

**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."



A volunteer gives a free haircut to a young man.

#### **UPDATE FROM PASTOR RUSS AND ANNE LORIA**

The Father's Heart: established April 30, 2011



# Comfort comes in many forms

2 Corinthians 1:3-4: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those

who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."

THIS SEEMS to be a verse that we hear ourselves saying to many that come to be ministered at The Father's Heart throughout the week. This past month in particular it seemed to be a month that the Lord used us to minister to those who lost loved ones or were dealing with the struggle of substance abuse, and for the children who were just desperate for that hug and love of a person.

When we were done with the message at a Saturday outreach and were giving away the food, we were approached by a woman who comes to this location faithfully to be ministered to and to get food. She looked so sad. As volunteers

asked her one by one her how she was, she would break down in tears and hug us all so tightly, stating that her husband of 30 years had passed away suddenly.

WHAT ELSE could we do but hug her, pray for her, and just listen to her? She was so heartbroken and saw no hope, but she knew where to come to get the love and comfort that she so needed at the time. That is what we love about the ministry: that we truly are being His hands and feet by reaching out and just giving a hug.

At another location this past month we were notified that two people who usually came to the outreaches had passed away since we had come the month before. We knew one well; she would come

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monthly with her Bible and a smile to hear the word of God and to be prayed for since she had cancer. Those who were close to her were sad that evening, reflecting on the woman that she was.

We encouraged them that her battle on this earth was done. She was no longer in pain and had no more tears, but was with her Savior, Jesus. That made them all smile, just knowing that she was rejoicing with her King.

THE FINAL outreach we will talk about was on a Friday night. We arrived at this monthly outreach and were set up. But at some apartments across the street, we saw a little girl around 3 years old sitting on the stoop and crying all alone.

A volunteer approached her and asked what was wrong, but she just looked up and continued to sob. "Where is your mommy?" the volunteer asked. She kept crying as the mother came out the front door.

**THE VOLUNTEER** asked the mother if everything was OK and the mom opened up that she was



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Thank you!



A volunteer helps a young lady choose a Bible in Geneva.

struggling with depression and had just taken medicine for it so she was a little out of it.

THE VOLUNTEER invited the mother and daughter to the outreach. The mom reluctantly came over, although she didn't want to be around people. But volunteers prayed for her and ministered to her. The little girl stopped crying, came over to the bus and played with other kids, and went "shopping" for new clothes. Boy, did that bring a smile to her face!

The mom left for home with a smile on her face and that little girl held onto that volunteer's hand to cross the street, and wouldn't let go. So that volunteer sat with the girl on her lap and talked with the mom for a bit. She brought comfort to them by taking the time to just talk and listen.

**COMFORT COMES** in many forms. For some it is a hug, or a prayer, or just a listening ear, or just knowing that there are people out there who really do care.

That is our prayer at The Father's Heart: that we would be the comfort that people so desperately need. We pray that through that comfort they see the love of their Savior Jesus reaching down to them and bidding them to come to Him, rest in Him, and find in Him the peace that surpasses all understanding.

MATTHEW 11:28-30: "Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light."

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!

The Father's Heart 678 Lake Avenue Rochester, NY 14613 (585) 647-6746

Mailing address: The Father's Heart ROC P.O. Box 1134 Webster, NY 14580

On the Web: thefathersheartroc.org On Facebook:

The Fathers Heart ROC

# Extended Ministries of The Father's Heart By Frank and Diane Rivaldo

# The Lord loves us despite ourselves

As the weather has finally turned better, we were able to use the revamped hot dog cart for the first time at an outreach in Greece where people could get free dental care. So not only were they blessed with a free visit to the dentist but also were treated to a free hot dog, chips and drink.

THEY ALSO could have free candy and assorted snacks, compliments of The Father's Heart (Maybe I should keep it quiet about the candy). Anyway, the people were blessed in many ways that day, especially with having someone to talk with and pray with.

Needless to say, it was a blessed time from the Lord and we look forward to where He has us going

## **Outreach needs**

**Food:** Peanut butter and jelly. **Toiletries:** Deodorant, razors, toothpaste, and single-use toothbrushes.

**Spiritual food:** Children's Bibles and Bible story books, and Spanish Bibles.

Donations can be dropped off at The Father's Heart headquarters, 678 Lake Avenue, Wednesday through Friday from 12 noon to 5:30 p.m. For information, call (585) 472-4331.



A hot meal is ready for serving at Pinnacle Place apartments.

next. Keep in prayer that the Lord will show us.

**MEANWHILE, WE** had a great turnout and great food for an outreach at The Pines of Perinton, but most important was the message that was given.

