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# Sew Precious In His Sight



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Threads of Love Volume 2 Issue 1

Summer 1999 Editor Cline "Sissy" Davis

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## An Awesome God

### 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 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. We pray that this ministry will have an impact far beyond our expectations.*

*We feel that this is a ministry the Lord would have others join in to blanket the country with Threads of Love. There are three things that remain: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love. 1 Corinthians 13: 13 God has given us all a talent that we are to use to serve Him. If He is speaking to your heart now, please write us at:*

*Threads of Love™  
First Presbyterian Church  
P. O. Box 2006  
Baton Rouge, La 70821*

### What an awesome God we serve

Never underestimate the power of God, for we serve an awesome God. Once again God has shown me of His great wonders and how He always works things out on His timetable, not mine. For the last year, I have felt that it would be helpful for Threads of Love to have a web site. On several occasions, I had attempted to find someone to set up a web page for Threads of Love. Needless to say, it never worked out and now I know that it was not in God's time. And each time the doors would be shut to the idea, I would then step back and know that God was not ready for a web site.

I have been working with Bob Tucker, one of the attorneys in the church about filing for a nonprofit status on behalf of Threads of Love. Then it was time to go to the session to ask for their blessing. On Monday night, Threads of Love was on the agenda for the meeting, I went to plead my case and of course, they gave us their blessing. Then on Wednesday night, when we gathered as a church family to eat supper before Bible study, Dean Cooper, a member of the Diaconate, asked if I would save him and his wife a place at the table. He needed to talk to me about something. When he joined us at the table he informed me that he had registered Threads of Love on a web site that day. I could come by his office later that week, to work with one of his employees in order to help set up the new web site. After hearing about Threads of Love, he felt that what we were doing was a wonderful service for the Lord and wanted to help with a web page. I am happy to announce that we now are up and running with a web page at <http://www.threadsoflove.org>. Also, please make a note that I now have a new e-mail address, [sissy@threadsoflove.org](mailto:sissy@threadsoflove.org). There is still more work to be

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done to the site, so stop by the site and let me know what you think.

This just goes to show you that everything has to be in God's timing and not when we think it's time.

**Rest in the Lord; wait patiently for Him to act.**  
**Psalms 37:7**

The Lord has been so good to this ministry. He has allowed it to grow from two ladies working together, and today we are joined by an untold number of His children working to meet the needs of many grateful families. We do serve an awesome God only God could have opened the doors that have led to the growth of Threads of Love. I feel so very blessed that God has allowed me to be a part of His wonderful work.

I am also happy to announce we are now a nonprofit organization, thanks to the hard work of Bob Tucker. We've had our first board meeting and have things in place so that other chapters can file in their own status as a nonprofit organization. This way, each chapter will be in charge of their own moneys, and we would be a clearing house for Threads of Love, lending support and networking, among, the other chapters. If your local chapter wishes to become a nonprofit chapter, please get in touch with me. Together we can and will make a difference to all those families who are in need of our support and letting them know that God is faithful.

Sissy Davis

## Notes of thanks

Dear Friends of Threads of Love,

I can't tell you how much it meant to us, and especially Megan and Charlie, to have the little gown and pink blanket to bury Martha in. Such a heartbreaking sadness. Martha was so beautiful. We don't know what happened and even with the autopsy, we may never know. But, we do know that she was loved by many, many people and that she is safe in God's arms.

Thank you, dear St. Catherine friends, for helping us through our terrible time of distress and sadness.

Love, Donna, Bob and family

Dear Sissy

I want to let you know how much I appreciate you and Threads of Love for your special ministry. Our family especially is indebted to your kindness for delivering the special, little clothes.

This special ministry is so unique in that it adds dignity and beauty to a heartbreaking occasion. Montie Joseph and Mark Harmon were buried together in their matching clothes. Seeing her babies (even though they were born ten days apart) dressed beautifully as she held them made closure for Michelle and much more bearable ordeal. They were her little angels.

