

Sew Precious In His Sight

Volume Six, Issue Two



July, 2003

JOIN US FOR THE FIRST ANNUAL THREADS OF LOVE CONVENTION!

Held September 25-27, 2003 at

First Presbyterian Church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Thursday, September 25, 2003

4-6pm Check in/Registration

- pick up welcome bag, T-shirts and classroom map
- coffee and snacks will be available in Hospitality Room

6-7pm Louisiana Dinner

- jambalaya, salad, drinks, dessert and more!

7-9pm Kick-off Celebration—EVERYONE'S INVITED!

- special speakers, including doctors and nurses who have worked with Threads of Love; parents of babies who have received Threads of Love gifts; special music; special video and more!

Friday, September 26, 2003

9am-11:30am

2 ½ hour classes

9am-10am

1 hour classes

10-10:30am

Break (coffee and snacks available)

10:30-11:30am

1 hour classes

11:30am-1pm

Lunch Break—Traditional Louisiana fish fry!

1-3:30pm

2 ½ hour classes

1-2pm

1 hour classes

2-2:30pm

Break (coffee and snacks available)

2:30-3:30pm

1 hour classes

3:30-4:00

Break (coffee and snacks available)

4:00-5:00

Special Surprise-to be announced

5:00

Dismissed for the day – Dinner on your own

Saturday, September 26, 2003

8:30-9:30am

All Chapter heads meet with Sissy and Courtney

9-10am

Website Demonstration - www.threadsoflove.org

Computer demonstration on Excel; spreadsheets

for chapter inventory; Ideas to involve Girl Scout

Troops and student groups with Lovie Dolls;

Convention Evaluation

10-11:30am

Final Celebration – Threads of Love 'Pep Rally!'

Everyone's invited!

Testimony and History from Sissy Davis, Keynote

Speaker, Worship Time, Winners of Lovie Doll and

Burial Gown contest announced, Dismiss and go

home!

You do not have to be a Threads of Love chapter to attend. Everyone is welcome! If you cannot attend, please cover us in prayer for this big event.

ONE HOUR DEMO CLASSES INCLUDE:

- **MACHINE EMBROIDERY CLASS** - Learn the correct way to hoop fabric, learn about different threads and see a demonstration on embroidering out a pair of booties. **TEACHER: Laurie Anderson**
- **QUILTING CLASS**-Learn how to use your quilting skills for making an isolette cover **TEACHER: Barbara Chatelain**
- **BASIC CONSTRUCTION** - Learn tips on making the burial gowns, keepsake envelopes and miscarriage wrappers **TEACHER: Margaret Waters**
- **HEIRLOOM SEWING** - Learn about different techniques of heirloom for embellishing our little gowns and dress. **TEACHER: Dianne Day**

You may choose TWO 1-hour demo classes.

2.5 HR HANDS-ON CLASSES INCLUDE:

- **BEGINNER SMOCKING CLASS** - Learn how to make a smocked premie bonnet. **TEACHER: Jeannie Baumeister**
- **BEGINNING SHADOW EMBROIDERY** - For beginners. Learn basic stitches for shadow embroidery. **TEACHER: TBA**
- **SILK RIBBON** - Learn the basic stitches for silk ribbon embroidery. **TEACHER: Claudia Newton**
- **CROCHETING** - Learn basic stitches to make a pair of booties and a cap. **TEACHER: Edith O'Neal**

You may choose ONE 2 ½ -hour hands-on classes. First come, first served. If they fill up, we will place you in two additional 1-hour classes.

MORE CONVENTION INFORMATION.....

- **VENDORS:** If you do not wish to attend one of the classes, sewing machine vendors will be available with their latest models if you do not wish to attend one of the sewing classes.

Pfaff * Bernina * Brother * Husquavarna

- **CONFIRMATION:** You will receive a confirmation sheet with your class assignments, bus pass (if needed), maps to the convention, and more.
- **REFUNDS:** The \$25 registration fee is **non-refundable**. If you need to cancel your convention registration, you **MUST** let us know by September 10th, 2003. We can refund half of your \$25 convention fee if notified by this time. We need to have time to give your slot to the next person on the waiting list.

LODGING

Lodging is available at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Baton Rouge, just a few interstate exits away from the convention. Embassy Suites provides a shuttle from the airport to the hotel if you are flying.

SPECIAL GROUP RATE: \$89/for Single, Double, Triple or Quad Occupancy. Up to four people can share a room, as they all have Double or King beds!

TWICE THE HOTEL! Luxurious two-room suite, including a spacious living room and private bedroom. Also a wet bar, refrigerator, coffee maker, microwave sofa sleeper, two telephones and two televisions in every suite.

AWESOME BREAKFAST INCLUDED! Cooked to order breakfast each morning in their exclusive garden atrium and a two hour hosted manager's reception nightly

CHECK IN – 3:00PM CHECK OUT – 12:00PM

These rooms will be held at the Embassy Suites until September 1, 2003.

