

Missionaries to the City: New Clothes for Newborns

by Reagan O'Hare

It was a simple idea and a simple need. Yet, just standing in line to meet the need is leading people to think differently.

Last Sept. Mary Beth Brasington, an Adult Sunday School teacher at South Main Baptist Church (Pasadena), read about the need for clothing for newborn babies at LBJ hospital. She learned that about 10% of the 350 babies born at LBJ each month were leaving the hospital in need of clothing and supplies.



Brasington met with her Sunday school class of 17 members, ranging from ages 50-70 years of age, to discuss meeting the need. Working together, the group was able to provide 30 blankets, 30 caps and 30 t-shirts for the Thanksgiving holiday. During the Christmas holidays more sets were provided.

Brasington said it wasn't an expensive gesture, yet, it is making an impact. "(Over Christmas,) we did everything for the children. We provided gloves and hats for the children," Brasington said, "I went to the 99 cent store. I stood in line and there was a woman standing behind me. I told her of the need and she went back and bought the rest of the blankets and said 'send these too' and the lady who was the cashier said 'I can tell you ladies are Christians' and she said 'Let me tell you about my prayer request.'" Just standing in line provided both an opportunity to minister and the opportunity to involve another person in the ministry. Brasington still talks with the cashier and continues to pray for her family.

The ministry has a way of drawing others in. Brasington said that people want to help. "I teach at our church's four-year-old learning center. One day one of the men picked up his granddaughter, and I told him about the woman who bought the blanket. He wrote a check for \$50 to help.

"It's a simple ministry, she said, "I am just amazed at how God is opening the hearts of other people. I read a Joyce Meyer book called The Penny. The book said God will reveal things to you and you can either drop the ball or just do it then. God drops things right in front of you to change you," she added.

If you know of a "missionary to the city" in your church, please contact Dian Kidd (Associate Director of UBA) at 713.957.2000 or e-mail diankidd@ubahouston.org. We'd like to know more about where God is at work through the body of Christ.