

Sew Precious In His Sight



Threads of Love Volume 4 Issue 1

Summer 2001 Clinel "Sissy" Davis Editor

Making A Difference

Mission Statement

Threads of Love is a sewing ministry meeting the needs of newborns and tiny premature infants. The ministry is about healing and binding 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, especially at a time when their personal pain is hard to endure, and let them know that God is faithful. Through acts of obedience and donations, 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

Threads of Love
P. O. Box 2006
Baton Rouge, LA. 70821

Or visit our web site at <http://www.threadsoflove.org>

E-mail: sissy@threadsoflove.org

Women who make a difference



"But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny. Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth , this poor widow

has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything-all she had to live on." Mark 12:42-44 She was able to made a difference in the temple treasury. God does not look at the amount of our gifts, but at the attitude of our hearts. Even though it was a small gift in the eyes of others, the widow gave all that she had and it counted more that the large gifts. No matter how small a job that you may be doing in Threads of Love it's an important job and together we are making a difference. Touching people's lives in ways that we will never know about. Our gifts of love bring comfort not only to the babies families, but also to the doctors, nurses and staff at the hospital.

All through the bible are stories of women who made a difference like Ester, Ruth, Mary (mother of Jesus), Abigail, Deborah, Elizabeth, Hannah, Rachel, Sarah, and Dorcas. They all made a difference in different ways. Most of us are more like Dorcas, for we are sewing for God's children. Unlike Dorcas, however, we are not only meeting the physical needs, but we are filling that spiritual needs when faith could be weak. The world is full of hurting families who lose babies. I just wish that Threads of Love could be there for each family and embrace them with our gifts of love and let them know that God is always faithful to His children.

In this issue...

Mission Statement	1
Women who make a difference	1
Case of the missing money	4
New Chapters	4
Trip to Arlington	5
Sewing Tip	5

No matter how young or old we are, He is always there to comfort us in good times and stressful times. Our little gifts of love act as a reminder that God is there; we just need to call upon Him.

If you look at this need as if we each put a drop of water into a bucket, the bucket would soon fill up. If we tried to fill the bucket by ourselves, it would take a very long time to do the job. As sisters in Christ joining together to serve the Lord we are making a difference in the lives of many families. The following letters tell stories of the impact that Threads of Love is having in making a difference in the lives of these families. From the letters you can see that each little stitch that is sewn does make a difference. Each item that is made and given to the babies and parents shows the love of Christ. Together we are sewing love for the Lord, so that his precious children are wrapped in His glory and love.

"Because of the service by which you gave proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. Thanks be in God for his indescribable gift!" 2 Corinthians 9:13-15

Dear Ann and South Orange County Chapter,
I'm hoping this thank you note falls under the "one year rule" but I'm afraid my Ann Landers etiquette book isn't handy. I can't tell you how many times I have had families ask me to tell you all how much they appreciate your kindness in making the beautiful items which we share with parents of premature infants and those whose babies have died. Last week I had a couple return to pick up a plaque of their son's footprints and they were so very grateful for the pictures we took after his death and for the memento items, the booties, hat, cross, and small blanket. We use these items in the pictures we take so they have something which truly belonged to their child if only for a short time. This morning I sat with a first-time mom and her son who is now a chunky 3 1/2 pounds and mentioned that he was out-growing his little beanie. She was thrilled that he needs a bigger hat and I told her I would be getting a "holiday delivery" of new goodies. She asked if that would be from Threads of Love and was very complimentary about how lovely the little gowns and hats were, how beautifully made, and how wonderful it was to come in and see her little

guy dressed up and the sweet card on his isolette. So, I wish I could convey each and every thank you I have heard and smile I have seen. I know that these parents hold you in their hearts and will always remember how you have helped them cope with a very difficult time in their lives. I will try to take pictures and send any notes I receive to let you know that indeed, your hard work is helping bring some hope and cheer to our little ones and their families.

Sincerely,
Carole Poe, LCSW

Dear Miss Davis,

I want to thank you for creating this great ministry "Threads of Love" I find such joy in sewing for our chapter. The ladies in the group are lovely and we enjoy each other so much as we sew and crochet for the babies. I have found something that I have always enjoyed doing but now can do it with a group. I have been given the opportunity to deliver some of the gowns to the Military hospital here. The nurse meets me with open arms and exclaims "Threads of Love" Ladies! The nurses can't wait to see what we have brought for their little ones. I belong to the SARAH chapter at Oak Hills Church of Christ in San Antonio. Our Chairwoman Liz Page can't say enough about you and how you brought about this ministry. May God continue to shower you and your ministry with blessings!!!
Sincerely, Chris Bullard

Dear Sissy,

Just want to share something with you...

