

Sew Precious In His Sight

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A GOD-TIMED HUG

The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down. Psalm 145:14

In the last two newsletters we have been looking at the different kinds of hugs. Our very first Threads of Love chapter was started in October of 1997. We need to send the Alpharetta chapter of GA a great big hug for standing firm in what Threads of Love is all about.

As we look back over the years, we have seen how God has been kicked out of all the different things in our schools, government and etc. It seems that each day we learn of something happening where God is being kicked out. We all must stand firm and not let these different groups remove God from Threads of Love. As I have said many times we are not about dressing babies but using our little clothes as a vehicle to remind families that God is faithful in all things. This group had respected the wishes of some of the other religions, like their still born

babies had to be dressed in solid white, with no colored trim. They respected their customs and made solid white outfits, but when it came to respecting what we believed it was a one sided street.

I want to share their story with you and how God honored the stand that they took.

Faye wrote:

Our First Baptist Alpharetta, Ga. chapter has had a heart break this year. You may or may not know what happened to us last May. I received a call from Northside Hospital in Atlanta telling me they would no longer give the prayers or poems to the patient's families. The reason given, "They did not want to offend". We had supplied this hospital for ten years. The chaplain called me. We work together with a smaller chapter, Bridgeway Church, to supply this hospital. It was always a struggle to meet the demand needed there. Northside has been written up as the hospital that delivers more preemies than

any other in the United States. Other larger cities have more than one hospital I guess. At risk mothers are sent from all over the state to be there for delivery. To say the least it is fertile ground to spread God's love. Helga, the leader for the Bridgeway Chapter, and I talked and met with various people. They simply would not budge. They did not agree with the decision that had been made but would not reverse it. They wanted to be sensitive to other religions. ... They wanted the clothes and items VERY much but not the prayers, especially any mention of Jesus.

Helga and I picked up 444 items after many conversations and emails... although we went all summer without a hospital to supply, God was still in control. We were able to supply the hospital in St Croix, VI during that time. In the fall we visited some hospitals with smaller NICU and were able to get established there. One is North Fulton and the other Kennestone, which used to

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have Threads of Love supplying them. We were pleased but not completely fulfilled.

I had a new granddaughter born February 15th in downtown Atlanta: Atlanta Medical. While there I asked if they had a NICU and told them about Threads of Love. They did! An appointment was sent up for Helga and I to visit with our samples. I had talked with 3 different nurses including the overall director and was so sure they would want us that I took items to leave, not just samples. They told us up front that they loved Jesus/God and this was no problem with them to give prayers out. This WAS Georgia Baptist Hospital and was bought by Atlanta Medical. We were to meet with the head of the NICU and her head nurse and that is how it started off but before we left we had 7 nurses in the room equally excited about what Threads of Love does. I asked if we had to get permission from the hospital and the director immediately spoke up to say it was HER decision and she definitely wanted us. She was going back to her office and had a work order put in to have locks put on a cabinet to keep our items safe. It was so rewarding to have experienced this. God had the plan for us all along. We just have to be patient and let Him show the way...

This NICU has not only preemies but babies who have had surgery or have birth defects. So we will have anywhere from 2 to 20 preemies but also full term babies to furnish the "lovie" and "helping hand" or Love Glove as we call it.

I am sharing all this with you so if you encounter opposition as we did and things are not in your control to correct it...DO NOT compromise... All the nurses we talked with were upset but agreed that we needed to stand firm in our allegiance to God.

Thanks for letting me share our GOOD NEWS.


Think of how this group of ladies must have felt after serving this hospital for ten years and then be told that the prayers have to go.

Jackie in Ca. ran into the same problem, the following email tells how she dealt with this.

I ran into this problem too. I had them read our mission statement, and all the emails and notes I have received from parents. I only gave them one choice, disappoint all those parents, or let the parent decide whether they want the prayer or not. As the hospital supplies whittled away, parents were asking why their babies didn't receive anything. It took two weeks, but they conceded. The volunteers will collect the prayers that weren't used, which is nearly zero.....I hated to play hardball, but the prayer is such an important part of this sewing ministry. Everyone is happy.....praise the Lord. I can't tell you how many times I hear from parents that the prayer is still part of their daily lives. How can the hospital staff ignore that? Just keep track of all those messages you get from the parents. And present them to the hospital staff.

"Put on the full armor of God that you may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil." Ephesians 6:11



		THREADS OF LOVE NEWEST CHAPTERS	
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As most of you know by now several of our chapters have run into problems with some of the hospital taking our prayers out or saying they cannot hand out the prayers any longer with our stitches of love. Please pray that the eyes of these people will see the importance of what we are doing and the need of our prayers. God has been kicked out of so many things and places and where has it gotten us? Let's join in prayer that God and our prayers won't also be kicked out the hospital where prayer is the only hope that some people have for their precious babies.

A few days after one of the chapters contacted me about this problem I received the following note that was written by a nurse to Sybil whose chapters services this hospital. Sybil had share with Susan about how a few of the hospital having a problem with our prayers.

