



Colossians 3:23: "And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men..."



The view from the serving station inside the new food truck.

Isaiah 6:8: Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here am I; send me."

UPDATE FROM PASTOR RUSS AND ANNE LORIA

The Father's Heart: established April 30, 2011



Thanks for loving the hurt and lost

We have just celebrated Christmas and we pray that you have a Happy New Year.

At The Father's Heart it has been a busy two months. We had an amazing outreach before Thanksgiving where we gave out more than 90

turkeys with all the fixings. We thank all those who donated to this giveaway; it was a huge blessing.

WE STARTED using the new food truck for the ministry! It is so nice and it is amazing how the Lord provided for this truck through the many donations that have come in over the past two years and at our annual fundraisers. We thank you all for your generous support.

At two big outreaches on the two Saturdays before Christmas we gave out more than 200 gifts. We also received more than 30 boxes of Dollar Store toys that we gave away. For all those who donated toys for the kids or gifts for the adults, we say a big thank you.

AT THE start of 2020 we want to say thank you, thank you for all of you who make this ministry possible

and thank you most of all to the Lord for His mighty provision for the ministry.

Throughout the newsletters we tell you testimonies of people who are touched by the ministry in many ways, either by a hot meal, a coat, groceries, toiletries, a Bible, prayers, or by the most important of testimony, which is the salvation of an individual.

BUT WE never really share the testimonies of the individuals who come out and serve at the various outreaches through The Father's Heart. This is also a big part of the ministry, one that we need to give thanks for.

The ministry has many individuals and groups come out to serve. For the most part we have churches

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The new food truck before its first outreach.

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that serve, but there are times that we have people who serve that don't necessarily have a personal relationship with the Savior, Jesus.

WE WANT you all to know that at the ministry we not only minister to the people on the streets, but also at times to the volunteers.



To donate to The Father's Heart through PayPal, please go to thefathersheartroc.org and click the "Contact/Donate" tab for the PayPal icon. If you want a receipt, include your address on the optional address line and a receipt will be prepared for you.

Thank you!

JUST OVER the past couple of months a volunteer accepted the Lord at one of our outreaches, and a volunteer broke down in tears at an outreach during the gospel message and told us afterwards that the Lord had her come there that night to hear from the Lord so she would call out to Him. You see, in Acts 20:35 it says that it is more blessed to give than to receive. But we see that in God's faithfulness He blesses those who come to give of themselves and to help those in need.

AT THE beginning of this new year we encourage and thank you all for your prayers and support throughout the years for The Father's Heart. The prayers and support are very important and the ministry could not do what it does without them.

Thank you all for being faithful, for hearing the voice of the Lord, for your obedience, for your service to the Lord, and most of all your love for the lost and hurting in our community. Let us have a heart of thanks to our Lord throughout this new year.

THANK YOU, Lord, above all things, for your provision, for the servants, for your protection, and for using us here to be your hands and feet to the hurt and lost and broken. And thank you for allowing us to witness Your kingdom here on earth through seeing the gift of salvation right before our eyes at The Father's Heart.

1 Chronicles 29:13: "O our God, we thank you and praise your glorious name."

With many thanks and love in Christ,

Pastor Russ and Anne Loria

The Father's Heart

Our mission is to share the love of Christ with as many people as possible and try to enhance the quality of life for all whom we witness to on the streets.

We share the word of God and feed and clothe people of the streets of Rochester, bringing hope that Jesus will grab hold of their hurting, lonely, hopeless hearts to be His hands and feet extended in love!

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Extended Ministries of The Father's Heart

By Frank and Diane Rivaldo

Commit yourself to serve the Lord

As 2019 draws to a close, we're looking back at how the Lord has blessed The Father's Heart.

He certainly has done great things by continuing to supply all the needs of the ministry, including a new truck to replace the old, worn-out bus.

IT'S ONLY through the Lord that these blessings can come. He is a good and faithful God and truly deserves all our thanks and praise.

Because of God's blessings on the ministry we were once again able to bless the people at The Pines of Perinton apartments with a wonderful Thanksgiving meal and all the trimmings. They also were blessed by free groceries, and most of all by the word of God shared by Pastor Dan.

HIS MESSAGE was on John 4:1-29 (the Samaritan woman at the well). He explained how the Lord seeks out the lost, and His desire is that they respond to the good news of salvation through Him and what He accomplished by His death and resurrection.

Pastor Dan also explained that nothing is hidden from the Lord and that all our sins are known to Him, but they can all be forgiven and forgotten by Him if we confess them



Servants pray before a pre-Thanksgiving outreach.

and admit we need Him as our savior.

HE TOUCHED on the fact that we don't have to be in a church to worship Him because worship comes from the heart, and that He should be a part of our daily life. We worship Him just by including Him in our day.

We were also able to bless the people of the Pines with our Christmas outreach. Baked ham and macaroni and cheese were served, and the people received groceries, as well as Christmas presents for the children. We sang Christmas carols and shared the Christmas story.

WE LOOK forward to a new year and the opportunity to serve the Lord once again by sharing the love of Christ to as many people the Lord brings our way. What better time of year to make a commitment to serve our Lord.

When we think of all that He has done in our lives over the years it would be hard not to serve him.