It touched on some parables that Jesus taught about the lost coin, the good shepherd and the prodigal son. Pastor Dan expounded on how the Lord loves us and will go to any length to save us.

IN THE parable about the lost coin he spoke about the rejoicing in heaven when one person is lost and then found. In the parable about the lost sheep he told how the Lord is the good shepherd and will leave the 99 and go after the one that is lost. And in the parable about the prodigal he told how the Lord welcomes back those who have turned their back on Him when they repent and come back to Him.

**WE TRULY** serve an amazing, magnificent, loving and forgiving God. There is no other God beside Him or like Him. It brings us joy to serve Him.

When you witness the smiles on people's faces, or see the tears in

their eyes when we listen to their stories and pray for them, we know that the Lord is at work in their lives and truly loves them. As shown in those parables, God demonstrates that while we are sinners he still cares for us. We are lost if we don't have Jesus in our lives. He laid down His life for us and we can give our heart to Him and serve Him with the gifts he has blessed us with.

MATTHEW 18:12-14: "If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, does he not leave the 99 and go to the mountains to seek the one that is straying? And if he should find it, assuredly, I say to you, he rejoices more over that sheep than over the 99 that did not go astray. Even so it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish."

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

## Raffle baskets needed

"A Night of Giving Thanks," the annual fundraiser for The Father's Heart ministry, will be Saturday, November 16. We are looking for people who want to make baskets for raffles at the fundraiser. We ask that the minimum value of the baskets is \$100. Anyone who is interested in making a basket can contact Anne Loria at thefathersheartroc@hotmail.com

# **God Speaks Through the City**

Part 33: Ephesians 5:8-14 By a servant in Christ

# In God's name we expose evil

Given today's highly polarized world, it is not surprising that politics comes up during outreaches. Although the story that follows includes elements that could be deemed political, its essence is about dictatorial intolerance of God, not unlike the oppression of Israelites by the pharaohs of Egypt.



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norning. Gospel music played on the speakers, and all was ready to bless the neighborhood in His name. As Pastor Russ was setting up the microphone and sound system, I noticed a lady methodically taking pictures. Her pictures were close-ups of the tables loaded with fruit, vegetables, groceries, beverages, clothing, and tracts. Nothing wrong with that; it just seemed a bit unusual.

Pastor Russ shared the gospel, and several people raised their hands to accept Jesus as Lord of their lives, and to repent of their sins. After prayer, as workers served those going through the line, the lady continued to take pictures.

HER PURPOSE seemed to be documentation, not so much taking groceries or the meal being offered. When most of the line went through, curiosity got the best of me and I struck up a conversation with her.

It turned out that she was very jovial and appreciative of the outreach. "Alicia" explained that she was busy taking pictures to share them with others. We discussed how technology had enabled new ways to capture and share information by email or texting.

ALICIA CLARIFIED that she needed to print her pictures; "Can't use email. I am sending them to Cuba and they have trouble with the Internet." Alicia sensed my surprise and provided an explanation.

"I want to send these pictures to strong supporters of the (Communist) revolution that believe lies about America. They believe Americans are selfish, racist,



People wait in the hot food line.

imperialists that do not share anything with poor black people or Latinos. I want to expose their lies."

THE CONVERSATION then became more heart wrenching. Alicia explained in detail how she was imprisoned in Cuba because she disagreed with policies of the revolution and because she placed Jesus above all.

"Fidel and the revolution have to be obeyed and be number one. The Catholic church has become supportive of the revolution and is being tolerated, but I'm not Catholic. Yes, I love America, but I can still disagree with the government, say I love Jesus above all, and not go to prison."

Although she was going to mail her photos to hardcore support-

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Groceries and household goods are available on Hudson Avenue.

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ers of the revolution, she felt that deep inside they were "nice people." They were being told lies since all news and information come from the government.

IN OUR country, we quarrel about what the government should and should not do. Praise God we can still change TV channels for different views and not get sent to prison if we disagree with the government or if we place Jesus' name above all.

Regardless of what happens in America, Cuba, or North Korea, we rest assured that one day He will reign as King of ALL nations.

"For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the govern-

ment will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this" (Isaiah 9:6-7).

AS MOSES, David, Daniel, or freedom-seeking Christians throughout the world today, we are called to stand up and expose regimes that seek to squash faith in our Almighty God. In his name we stand. In His name we expose lies.

May God bless Alicia, and may He have mercy on those who will be a witness for God's love as it flows through His vessels in a free country.

EPHESIANS 5:8-14: "For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. Therefore, He says: 'Awake, you who sleep, arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light."



The grocery line at an outreach on Lyell Avenue.