You must say 'Threads of Love' to get this special rate.

Reservations may be made by calling the Reservation Department directly at 225-924-6568 Monday through Friday from 8am-5pm or 1-800-EMBASSY, 7 days a week.

Embassy Suites Hotel – 4914 Constitution Avenue –
Baton Rouge, LA 70808 – 225-924-6566 –
FAX: 225-927-2816 www.embassysuites.com

HUSBAND'S FIELD TRIP

On Friday, September 26th, the husbands are invited to attend a special field trip while the ladies are sewing. For \$40 (you must send in registration \$\$ with your convention fees), the husbands will be taken on a bus to New Orleans. The \$40 fee includes admission to the National D-Day Museum, lunch, and fun with the men!

Check out the museum at www.ddaymuseum.com

WHAT TO BRING

- **EACH PARTICIPANT SHOULD BRING (if you want....)** Submission for 'The Best Lovie Doll Face!' and 'The Prettiest Burial Gown Embellishment!' Please note that these contests will be based on creativity and embellishment, not construction. We will have a display for the contest entries, and the convention participants will vote on the winners.

- **THREADS OF LOVE CHAPTER HEADS.....**Please bring samples of items that your chapter makes. We will have an area for display. However, if you want to participate in the display, you **MUST** email Sissy at sissy@threadsoflove.org so we can plan for how much display space.

- **SUPPLIES**
The only sewing supplies that you will need to bring are scissors. **PLEASE DO NOT PACK IN YOUR CARRY-ON BAG IF YOU ARE FLYING!!!** Pack them in your checked luggage so you will not be stopped at the security checkpoint.

If you are placed in a 2 ½ hour class, there will be a nominal supply fee around \$5) which will be collected at the convention.

***Get extended information on the
convention at the website at
www.threadsoflove.org***

***DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 1st, so
HURRY! Space is limited!***

REGISTRATION FORM WILL GO HERE

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NURSES FORM WILL GO HERE

WELCOME TO OUR NEW CHAPTERS!

- **God's Gift - Threads of Love** Contact: Rudene Cheves – Duncan, OK
- **In His Hands** - Threads of Love – Contact: Jean Mather – Barnes, WI
Email: jeanmath@webtv.net
- **Little Apple Threads of Love** – Contact: Marylin Werring - Manhattan, KS
Email: werring@scicable.com
- **For Love of Jenny** - Threads of Love – Contact: Chris Scannaliato
Email: chris-fine.scannaliato@vanderbilt.edu
- **St. Andrews UMC** - Threads of Love – Contact: Kate Smith – Arlington, TX
Email: koloradokate@aol.com



People are like stained-glass windows. They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in, their true beauty is revealed only if there is a light within." -Elizabeth Kubler-Ross

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

Just a short note to say thank you for your prayers and gifts (Threads of Love) for premature infants. Our twins were born on 2/13/03 at Women & Infants. Your gifts were very much appreciated. It made difficult days a little brighter knowing there were people out there praying for our little ones. The outfits are so cute and the bundle we put between our breast was unique to us. It helped me get through the times when I couldn't be at the hospital with my little ones. It is nice to know that there are so many wonderful people out there.

God Bless!!!

Kathy, John, Jonathan & Ila-Ann

Please accept the enclosed donation in memory of Matthew Joseph. Matthew was born on May 1, 2003 weighing 2 pounds and 2 ounces. Matthew developed necrotizing enterocolitis and died in his father's arms, when he was sixteen days old, wearing an outfit made by one of your volunteers. If it weren't for the outfit that you provided, Matthew would not have had anything that would have fit him. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Tracie, Gary, Ian and Hunter

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR THREADS OF LOVE!!!



FRONT

White Short Sleeve and Long Sleeve T-shirts available in Small, Medium, Large, XL, and XXL.



BACK

Threads of Love logo on the front; 'Ask me about the Threads of Love sewing ministry' on the back!

We are ordering these t-shirts in conjunction with the 2003 convention, so be sure to get your T-shirt order in by September 1st!

These are a GREAT way to get the word out about Threads of Love!

T-SHIRT ORDER FORM

YOUR NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE, ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

SHORT SLEEVE T-shirts - \$10.00 for short sleeve

Quantity _____

Small Medium Large Extra Large XXL

LONG SLEEVE T-shirts 15.00 for long sleeve

Quantity _____

Small Medium Large Extra Large XXL

Amount for T-shirts _____

Postage Due (50 cents per shirt) _____

Total Amount Enclosed _____

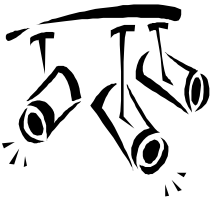
Please return form VIA US MAIL (no e-mail) along with payment to:

Sissy Davis, Director

37184 Oak Shadow Court

Denham Springs, LA 70706

(225) 791-7893 * sissy@threadsoflove.org



SPOTLIGHT CHAPTER
 One of our newest chapters, Tampa Threads of Love at Grace Family Church, was spotlighted in the Tampa newspaper when they made their very first delivery....Congratulations Mary Kong and crew!!!