Thanks again,  
Emily Jane

Dear Threads of Love,

I am the grateful recipient of your wonderful cause. I was admitted to the Woman's Hospital on Feb.29<sup>th</sup> for premature labor. I was carrying twin boys. I lost twin A on Feb.23rd. After I delivered him, a lot of heroic efforts were taken to keep me pregnant with the second baby. I was told that each day that I stayed pregnant with twin B would be a miraculous event. I had a 10-day miracle, but lost the second baby on March 5<sup>th</sup>. I was 5½ months pregnant.

When I lost the first baby, my labor and delivery nurse, Mary Upton, brought me several tiny outfits to, choose from to dress our baby. She also presented to me a special blanket with a tag that read "Threads of Love." She explained to me how your group hand makes little clothes for premature babies and donates them to the Woman's Hospital. When I lost the second baby, a member quickly made a matching outfit so he could be dressed like his brother.

I do not know what I would have done for my baby's burial clothes if your organization did not exist. Your work is so important because women like me do not go to the hospital prepared to lose a baby born too early. Additionally, stores do not carry clothes tiny enough for this sad occasion.

I would like to see the work of Threads of Love carried on to benefit other parents of babies who are taken too soon. Please accept this small donation for that purpose.

Sincerely  
Michelle & Michael

From Wake Forest, NC

October 16, 1998

Dear Marge and Group,

We cannot begin to thank you enough for your continued support in making clothing and blanket squares for the babies, in our unit! So many visitors that come to our unit comment first on the beautiful Threads of Love made by your group. I am quick to tell them about your group and how fortunate we are to have you make such special outfits.

The babies really benefit from all of your hard work. Not only are they warmer, but they are more individual due to the adorable outfits that you make. The parents love the outfits and the blanket squares because they help so much to soften the harshness of all the equipment that is needed and helps the parents to forget for a little while that their baby needs special care other than what they can provide for their child.

Other parents who are not so fortunate to bring their babies home are uplifted by your beautiful burial gowns. You allow them to have some beautiful memories.

There is a lot of love that is sewn into those gifts and it shines brightly in the Intensive Care Nursery at Wake Med. Thank you so much for sharing your gifts and talents with us.

Sincerely  
Linda

## Pastors corner of Hurst, Texas

Pastors Corner, Hurst Texas

The following comes from St Phillip Presbyterian Church, Hurst, Texas

Dear Friends,

I've just returned from a meeting of the Advisory board for the Chaplain's Office at Cook Children's Hospital in Fort Worth. We're a group of clergy who

help support the wonderful ministry of chaplains at that hospital and advise them on various issues. In the midst of today's routine business, the lead chaplain, Ann, told us a story.

Recently, a tiny baby arrived at Cook. She was born at 22 weeks, too small and undeveloped to make it. The mother was rushed to John Peter Smith with medical problems of her own. In the meantime, the child died and was placed in the morgue at Cook. It was another twenty-four hours before the mother was stable enough to come to see her dead child. She was to bring her four-year-old daughter and other family members. As Chaplain Ann put it, it was her job to help make an unbearable situation somewhat bearable, to help bring warmth into the cold reality of death, and to humanize the moment for the little girl who would have been her sister.

What Ann did was simple. She put a tiny cap on the baby's head and booties on her feet. She clothed her in a beautiful burial gown so that she wasn't simply a corpse wrapped in a hospital blanket or sheet. All the clothing, said Ann, came from the women of St. Philip Presbyterian Church. A group of our women lovingly craft these items of clothing and deliver them regularly to Cook to help bring Christ's light into dark moments. The ministry is known-appropriately-as "Threads of Love."

We seldom know the significance of acts of mercy and simple kindness that we might label as insignificant. Earlier today, I was talking with one of our members who gives generously of himself in many ways to make life better for others in our community. He was wondering out loud about the impact, the effectiveness, of one of his ministries. I told him there really is no way to measure what difference it makes in someone's life when we give them our time, a listening ear, an arm around the shoulder, or a helping hand as they try to climb out of a tough situation. Our job is to stay faithful to the ministry.

