

## Georgia Heisler

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**From:** Marilyn Moczygamba [dawn@oakhillschurch.ccsend.com] on behalf of Marilyn Moczygamba [marilynm@oakhillschurchsa.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 31, 2010 11:50 AM  
**To:** gheisler@satx.rr.com  
**Subject:** Threads of Love Newsletter



### SARAH Chapter

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**"I tell you the truth, whatever you did  
 for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."  
 Matthew 25: 40**

*Sew Much Love*

*March 2010*

### SARAH's Workshop

Dear Friends,

Many of you have asked about the status of plans and/or construction of SARAH's Workshop. We have good news! City permits were granted two weeks ago and site prep work has begun in earnest. The site has been carved out and, despite some rain days, the building footing has been formed up. As of this writing, rebars are in place and cement pouring is imminent. (Editor's Note: Done!) The handicap parking area has also been carved out. The daily progress is encouraging, and we are targeting placement of the six modules by late April. Barring any unforeseen circumstances, we will take possession by mid-May.

Please keep all aspects of progress on this project in prayer. Your prayers and encouragement have taken us this far, and we know they will see the building to completion. Thank you for those prayers.

### Hospitals and Care Centers Served

Any Baby Can  
 Central Texas Medical  
 Center - San Marcos  
 Downtown Baptist Hospital  
 Metropolitan Methodist Hospital  
 Methodist Stone Oak Hospital  
 North Central Baptist  
 (with Hondo Chapter)  
 St. Luke's Hospital  
 Santa Rosa Hospital  
 Southwest General Hospital  
 South Texas Regional Medical  
 Center - Jourdanton  
 University Hospital  
 Wilford Hall Medical Center  
 Military Hospitals in Germany,  
 Hawaii, Okinawa  
 Alyssa Clymer and Family

### Trivia #1

Reminder: Pictures of the site are on the website.

## Production Inventory

To God be the glory! God continues to bless HIS ministry with new volunteers and many donations. One of the most frequently asked questions is, "What do you make?" So here's an inventory of the items Threads of Love provides for premature babies and their parents. Please contact Liz if you have questions.

**Onesie:** An outfit to wear during the day

**Lovie Doll:** A sock doll the mother (or dad) puts in her gown overnight to pick up her scent. It is placed in the baby's isolette for bonding to the mother's scent.

**Positioning Aide:** A short or long bean bag to help keep the baby in helpful positions.

**Frog-shape Positioning Aid:** Specially designed large positioning aide used in physical therapy.

**Blankets:** Used to swaddle babies.

**Caps and Booties:** Crocheted and knitted.

**Blessing Bib:** A small embroidered bib used for baptism or prayer service (Christian or Jewish).

**Diaper Shirt:** One-piece lightweight shirt.

**Day Gown Kit:** One of three kinds of gowns, cap, booties, and blanket.

**Memory Box:** Painted papier mache box to hold deceased baby's memorabilia.

**Quilts:** crib and isolette sizes.

**Kangaroo Square:** A crocheted or knitted 18" blanket used to cover parent and baby when the baby and parent are positioned skin to skin for bonding.

**Snuggly:** A padded carrier used in isolette to provide security and an exercise mechanism.

**Isolette Cover:** A quilted top to keep heat in and light and noise out of the isolette.

**Laundry Bag:** A cloth bag designed to keep dirty laundry until taken home to wash. (This is one of the two things parents may do for their baby.)

**Infant Demise Bunting:** Used in the presentation of fetal demise babies to parents.

**Burial Gowns:** All sizes from miscarriage to preemie.

**Burial Kit:** Burial gown, cap, booties, and blanket.

**Moses Basket:** Lined and decorated basket used in the hospital in presentation of fetal demise babies to parents.

**Angels:** Cloth angel for parents who miscarry (Distributed by Labor & Delivery and Emergency Room)

**Remembrance Bag:** A gift bag for miscarriages or fetal demise which contains the book Empty Arms, a handmade angel and prayer, a Support Group flyer, a miniature memory blanket with cap and booties, a ministry tape "The Empty Crib" by Max Lucado, booklet for dads and a poem of consolation.

