 5:13**

## The Blessed Life of a Love Thy Neighbor Ministries Volunteer

By Charlene Van Pelt



You know you are a volunteer for Love Thy Neighbor Ministries when your trunk is full of Bibles (yeah!!!), and lap blankets and walker/wheelchair bags, word-circle and cross-word puzzle books. You know you

are a volunteer for Love Thy Neighbor Ministries when you have activity director's names and phone numbers in your contacts and facility gate codes memorized.

I visit residents one-to-one as well as lead small group Bible studies in several nursing home and assisted living facilities. Most of the residents I see are nearing the completion of their lives and need to hear the salvation message of the Gospel, come to know Jesus and get right with God. Sadly, many have never heard the Gospel. Recently a man, Peter, who is wheelchair bound, with tears welling up in his eyes, took my hands and thanked me for coming. He said, "If you had never come here, I would have never heard this. I wasn't a very nice man but now I have peace." God's peace blessed both of us.

God will always bless you as He does me to witness the movement of His Spirit toward a repentant heart and the beauty of gratitude for being saved "just in time."

In February 2017, as a member of Vistoso Community Church, I began to volunteer in Love Thy Neighbor Ministries *Good Neighbor Get Together Program*. This is a monthly event for

families dealing with dementia. Volunteering with this program was a way to honor the memory of my mother, Helen, who had Alzheimer's disease and went to be with Lord in 2012. My mother's battle with this disease had been about a ten-year slow "slipping away" process that affected my father, sister and myself and a dear hired caregiver. We were able to keep her home and saw the disease "up close and personal" 24/7. Though it was difficult, we were happy to do it for her.

The *Good Neighbor Get Together\** monthly events are hosted by a trained team of volunteers, many of whom have their own personal experience with dementia. Their dedication and caring is mirrored in Steve and Virginia Kacprzak. The "Get Togethers" are a labor of Christ's love.

In conclusion, you know you are a volunteer for Love Thy Neighbor Ministries when there is joy in your heart because the Lord allows you to do this and uses you in His beautiful ministry.

\* For more information about the *Good Neighbor Get Together Program*, visit our website at [www.LTNM.org](http://www.LTNM.org) or call us at (520) 742-5548.

### Memorial Gifts Received Since our Last Newsletter

**In Memory Of: Redge Martin and Tom Butler**

From Kathryn Farris

**In Memory Of: Redge Martin**

From Sue Martin

**In Memory Of: Irene Kacprzak**

From Steve & Virginia Kacprzak



*Happy Thanksgiving  
and Merry Christmas!*



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