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Through AmazonSmile, The Father's Heart receives a donation from Amazon of 0.5 percent of your purchase price, at no cost to you. To sign up, go to smile.amazon.com on your computer or mobile device. On your first visit, you will be asked to select a charity. Enter "Fathers Heart Ministry Roc Inc" in the box that says "Or pick your own charitable organization." You'll be directed to the Amazon website for shopping as usual.

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Our salvation alone would be enough to want to serve Him, not that we can ever repay Him. When we think of Jesus' birth and why He came it is truly the greatest gift that anyone can receive.

LET'S MAKE a commitment to love Him more, to serve Him more, and to try to become more like Him. That's a truly good gift to give to our Savior as we celebrate His birth and the reason He chose to come to this earth.

What love He showed for us by leaving heaven and being born in such a humble way, and experiencing everything we do except to sin, then suffering such a horrible death on our behalf so we can have eternal life.

JESUS IS no longer a babe in a manger but our Savior, our mighty God who will someday right every wrong on earth, and establish His kingdom where there will be no more crying and no more sorrow. We all will be with Him forever. With all that is within us praise His holy name!

We wish you all a very Blessed Christmas, and a Healthy, Happy New Year.

MATTHEW 1:23: "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel, which is translated, 'God with us.'"

Extended Ministries conducts outreaches year-round on the third Thursday of the month at Pinnacle Place apartments in Rochester and on the third Saturday of the month at The Pines of Perinton apartments, and they go out to various special outreaches with the hot dog cart from spring through fall. To volunteer, contact Frank and Diane Rivaldo at frivaldo@outlook.com



Students in the second grade put together these gift bags for the needy.

God Speaks Through the City

Part 36: Mark 12:41-44
By a servant in Christ

She needed charity but gave all she had

Christmas is often known as "the season of giving." Unfortunately, giving has largely become a secular ritual diminishing its foundation: Our Savior was born to us in a manger.

WE FOCUS on gifts to give loved ones while often losing focus on the greatest gift ever given. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

This story about giving involves an elderly lady, "Betty," who is in a wheelchair but comes regularly to the ministry's outreaches. She is

thankful for the ministry, stating how important we are to her and her family. Betty lives in poverty and cares for her husband who is often seriously ill. Given her situation, the reader may be expecting our story involves Betty receiving a perfect gift from above (James 1:17). However, God often speaks in unexpected ways.

ONE SATURDAY morning I arrived early at the outreach and found Betty already in line. After we greeted and hugged, she extended her arm with a clenched fist saying: "Here, put your hand underneath and I will drop this..."

I obeyed her request and when she opened her fist a \$20 bill dropped into my hand. "I want to give back since y'all are so important to me," Betty said.

I STOOD speechless, my eyes alternating between her loving smile and the \$20 bill. "Betty... this is beautiful... but, PLEASE keep the money. We are blessed with donations from many individuals and businesses and YOU have a greater need for this money..."

I NOTICED an expression in Betty's face that I had not seen during our interactions. She was unhappy with my response and insisted I take the money for the ministry. After much begging on my part, it became clear that I needed to accept her money even though it made me very uncomfortable. Walking to the bus to drop off the \$20 bill, I tried to think of Bible verses expressing God's love for those who give from their heart. Later in the day, 2 Corinthians 9:7 came to mind "So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver."

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During a prayer walk after Thanksgiving, volunteers prayed at every outreach site of The Father's Heart, like this one at North Clinton and Oakman.

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I missed an outreach a couple of weeks later but received a phone call from a brother telling me: "Can you believe it? Today, the older lady in the wheelchair made a \$30 donation!"

AND IT did not stop there. A few weeks later after saying hello and giving a loving hug, Betty held out her hand dropping another \$20 while saying: "Please accept this. I am giving from my heart!" I accepted her donation without pushback and prayed with her.

Betty was then absent for several weeks. She finally returned sporting a sad face. I went over to say hello and offered prayer since I sensed something was not right.

She shared with me that her husband had been in intensive care. Tragically, she also wound up in intensive care. She thanked God that they were both released from the hospital but when they got home their cabinets and refrigerator were empty. They had nothing to eat and her recent absence from The Father's Heart had made things worse.

WE HAVE guidelines for how we distribute food and meals, but given her situation I bent some of the rules. Betty was also cold, so we found her a coat and shawl that made her feel more comfortable. Although she now had food and warmth, she stated that her greatest relief came from our love and prayers.

CONSIDERING "what if's" (with an underlying feeling of guilt), what if we had not accepted her donations? Would that have helped her situation? Bringing peace to my heart, the Holy Spirit led me to the "widow's offering" story. Here was a woman in need of charity who instead gave all she had.

Wisdom is better than folly. Our Savior shines His light on our darkness.

MARK 12:41-44: "And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much. And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing. And He called unto Him His disciples, and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury: For all they did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living."

Outreach needs

Clothing: We are collecting only hats, gloves, scarves, and winter coats. We have a special need for men's gloves.

Hygiene: Toothpaste and deodorant.

Spiritual food: Teen Bibles and Spanish Bibles.

Donations can be dropped off at The Father's Heart headquarters, 678 Lake Avenue, Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 12 noon, and Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.. For information, call (585) 472-4331.