**Fetal Demise Transporter:** A cosmetic case decorated inside to provide a suitably discreet way for Labor and Delivery or NICU personnel to transport fetal demise babies to the morgue.

**Infant Demise Bunting:** Used in presentation of fetal demise babies to parents.

**Journal:** Gift for parents of fetal demise babies to record their thoughts and feelings.

**Covers for Z-flo Gel-filled Pillows:** various sizes.

**Caskets:** Premie-size for indigent families which are made and donated by a friend of TOL and lined by TOL members.

Who lives in New York, is blind, and has produced more kangaroo squares than anyone else in 2009?

## Prayer Requests

Alyssa Clymer  
healing without infection  
Jeanne Pierce on the  
death of her son, Brady

Heather, Dee Giberson's  
granddaughter  
healing from serious,  
aggressive cancer

Barbara Roitsch  
God's peace of mind and  
adjustment as she moves  
to Colorado

Lee Kurtz  
doctor's wisdom and  
complete healing

Carol Hierholzer on the  
death of her 99-year-old  
mother

Marilyn Moczygemba  
Successful sinus surgery  
on April 9

Betty Ade's daughter  
healing from cancer

Mannes Bumstead  
healing from hip surgery

## Trivia #2

Who made 896 pairs of booties in 2009?

## Our Needs

Booties  
Burial Gowns  
Giraffe Covers

## Trivia #3

What happened when a 60-year-old's wedding dress was being downsized to be used for lining caskets?

## Trivia Answers

#1 Helen Savicki, who is Ginny Deep's grandmother. Thanks, Helen!  
#2 Maxine Johnson. Thanks, Maxine!  
#3 Rice fell out of the roses on the back of the dress!!!

**Christmas quilts:** Given to every preemie at Christmas. Many use the same pattern throughout the year to decorate the isolettes.

**Santa hats, Christmas stockings, and ornaments:** Made by our members for every NICU baby to encourage the families at a difficult time.

**Hair Lock Bags:** A small bag with ribbon with pink feet or blue feet made to go into the Memory Box to hold a lock of the deceased baby's hair.

**Note:** In 2009, a total of 39,393 items were made and distributed to hospitals and care centers. Every item is packaged with a prayer.

Patterns available from Liz Page upon request.

**Please check the Threads web site [www.threadsoflovesa.org](http://www.threadsoflovesa.org) for pictures of recent visitors and satellite involvement.**

### **Do the items we distribute make a difference?**

We recently sent a Remembrance Bag to a couple in San Antonio. This is the email we received from the person who requested it:

"She got it last Friday on the one-week anniversary of Little Timothy's death. She was so touched she cried and cried together with her husband affording them much needed grieving and healing. She shared with me many different things in the bag that touched her in different ways--the booklet for dads, the tiny blanket and booties, the poems... She has spoken of it again and again telling me how wonderful it is. Please keep up this blessed ministry."

YOUR LABOR IS NOT IN VAIN! Thank you!

### **TOL Activities**

On Monday, February 22, Liz and Joe gave a Threads of Love presentation to nurses from Methodist Hospital explaining what we make and how they can use them. It was well received. The nurses already using our items reinforced the blessing of the TOL items for the babies, families, and nurses.

On Tuesday, February 23, we once again welcomed a group of Bible students from a class at Oak Hills Church. They came to make lovies for our ministry. This is the second visit, and there is always lots of love and laughter and LOVIES! Thanks, Ladies!