What a coincidence how our Lord moves. Just today I took these photos with faces not revealed to protect their privacy, but I did it to encourage the ones that diligently sew to see the fruits of their labor. Remember a mighty fortress is our God that not even the forces of hell can prevail so pray because He wants to hear from us, but don't worry because He's got it all in control. Love, Susan

Sybil wrote:

Hi, folks,

I just wanted to ask all who will to pray for this situation. More and more of our chapters of Threads of Love have faced this, even here in Georgia. Please pray that all the chapters will be able to continue to spread God's love to the families who need His comfort and love.

Thanks,
Sybil



Happy Birthday to Edith Vaughn in Hust, Texas. Her chapter will be 10 years old in October and were our second Threads of Love chapter.



MAIL BOX...

Dear Ladies,

The "Threads of Love" is a perfect name for what you do for our bereaved families at our Health Centre. Your beautiful burial gowns and knitted hats are so much appreciated by the families of our stillborn babies.

After each delivery of a stillborn baby, we first give the parents lots of time to hold and grieve over the loss. Then we offer to bathe and dress the little one in one of your beautifully smocked, lace-trimmed gowns and a hand-knitted hat. We then have a volunteer photographer who comes to take a photo of the baby for the family to keep as a remembrance. The beautiful "Threads of Love" help to make this a very special photograph.

We are also blessed by the Mississauga Painters Guild who paint a beautiful memory box for the bereaved family, in which we put the gown and hat after the baby leaves. These and a soft little quilt from the Quilters Guild gives the sad parents something tangible and soft to hold and give them comfort.

Thank you so much for the generous donations of your time, talents and compassion. This is such a difficult time for the family. It is also heart-wrenching for the nurse who is assigned to care for the woman who is there to deliver a deceased baby. It is wonderful (I say this as a nurse who attends these sad occasions) to be able to provide a little extra comfort by passing on the gifts which you have so lovingly made. Your gifts mean so much to those who receive them!

May God bless you as you so richly bless others.

-Annie

Ladies,

Thank you for the additional supply of the flannel nightgowns and hats as well as the white gowns. Your work is lovely and the babies look so sweet in these items.

Margaret,

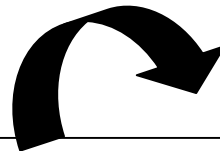
Volunteer Knitting Coordinator

The day that I gave birth to my daughter was the most terrifying day of my life. I was not prepared for what happened that day. Hayden was born into Heaven a month before her due date. After I gave birth to her she was dressed in a beautiful gown that was made by Threads of Love. She looked so peaceful in her pastel pink gown.

I am so grateful for what you have done for our family.

Sincerely,

Dawn



Threads of Love Takes Part In Martha Pullen Sewing Market

This was our 9th year for Threads of Love to take part in the Martha Pullen Sewing Market in Arlington, TX. A BIG thanks to Martha Pullen and staff for allowing us to again be a part of the market. This year we made diaper shirts to donate to John Peter Smith County Hospital. At the end of the show we had 105 diaper shirts to give to the NIC unit there for their preemie babies. A special thanks to Angie Daniels with the Martha Pullen Company, who arranged the use of six sewing machines. Thanks also, to Margaret Waters, Mary Arceneaux, Vickie Phillips, and Eleanor Henley of the Baton Rouge Chapter, and Kelly Butler, Linda Whipham, Judith Ligier, Sue Haas and Joyce Vugrin of the Saginaw, Tx chapter for all their help getting things cut out and for their help at the show.

-Sissy Davis

WASH DAY



Monday - Wash Day

Lord help me wash away all my selfishness and vanity, so I may serve you with perfect humility through the week ahead



Tuesday - Ironing Day

Dear Lord, help me iron out all the wrinkles of prejudice I have collected through the years so that I may see the beauty in others



Wednesday - Mending Day

O God, help me mend my ways so I will not set a bad example for others



Thursday - Cleaning Day

Lord Jesus, help me to dust out all the many faults I have been hiding in the secret corners of my heart



Friday - Shopping Day

O God, give me the grace to shop wisely so I may purchase eternal happiness for myself and all others in need of love



Saturday - Cooking Day

Help me, my Savior, to brew a big kettle of brotherly love and serve it with clean, sweet bread of human kindness



Sunday - The Lord's Day

O God, I have prepared my house for you. Please help me so I may spend the day and the rest of my life in your presence

Threads of Love
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Place address label here

Mission Statement

Threads of Love is a sewing ministry meeting the needs of tiny premature infants. The ministry is about healing and binding hearts together - the hearts of parents at a time of uncertainty about their baby's health or when they lose an infant. Our mission is to show parents the love of Christ at a time when their personal pain is hard to endure and let them know that God is faithful. Through acts of obedience and donation, His work can and will continue. Pray that this ministry will have an impact far beyond our expectations.

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Be kinder than necessary,
for everyone you meet
is fighting some kind of battle