When I got into sewing for Threads of Love and decided to start a chapter it was really due to my love for sewing and also a way I could use my natural talent to serve the Lord. It wasn't because of any personal experience (people always ask me that) Well.....last Friday my daughter gave birth to a little girl SIX WEEKS early. She had lung problems and jaundice and trouble maintaining her body temp. She was at NE Baptist in San Antonio till yesterday afternoon. While there, I got some first hand experience of the NICU and anxious parents and grandparents. The first thing they did was offer us the lovie doll and also a beautiful blanket, bonnet and booties. NOW I KNOW HOW IT FEELS. I had two boxes of Threads of Love things in my car to take to Liz Page so I quickly asked the nurses at NE if they could use them. They were so excited. Now I want to be sure to continue supplying NE Baptist because of the wonderful care they gave to my

little granddaughter "JAYCIE FAITH MOORE."
Joanelle Wright
As of July 5, 2001

Just an update on my little grandbaby, Jaycie Faith. She is nine and a half pounds now, cooing and smiling all the time. She is an NICU success story. Praise the Lord. Joanelle

Dear Sissy

In February my daughter and her husband lost their babies, Laurie and Sydney. They were recipients of your wonderful ministry. The hospital clothed them in the outfits made by your group and brought these tiny babies back for us to say good-bye. Although having to say good-bye was very difficult, seeing these tiny angels dressed will linger in our memories forever. With your gift, these small angels were given the dignity in death that we all deserve. Before this time, I did not know that any such group existed. I wanted to let you know what a difference in our lives you all made. I have longed to find such a way to help others. I watched "Sewing with Martha" 5/05/01 and found out how to get in touch with you. I want you to know what a difference you made in our lives and that maybe I can help make a difference, too. I cannot crochet, but I can sew. Please let me know what I can do to help.

Thank you Jan Deviller, Plaquemine, La.

To Threads of Love in Stockbridge, GA

Hi my name is Teri Renn-Bailey,
I have to work this Friday and will not be able to make it. I really cannot sew, knit or anything. But I was wanting to learn though. My reason why is I think what y'all do is great. I am a registered nurse who happens to work in the neonatal intensive care unit at South Fulton and Piedmont Hospital. At South Fulton we have some ladies who makes up caps and blankets to place on top of isoletes. But we do not have anyone to help make little clothes for our preemies. Patents are very delighted when they see their little ones dressed up in clothes It gives the patents the realization that this is their precious baby and not just a patient. It really brings the bond closer between parent and child because a lot of that is lost when they have a small baby and at the beginning they are not allowed to touch or hold it. Piedmont has the clothes for the babies, but what both hospitals don't have is the lovie dolls that I saw on display with the prayer note. This is why I

wanted to do the class because I thought it would be nice to help y'all make them for Henry Medical Center, but also so I could make them for the babies at the hospital where I work.. Maybe another date will come available where I could come. Please keep me in mind. I again express my gratitude for what y'all do. I cannot begin to tell you the joy and the smiles that your thoughtfulness beings to these parents and the nurses. I am a big believer in the power of prayer and I believe every baby could use a prayer at their bedside. This would be especially good for one mom at Piedmont. (I have her permission to tell her story) She has one child, had one miscarriage, lost one after being born at 23 weeks, and approximately a month ago delivered at 24 weeks. Her baby has had a very tough life since his birth. He has been so sick that at one point mon and dad had to make the decision whether to carry on his life or to let him go on to heaven. As you can imagin,e this is tough choice for any parent to have to make. At one pint they did make the baby a" do not resuscitate". Mom stated she began to lose her faith in God and had decided they needed to let him go. They thought this was the right decision.. Then mom received a phone call telling her to continue to have faith, and not give up because if she did then her baby would not have anyone to believe in him. Well Mom starting praying again, and I can proudly say that her baby is not longer a" do not resuscitate" and has survived life so far despite the nurse and doctors stating that the child would die. (They even said that, if he did live there would not be much there.) This baby is still on the ventilator but he is one"feisty " baby. My point for telling this story is I think Mom felt alone and if Mom had been able to come to her babies beside and see a doll with a prayer attached to it, she might have realized that as medical professional we do think about them in their time of stress, we do pray for them, and they are not alone. Continue to do the good work because it dose not go unnoticed .

Teri

PS In the mean time could you pass it on to pray for this baby to get better and for his parents to hold on to their faith. I know they would appreciate it. Actually all the babies need to be prayed for every day. Thanks and God Bless.

Threads of Love. Natchitoches, LA

On behalf of Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center- Shreveport. I would like to offer my sincerest gratitude to you and the member of Threads

of Love for your continued generosity, support and involvement with the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Our relationship with your organization is one of the programs that I am most proud of since beginning with this facility. Your sincerity in the purpose behind your efforts is so heartwarming and genuine and I hope that you all realize the number of people whose lives you impact with your donations. The coverlets for the isolettes are working out wonderfully and the staff could not be more thrilled. I too am proud every time I see a baby going home in a brand new matching hat and booties. Just knowing the love and kindness that went into getting those booties on the baby's feet will



stop you in your tracks. Thank you all for all of your hard work, but most of all for the true purpose behind what you are doing. Sincerely Jill

Case of the missing money

From time to time I have had different ones mail a card or letter stating a small cash donation is enclosed to help with the cost of the newsletter and more often than I care to say the cash is missing. If you send a donation please do not send cash. Send a check made out to Threads of Love.

