

Some time ago on Sewing with Nancy, I saw the lady from Michigan who's in charge of LittleDressesforAfrica.org. I filed the information away till last week when I had the urge to check it out again. I read about how people in the U.S. make a dress out of a new or gently used pillowcase and send the dresses to Malawi, Africa - how this gives these girls their first feeling of worthiness - how girls over there have only ONE dress until it's outgrown.

I asked a retired teaching colleague of mine if she'd like to join me in sewing some dresses, and thus, this project was born! We're having a sew-in on Tuesday, July 13th to sew dresses for LittleDressesforAfrica.

Some of the dresses I trimmed with lace I'd had in my stash for MANY years; I am also using up my Mom's collection of rick rack!



I made these three yo yos on the dress on the left by hand, then went and bought a yo yo maker. I said I'd never buy one of those, but they are MUCH faster and fun to use!

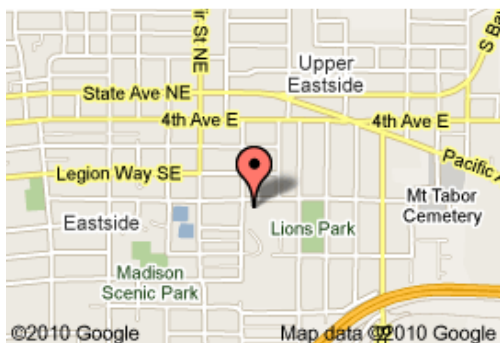


After Anne and I made a few dresses, we realized that the pillowcases, about 40" in circumference, are too wide for the little girls. Leftover fabric actually gives us more dresses per yard than pillowcases! So we'll be making both kinds of dresses next Tuesday. Here is the link to the excellent directions that Nancy Zieman wrote for the site:

http://www.nancysnotions.com/text/pdf/LittleDressesforAfrica_pattern.pdf

So, if you would like to help on this project, come to Light & Life Bible Fellowship Church at 1901 E 7th, Olympia, next Tuesday, July 13th from 10am - 4 pm, or any amount of time you can. Any of the following are needed: your sewing machine, iron, ironing board, pillowcases, cotton fabric (the dresses use amounts of material ranging from 30" - 45" wide to 22" to 41" long), bias tape of any width, $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{3}{8}$ " elastic, rick rack, lace, and your creativity for decorations, and YOU!!

RSVP to Ann Ewan (253-224-8927) or sydneymath@aol.com or to Vali Groening (360-438-6648) if you can come, or to just drop off supplies. Any or all will be welcome. Thank you!



Here's the church's location .