

## Methodist ladies host annual salad luncheon; Linda Egle shares work thru Eternal Threads

Written by Wauneta Breeze

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The Wauneta United Methodist Church was full of chatter Thursday, Sept. 13 as ladies from different area churches met together while they enjoyed an 11:00 o'clock salad luncheon. This annual fall luncheon was truly special as the UMW's guest was Linda Egle, a graduate of Wauneta High School, and founder of Eternal Threads.

Linda shared her story of mission work with the 60 ladies in attendance. She told of how she saw women working very hard in India, touching her heart in such a way that she could see the importance of a much needed way to improve their lives and the lives of their families. This was the beginning of Eternal Threads in the year 2000 which has now grown into 12 countries.

Eternal Threads is dedicated to improving the lives of women and children, most at risk of extreme poverty, trafficking and other forms of exploitation, by providing sustainable livelihoods through income-generating projects. With an income a woman can access nutritious food and health care; send children to school, avoid child labor; protect herself and her children from trafficking and exploitation; and earn respect and improved standing in her home and community.

Eternal Threads returns proceeds to the communities in which they work by providing literacy programs and vocational training, setting up anti-trafficking border units in Nepal, providing project development to help more women, educating girls and establishing sewing centers, and providing goats and sewing machines.

The name "Eternal Threads" and the logo, Weaving Hope and Justice, represent the values invested in the organization and in the people they work with most of all - the artisans they endeavor to help to have a handicraft skill involving threads of one kind or another in wool...silk...cotton, raffia, plastic twine cording for jewelry and others. By giving them sustainable income they weave threads of hope and justice into their lives and generations beyond.

Linda shared some of the beautiful work the women in the different countries have created with their hands. Some of the projects included "Sofi" totes, delicate lace products, the weaving of wild silk and raffia, "lungi" a sling bag, aprons, jewelry, weaving, knitting, carving and many other different crafts. These many beautiful projects along with stories may be found on the web site [EternalThreads.org](http://EternalThreads.org).

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