I would add something to the conversation after hearing Ann's story. Her words were a gracious reminder that, in the providence of God, no act of mercy, love, or kindness is insignificant. We don't have to figure out what "matters" and what doesn't. We simply pour out our lives as an offering to God for the sake of others. God will take that offering, however "small" it may seem, bless it and multiply it, and distribute it to

give nourishment, shelter, hope, and light to all God's children. You might say that God uses our threads of love to weave the rich and beautiful tapestry known as fullness of life.

**"Then the righteous will answer Him, Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you? And the king will answer them, Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Matthew 25: 37-40**

By Steve Jester, Pastor

## Prepare the way

Each month at our workshop we have a devotional given by Ann Allison. I have asked her to write a short summary of the thoughts that she had shared with us at the last workshop. Just like John the Baptist paved the way for Jesus to come to us for the forgiveness of our sins, she showed us how with the works of Threads of Love we are paving the way for these families began the healing of broken hearts.

Scripture References: ; Luke 3:1-9: Matthew 3:3

"Listen! I hear the voice of someone shouting, "Make a road for the Lord through the wilderness; make him a straight, smooth road through the desert. Fill the valleys; level the hills straighten out the crooked paths and smooth off the rough spots in the road."

Isaiah 40:3-5

John the Baptist was a great evangelist. In the gospel of Matthew it describes his ministry as the "voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" John was the forerunner of Christ whose primary task was to prepare the hearts of the people for Jesus.

Threads if Love meets the needs of the family and friends, of the precious little babies and the professionals who care for them at a time when they are under stress and pain. Threads of Love does something special by supplying clothing, blankets, bonnets, etc. which were made in love and especially designed for the needs of these little ones. A beautiful prayer written

especially for them and their situation is also enclosed. By these acts of Christian kindness, Threads of Love prepares the hearts of these people to receive the healing and comfort that only Jesus can give.

By Ann Allison

## God's littlest angels

The following poem was written by Donald Mac Kenzie, husband of Marge Mac Kenzie of the Natchitoches, La Chapter. You see even the men can have part a in this ministry. Donald hopes that it can be used to help promote getting workers to lend a hand to this ministry.

God's littlest angels are so small  
Their heads are teenie-weenie  
that's why they need your loving care  
To make their"preemy beanies".

And little feet so delicate  
Need socks to warm their tootsies  
Why not help God to care for them  
By knitting them some booties?

Or hanky blankets made with love  
Perhaps a small kimono  
These tiny angels need so much  
Your prayers and work pro bono.

You see, these are the least of us  
The Master's words we hear  
"Who loves and cares for such as these  
He also cares for Me".

By Donald Mac Kenzie 1998

## New Chapters

Has your name been added to this list ?

Louisiana  
First Presbyterian Church  
Post Office Box 624  
Zachary, LA 70791

Contact person: Kathleen Yllander

Minneosta  
Church of St. Joseph  
14375 S. Robert Trail  
Rosemount, MN. 55124  
Contact person: Louise Croke

North Carolina  
Janet H. Vaughan-Threads of Love  
238 Mountain Valley Court  
Hendersonville, NC 28739-8400  
Contact person: Janet Vaughan

New Jersey  
Kathleen Gibbons-Threads of Love  
15 Jackson Ave  
Wayne, NJ 07470  
Contact person: Kathleen Gibbons

## Happy day feelings

I'm so happy today, God. And I'm not even sure why. This morning I woke up feeling very excited about life, I had that kind of tight, expectant feeling inside me, like all kinds of good things were coming my way.

Why am I so happy today?

No reason needed-- sometimes just being alive is enough.

Thank you for giving me life. Today, especially, I really love it!

By Dean Walley

From the book Talks with God