

Sew Precious In His Sight

Volume Six, Issue Two



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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.

There are three things that remain: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

- 1 Corinthians 13:13

Threads of Love

First Presbyterian Church

PO Box 2006

Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Website: www.threadslove.org

Sissy Davis, Director

sissy@threadslove.org

Courtney McPherson, Assistant Director

CONVENTION—Praise God!

What can I say except WOW! The convention was fabulous especially for me and Courtney. It was the first time we had ever had the chance to meet some of the ladies from different chapters that we had been in contact for a long time. To finally have a face with a name and receive that special hug from a long distance friend was such a neat experience. Wow!

For those of you that missed the first Threads of Love Convention, you really missed a phenomenal weekend.

Meeting people and seeing what the other chapters were doing and making was so much fun. There was so much joy in coming together as God children and hearing the testimonies of why some have become Threads of Love chapters. We heard from mothers who poured out their story of loss and how the healing had taken place because of Threads of Love. You just got the sense of how very important each one of us is in that healing of a broken heart.

What a joyous time of sharing, singing and giving our Lord the Praise and Glory that He is due. That seemed to be the attitude of everyone that attended the convention. I had thought that when the weekend was over that I would be dog-tired and drained. Boy was I wrong! It has taken me a week to come down off that mountain top. I'm not sure that I have my feet on the ground just yet. How sad it was to say have to say good bye to everyone on Saturday. Wow, what an experience the whole convention was!

We will definitely do it again. Be in prayer for Courtney and me as we prayerfully work on another convention. If you weren't able to make this one, you WON'T want to miss out on the next one!!!

-Sissy

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More Comments from the participants of the convention.....

- You could feel the presence of the Holy Spirit in the whole building. Holy ground.
- Wonderful absolutely wonderful
- You've got to have another one next year! Thank you & bless you for all you do.
- Please, please do it again. It was easy to tell that the convention was organized by women
- Everything was perfect down to the last detail. We love you, Courtney & Sissy!
- Everything was wonderful and so beautifully prepared for & prayed for. Thank you and Praise our Lord. Please do another one soon.
- You did an over all very good job! The hospitality & friendliness from everyone was wonderful.
- I just want to thank you for a wonderful convention. It exceeded my expectations. It was very inspiring!
- I enjoyed meeting you both and meeting others from around the country. It was wonderful to see all the different things they were making and sharing ideas.
- Words just can't express how great and wonderful the Threads of Love Convention was! Both you and Sissy are so well organized and everything couldn't have gone smoother!
- I was really inspired to be a part of Threads of Love in some way after last Thursday.
- I really enjoyed all of the programs, workshops and meeting all of the wonderful people associated with Threads of Love. I am very proud to be a member of this ministry and also the leadership you provide.
- Thanks again for all of your hard work in putting on this great event. It was so wonderful and my cup is still overflowing and overflowing and overflowing! Am so glad you are still on the mountain! I pray you are finding rest and replenishment there.
- Your worship team was super! as were all the people from your church. Oh, how I see God in your church!!

SWEET NOTES

*Dear, dear Sissy,
Oh, what a wonderful, wonderful weekend! Everything was perfect, I would not have changed a thing! How can I begin to express my gratitude? The love, W O R K, and prayer that went into each and every detail was so obvious.*

It would be so difficult to say what my favorite part was because just as the Lord's sweet Word has so many endless, rich blessings, so too the conference did as well and it is just too difficult to say what the greatest blessing was. If anything, I suppose it was Christ in Sissy! (And in Courtney as well.)

I know it is a tremendous "let down" physically and emotionally after such an enormous "undertaking" with all the months of build-up and planning. You put your entire heart and life into everything and I want you to know I am sincerely praying that the Great Shepard will renew your soul and that you will gain new strength!

Our pastor told yesterday that the term wait in Isaiah 40 means to put all your eggs in one basket! Thank you for waiting upon Him on behalf of all of the women with TOL. I know He is renewing your strength like the eagle's.