Don't walk in front of me, I may not follow. Don't walk behind me, I may not lead. Walk beside me and be my friend."
Albert Camus

New Chapters

Thanks to the ladies listed below have register as a chapter with us. If you would like to join these ladies in their effects of ministering to mothers in your state, please contact them. The idea of registering with us so other in your area may join together and work as a group. If you are now servicing a hospital in your area will you consider registering so we may connect you with ladies willing to help?

Threads of Love
C/0First Presbyterian Church

1302 SW A Ave
Lawton, OK 73501
Contact Person: Maggie Corlett
E-mail magc30@cs.com

Heart 2 Heart-Threads of Love
100 Moray Dr.
Slidell, LA 70461
Contact Person: Sherri Johnston
E-mail heart2heart@jameyj.com

Threads of Love
C/0North Cheyenne Baptist Church
5912 Weaver Road
Cheyenne, WY 82009
Contact person: Jo Ann Farrington
E-mail hiabbkf@sisna.com

Clinton-Threads of Love
1 White Oak Place
Clinton, MS 39056
Contact Persons: Susan Grove/Elizabeth Milner
E-mail mikegrove2@aol.com

Threads of Love
C/0 McDonough Christian Church
2000 Jonesboro Road
McDonough, GA. 30253
Contact Person: Sybil Mc Cullers
E-mail sybilmccullers@hotmail.com

Threads of Love
2299 Brambleton Ave.
Roanole, VA 24015
Contact Person: Linda Sage Greene
E-mail Lgsews@aol.com

Threads of Love
0/0 Kingsville First Baptist Church
312 W. King
Kingsville, TX 78363
Contact Person: Lisa May
Boots77@swbell.net

Kathy's-Threads of Love
25104 Dorchester Ave. SW
McCoole, Maryland 21562
Contact Person: Kathleen Mellon

Threads of Love

C/O St. Paul The Apostle Roman Catholic Church
346 West Main Street
Hancock, NY 13783
Contact Person: Cortese5334@webtv.net

Threads of Love
C/O Nazareth Presbyterian Church
680 Nazareth Church Rd.
Moore, SC 29369
Contact Person: Brenda Roberts
E-mail mrsoccer@aol.com

Jen' N James-Threads of Love
545 Maple Ave. Extension
Greenville, NY 12083
Contact Person: Lynne Cummingham
E-mail lynnesam18@aol.com

Shreveport/Bossier-Threads of Love
10414 Willoughby Circle
Keithville, LA 71047
Contact Person: Brenda Dalton
E-mail tomppc@shreve.net



Trip to Arlington

In the last newsletter I told you that Threads of Love had been invited this year to attend the Martha Pullen Sewing Market in Arlington, TX in June. Retta (my sewing chairman) and I, along with our husbands made the trip to Texas the first of June. I would also like to thank Darlin Williams and Kay Howell, two of the ladies from our chapter, who came a day early to help set up the booth. With their help it only took about five hours to get ever thing ready. It was a great show with lots of attendance in our booth. Retta and I also held three class about how to start a chapter and doing the small bias neck bands. This gave us a chance to share with a lot of sewers how they too could use their talents to serve the Lord through Threads of Love.

Threads of Love was well received by all who stopped for a visit. I had taken a map of the US with each chapter marked, which was 48 at the time, now we have added two more. In doing so I was able to pass along the location of chapters for the ladies to

contact in their area. Hope some of you have been contacted with new workers wanting to lend a hand.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Martha and her staff for the invitation and all the support shown to us at the Sewing Market in Arlington. It was a marvelous experience for us and I hope as well for the people who stopped by our booth. The circumstances were great, and with the Lord at our side we were always confident of success. We are grateful to have been a part of the Arlington show. A big thanks to Martha Pullen and her staff. It is a pleasure to have been a part of the Arlington Sewing Market for the last two years. We could not have had a successful trip without their support. We were able to share about Threads of Love with a lot of ladies that would not have been possible had it not been for the generous invitation of Martha and her staff. Thanks to all.

If you were not able to attend this year, mark your calendar for June 19 -22 of 2002 so that you can make your plans to attend next year. For you ladies living in the FL and CA areas, the next market will be in Pomona, CA, ???October 20-23, 2000 ???and in Orlando FL January 24-26, 2002. For more information go to <http://www.marthapullen.com> or write to Martha Pullen Company, 149 Old Big Cove Road, Brownsboro, Al 35741.



Sewing Tip

Always use a new sewing machine needle when you start a new heirloom project. Use the right needle for the fabric content, weight and thread for your project.

Kind works are the bright flowers of earthly existence; use them, and especially around the fireside circle. They are jewels beyond price, and powerful to heal the wounded heart and make the weighed down spirit gland.

Arthur Helps

Pleasant words are honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones. Proverbs 10:24