On Wednesday, March 3, Ronnie Clasmeyer, Bud and Bonnie Cheatham, and Liz and Joe were blessed to be invited to attend the Kick Off Luncheon for NAMI Walks San Antonio 2010 at Morgan's Wonderland. Our member, Jeanne Pierce, is the Walk Manager this year and hosted the luncheon. Threads of Love is supporting Jeanne by forming a TOL Walk Team. Jeanne's mentally ill son was killed a month ago so we will be walking in memory of Brady. The talks were very informative, and we were greatly encouraged to learn the scope of NAMI and how it serves our community at no cost.

NAMI stands for National Alliance on Mental Illness. The goal of the Walk is to raise public awareness and to raise funds for the programs NAMI offers at no cost to the community. Recovery is possible and the path to recovery is education. One in four adults experience a mental health disorder in a given year, and one in eight suffers profound mental illness. About one in ten children have a serious mental or emotional disorder. Fewer than one-third of adults and half of children with a diagnosable mental disorder receive any mental health services in a given year. Public awareness will help remove the stigma attached to this illness.

The NAMI mission is the eradication of mental illness and the improvement of the quality of life of all whose lives are affected by these diseases.

Joe and Liz felt led to create a *Threads of Love* Walk Team. You may ask why since we minister to premature babies and their families. We want to support our member, Jeanne Pierce, and in addition, many, but not all, premature babies have issues resulting from premature birth. This will provide resources for the families of the preemies who need help. All the funds collected in San Antonio stay in San Antonio to support babies in local hospitals as well as older members of the community. These programs include support, education, research, and advocacy.

All walkers raising \$100 will receive a NAMIWalks event t-shirt. Walkers may also receive additional prizes based on amounts that they raise up to \$5,000. Liz and Joe will also provide t-shirts for their Walk Team members. NAMIWalks is a rain or shine event.

How can you support this outreach to the community? Follow the directions provided in the next paragraph to donate and sign up to walk on the *Threads of Love* Walk Team OR donate to NAMIWalks San Antonio by giving your donation to Joe or Liz OR pray for the success of educating the community, for raising adequate funds to support NAMI in San Antonio, and for our Walk Team. All donations to NAMIWalks San Antonio are tax deductible.

We want to encourage you and your family and neighbors to go to [www.nami.org/namiwalks/tx/sanantonio](http://www.nami.org/namiwalks/tx/sanantonio). On the right side click on "Support a Walk"; then type in Joe Page and click on "find"; then click on "Page, Joe"; click on "Sponsor me now"; then complete the registration for the THREADS OF LOVE Walk Team. If you prefer to register on paper, Bonnie Cheatham, Ronnie Clasmeyer, and the Pages have registration forms. See you at the Walk!

When: May 15, 2010

8:00 a.m. Check-in, 9:00 a.m. Walk

Where: Breckenridge Park, Koehler Pavillion (across from the zoo)

Length: 3K = 2 1/2 miles

To God be the glory! As you can see, members of *Threads of Love* have been active in producing much needed items and in community involvement. We will have a new satellite to announce in the next newsletter.

### Thank You Notes

"My daughter is currently in the NICU at Methodist Hospital in San Antonio. I have been continually amazed and impressed by the cute things she has been given to make her stay more comfortable. Your craftsmanship is remarkable and your thoughtfulness even more so. Having a baby in the NICU is challenging, but when I see her in one of your adorable outfits, caps, or blankets, it thrills my heart and gives me hope. Thank you for all you have done for our family."

"I wanted to send your organization a small note, as a token of my eternal thanks and gratitude. My daughter was born at 32 weeks and is currently in the NICU at St. Luke's Baptist in the San Antonio Medical Center. She is doing well and I believe it is in great part due to the love and care that she is receiving from the nurses but also in the faithful work that your organization has done. She has been gifted with several beautiful caps and mittens and each time I visit, I can feel prayers and love that surround her. It means more to me than I could ever express. I am having a hard time even composing this email so touched is my heart. In the coming days and months and years to follow, I will remember what the volunteers at *Threads of Love* did for my child and will pay it forward at every opportunity."

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