How special the worship service was on Saturday. The presence of the Lord was truly in that place. Thank you for being obedient to Him 10 years ago that others might join you in laboring for Him through the lives of Mommies, babies, Daddy's, and families at a time in their lives when they need Christ's love and sufficiency the most.

With all my love, appreciation, and gratitude, Peggy

P.S. And many thanks to your wonderful hubby also! And thank you, Jesus!

NEWSLETTER UPDATING

As a 501 (c)3 non-profit, Threads of Love is very careful about utilizing our funds in a manner that glorifies God. Over the last 6 years, our newsletter list has grown to over 450 names. We love to give out our newsletter; however periodically we need to clean out and weed out our newsletter mailing list. The beauty of technology is that you have the option of receiving this newsletter via e-mail, which is instantaneous and saves the organization the postage cost.

If you wish to receive this newsletter via email, please email info@threadsoflove.org and let us know.

If you do not have email, or if you wish to continue receiving a hard copy, you MUST return this half of this form to us (you can email us if you have access).

IF WE DO NOT RECEIVE THIS FORM BACK FROM YOU, YOUR NAME WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE MAILING LIST FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IN JANUARY OF 04.

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PLEASE RETURN ASAP TO: Sissy Davis, Threads of Love; 37184 Oak Shadow Court, Denham Springs, LA; 70706

One of the highlights of the convention was the unveiling of the new Threads of Love documentary. This video, 20 minutes in length, tells the story of Threads of Love in a beautiful way. This is a wonderful resource for any church or individual involved in this ministry. We still have several videos left for a suggested donation of \$5. If you want a copy of the documentary, please email Sissy Davis at sissy@threadsoflove.org.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW CHAPTERS!

Walker Pentecostal Church Threads of Love

Contact: Bonnie Barber

Walker, Louisiana Email: bbarber54@cox.net

Sweet Peas-Threads of Love

Contact: Shelley Youngquist

Burlington, Washington Email: yrt56@nwlinc.com

Paragould Chapter of Threads of Love

Contact: Susan McHaney

Paragould, Arkansas Email: lilysgifts@bscn.com

Threads of Love

Contact: Jackie Powell

Plano, TX Email: fppowell@sbcglobal.net

St. Joseph's Catholic Church Threads of Love

Contact: Lynda White

Fayetteville, Arkansas allen@webbsite.com

Abilene Threads of Love

Contact: Cami Brunts

Abilene, Texas Email: cjb01a@acu.edu

Threads of Love

Contact: Lisa McCurdy

Lancaster, California Email: mclisaa@msn.com

Threads of Love

Contact: Kelley Butler

Saginaw, Texas Email: kelly@dbutler.com

At the convention, we were lucky enough to have as our guest, Sandy Moffett, a special songwriter and singer, who came all the way from Bakersfield, CA. You can ask anyone who attended the conference how much she blessed us...Here is her memoir from the trip...

Airplanes and Adrenaline and Alligators, Oh My!

That about sums up the four days of my adventure to Baton Rouge. There is so much to tell but I will try and give you the "Reader's Digest" version.

Satan tried to get one last dig in as we arrived at the airport. The attendant couldn't find my reservation and after much checking it was discovered that I was booked for the next day. Luckily there were plenty of seats on the plane and the tickets were switched. TAKE THAT SATAN!

The first leg of the flight was uneventful except for the "slightly" bumpy ride into Phoenix. I had forgotten about the roller coaster part of air travel. I thought it was very fitting that as we approached Phoenix the ground took on the appearance of an earth-tone quilt. It was as if Threads of Love was following me each step of the way.

As we landed, Linda our flight attendant started to sing You Are My Sunshine over the PA system. (Southwest, the airline with a heart). I told her if my performance in Baton Rouge didn't go well I would help her sing on the way home.

The flight from Phoenix to New Orleans was uneventful and the drive into Baton Rouge only took about an hour. I arrived just after dark and was very thankful for safely arriving at the Embassy Suites. The staff there was amazing! They never got tired of my trips to the desk to ask for "things to do" or directions and Herman, the Bell Captain was very kind to listen to my "adventures" each time I returned to the hotel.