PRAISE REPORT
 From Liz Page, San Antonio—SARAH chapter

This morning, June 18th, 2003, I had an emergency call for a Remembrance Bag. I had asked God in my quiet time if I was where He wanted me. I know God will provide for His ministry but I asked if I was blocking the answer to prayer. He showed me several things which I immediately dealt with. I then prayed if I should go out to church to get the Bag and deliver it or have a secretary get it and have it available to be picked up. I felt led to go.

I went to the closet while Joe got the remembrance bags. Yesterday I had ordered books for \$200. When Joe came to the closet, he asked how much I had spent yesterday. He is my financial officer, so to speak, so he knew. I said, "\$200." He handed me a check of donations for \$202.40. Praise the Lord!!!!

A custodian kept hanging around. I ALWAYS thank them as they do so much for us. Well, he kept hanging around. I said, "Tell me what is going on with you." He took a deep breath and said, "Remember your birthday (TOL) party last September?" I nodded. "Well, after we set up I stayed behind and read your scrapbooks and looked at your pictures and all that you do." He was struggling not to cry. "I have been married 10 1/2 years and I have known my wife for 25 years. In her first marriage she had a baby who lived 6 1/2 hours. I was their friend so I helped bury him. He is buried right across the street." (in a cemetery there) "What you do for so many people is so overwhelming to me. You touch so many lives." I always quickly say, "To God be the glory!!!" The man, Joe and I were all so overwhelmed. I asked if he would accept a Remembrance Bag for his wife. and he agreed. I had a boy one in my hand and when I asked if the baby was a boy or a girl, of course it was a boy. To God be the glory! I pray this account will encourage each one of you to keep on keeping on.



REPRINTED FROM ABC ACTION NEWS

Threads of Love arrives in Tampa to support NICU families
 an ABC Action News report 6/13/03

TAMPA - A group of local volunteers who sew clothes and blankets for premature babies made their first delivery Friday at St. Joseph's Women's Hospital. Their 'Threads of Love' are meant to help families in their time of need.



Little Connor Dunaway may be leaving St. Joe's neonatal intensive care unit in a couple of weeks, but it has been six months of a roller coaster ride for survival

"We've had a few incidences where we spent the night here because they didn't think he was going to make it," his mother, Mandy, recalled.

It is families like the Dunaways, living in the NICU, that can use some compassion and a helping hand.

Enter Threads of Love, a Christian volunteer organization making clothes, dolls, and blankets for premature babies nationwide. The ladies are with Tampa's first chapter, which operates locally through Grace Family Church. Connor is their first recipient.

"At first he was very small and we didn't have clothes that fit him, and they're hard to find," Dunaway continued.

Threads of Love also makes burial clothing for families who recently lost a baby, and they make keepsake envelopes so families can take special memories home and keep them forever.

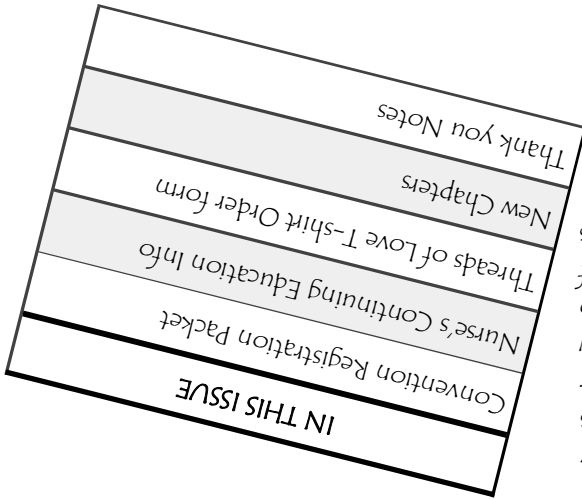


"It's very tough for parents that endure the labor and delivery of a stillborn child. They go through a lot of sad emotions, and it's very helpful when we have something to offer. We thank these volunteers for offering these, that we have something we can send home with them," explained LuAnn Peters.

Connor's mom loves the baby doll that her son can sleep with. It will pick up her smell and give Connor a sense of

mom even when she cannot be there.

For information on Threads of Love, contact:



Threads of Love * First Presbyterian Church * PO Box 2006 * Baton Rouge, LA 70821
Website: www.threadssoflove.org
Sissy Davis, Director—sissy@threadssoflove.org
Courtney McPherson, Assistant Director – courtney@threadssoflove.org

- 1 Corinthians 13:13

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

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.

Mission Statement

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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