

**Ann Maranto**  
Care Ministry Volunteer



Ann is a New Orleans transplant to Georgia. She is a widow with two daughters and five grandchildren, ranging from 14 to 24. Her hobbies are sewing, quilting, crocheting, and reading.

As part of the Canton First UMC Family, Ann Maranto volunteers with Care Ministry by writing bereavement messages to members who have lost loved ones. She is also a part of the Canton First Quilt group and the Hands for God group, where she makes prayer quilts and sewn, crocheted, and knitted items for CFUMC members and friends, as well as for organizations such as Northside Hospital, Canton Police Department, and Goshen Valley Boys Ranch.

Volunteering at Canton First is important to Ann, sharing, *"Time cannot be purchased and our church touches so many lives in so many different ways and it takes many hands to accomplish our goals. It is very rewarding and fulfilling."*

When asked to share an especially meaningful time for her as a volunteer, Ann responded, *"I went through the Grief Sessions, a very important program in our church that meant a lot to me and got me through a very difficult time. When I was asked to help with a part of the grief programs, I was glad to be able to give back something that had been helpful to me."*

Anne shared what she enjoys most about volunteering, stating, *"Being a part of the Quilt group and the Hands for God group and the wonderful fellowship of the ladies. Also, the satisfaction of knowing that what we are making is bringing a smile to someone or warming their heart the day they receive our gifts to let them know that someone cares."*

In closing, Ann shared, *"I would encourage anyone to consider volunteering for something. Our church has many wonderful programs that reach out to the community and around the world. These programs can't function by themselves. It takes a village. The rewards are fulfilling to know you helped and you can make a difference in a person's life. And the fellowship is like a big hug embracing you with love."*

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10

**Favorite Ice Cream:** Chocolate

**Dream Vacation Destination:** The Beach