As I didn't have to be at the church until noon on Friday, I decided to take a look at the LSU campus and enjoyed touring the Art Museum which was featuring a Leonardo DaVinci exhibit. I chatted with the Executive Assistant to the Director of the museum and she gave me her HOME phone number "just in case you need anything while you are here". I can't remember THAT ever happening in CA.

During the convention registration, I handed out info and had a blast visiting with ladies from all over the US. We had an amazing dinner that evening including Jambalaya, beans, salad and something called a "Boudin Ball".

The opening ceremonies of the conference went extremely well, and both songs, My Little Angel and Welcome My Child were well received.

I had until 4pm Friday to myself so I headed for the "Cajun Pride" Alligator Boat Tour. I am glad that I chose not to do the Air Boat because this one took many opportunities to stop and watch the animals, birds and "gators" in their territory. I had the opportunity to hold a baby alligator and at one stopping point when the guide asked for a female volunteer I was quick to raise my hand. ***Interesting Fact*** Alligators can propel themselves into the air 3/4 of their body length.

We (the guide and I) got out of the boat, and as I sat on a wooden beam, he lured first raccoons and then a 5 foot (at least) alligator to where I was sitting. He hit raw chicken necks on the beam and then as the alligator approached he lifted the meat to get him to leap up. There was a passenger in the boat who don't move". He got another chicken neck, hit it on the beam and the

was supposed to take a picture but he "didn't get it" on the first try. At this point the alligator was about two feet from me and the guide said, "Whatever you do, don't move!" The alligator was so close to me that when he leapt and came back down, the bottom of his mouth hit the inside of my thigh before he scurried away to eat his dinner. IT WAS PROBABLY ONE OF THE MOST EXCITING MOMENTS IN MY LIFE!

After that, I needed to slow the pace a little so I went on a tour of the San Francisco Plantation Home on the bank of the Mississippi River. It was a decorator's dream!

Back at the church that evening, two local chefs who work with John Folse (host of a PBS cooking show) came to give a demonstration of Cajun/Creole cooking. For those of you interested in this type of fare, here is the website and some of their foods can be found in Albertson's.
<http://www.jfolse.com/>

I had been "dared" to do two things while in Baton Rouge. One was to touch an alligator (been there, done that) and the other was to EAT alligator. The second of my tasks was accomplished that evening at a wonderful restaurant called Mike Anderson's. If you ever have the chance to visit, I can highly recommend the food there. The alligator was very good and to prove my claim, I had one of the ladies take a picture of me eating it.

Saturday morning was a rush of packing and getting back to the church for the closing ceremonies. After a time of worship, I sang "Caught Up In The Clouds" which was followed by many testimonies of how Threads of Love had touched individual ladies' lives. What an amazing organization. If you in anyway think that you or your church would like to be involved in this VITAL ministry, please go to the website www.threadsoflove.org and get some more information.

At 5pm Saturday, I boarded the first of two planes headed for home, arriving in Burbank about 10pm. I was emotionally and physically drained but filled beyond belief with memories that will stay with me forever.

I want to extend a special thank you to all who assisted in this opportunity to minister in the name of Jesus. A special thanks to Sissy and Courtney and Threads of Love for letting an unknown singer into their midst. My prayer is that hearts were touched and that God will receive honor and glory through all that was said and done.

God Bless you, Sandy Moffett

From one of the convention participants...

*"We're all in the NICU, aren't we?
We'll never stop needing Jesus, the
Great Physician!"*

PRAISE REPORT!

Hi Sissy and Courtney,

We have just had the most amazing month. God is Awesome! He has gotten so much from so few and given to so many! Praise Him with us for a wonderful total of 689 items for August!!

We still have the little quilts given to us from the little group that had to disband. Our nurses want to use them as isolette covers and for siblings who visit their Moms for the night at the hospital. We are in the process of adding our prayer and scriptures by iron on. God has guided us through each phase. The sweetest part is the children's handprints that are on each quilt. They were asked to decorate one quilt square each and put their handprint and name on the square. Then our ladies sewed them together. We have about 100 and will be delivering them in late Sept. or early October depending on the availability of iron on material.

We have received some thank you notes from UAB Hospital patients and Children's Hospital of Alabama in Birmingham families now so we are so glad that the prayers are getting there!! I deliver them to the nurses, but it is so nice to get feedback.

God bless you all, Carol

DIRECTIONS TO MY FATHER'S HOUSE

Make a Right onto Believeth Blvd. Keep straight and go through the Green Light, which is Jesus Christ. There, you must turn onto the Bridge of Faith, which is over troubled water. When you get off the bridge, make a Right turn and Keep Straight. You are on the King's Highway - Heaven-bound. Keep going for three miles: One for the Father, One for the Son, and One for the Holy Ghost. Then exit off onto Grace Blvd. From there, make a Right turn on Gospel Lane. Keep Straight and then make another Right on Prayer Road. As you go on your way, Yield Not to the traffic on Temptation Ave. Also, avoid SIN STREET because it is a DEAD END. Pass up Envy Drive, and Hate Avenue. Also, pass Hypocrisy Street, Gossiping Lane, and Backbiting Blvd. However, you have to go down Long-suffering Lane, Persecution Blvd. and Trials and Tribulations Ave. But that's all right, because VICTORY Street is

Hi Courtney.

Thought I would drop you a note and fill you in on what is happening in Tampa. I don't know if you already know this or not but Mary Kong is moving to Orlando so I am taking the bull by the horns with the Tampa Chapter. I have some ladies that have volunteered to help me so I am feeling pretty good about the future. I will miss Mary terribly. Hey, here is some good news... Monday after the convention, Mary and I showed the new video to a Sewing Guild that we had scheduled a presentation with. They loved it and afterwards gave us a donation of \$100. Praise God!

Have a wonderful Week. Much love from Tampa to you.

Blessings, Debbie

Sissy,

I would like to share my experience of presenting my first "delivery" of gowns to my local NICU. The assistant nurse manager's eyes welled up as she accepted the gowns. She had thought only the day prior that she wished there was more she could do for the grieving parents. Thus, it seemed that they already had use for a gown. She was so grateful for the gowns that she called over the other staff and the social worker so they could meet me and explain the mission of Threads of Love. The minister of my church made up a note to the parents and selected a prayer that we include with the packets. The staff couldn't have been more receptive. The social worker asked if there would be something for the smallest of babies that a gown wouldn't be suitable. I explained about the wrappers and said I would make some up and deliver them, also. I had thought about making the wrappers prior, however I was fearful that if I gave them too many things at once it would be overwhelming. Oh, me of little faith! I thank you for all your hard work and effort in starting and continuing this mission.

With love in His name, Linda

THREADS OF LOVE

Words and Music by Gary Brock

(Gary is the husband of Jana Brock, the head of Amy's Reflection chapter of Threads of Love in Goodlettsville, TN)

They stand at the window looking at that tiny body

The doctor said will not survive the night

So frail and so helpless – born way to early

There's not enough strength now to fight

And as that small life slips away the family holds hands to pray

And understand just why their child is gone

Some of these wounds may never heal but broken hearts need to feel

A tie that binds so they won't have to feel that loss alone

She stands at the window looking at this broken family

Praying Lord please use me to help them through

My skills are few but I can sew and Lord maybe you can show

My heart in what I make and what I do

And then her hands begin to sew the tiny hats, tiny clothes

And a blanket small to make the child look warm

These threads of love that she sews can help those broken hearts to know

That someone cares and feels that loss the same way that they do

Threads of love – that binds together broken dreams

And lets somebody know that God is there

Threads of love – it soothes the grieving families

Filled with too much pain they've had to bear

So with only talent and desire to mend those hearts

And show somehow that even in their grief that God is true

So use me please will you Lord to show them just what giving's for

And let me show someone in need what threads of love can do

Just use me please will you Lord to show them just what giving's for

And let me show someone in need what threads of love can do

please contact Jana Brock at janbrock@bellsouth.net for more information on obtaining this son on CD.

Threads of Love
A Ministry of First Presbyterian
Church of Baton Rouge
763 North Boulevard
PO Box 2006
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

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