



**Colossians 3:17:** *And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.*



*Russ and Anne Loria meet a mother and her children during one of the outreaches at the Boys and Girls Club of Rochester.*

**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."*

The Father's Heart: established April 30, 2011

## After senseless bloodshed in Rochester, the Lord brings healing, hope and joy

*The Rochester community was stunned in late August when seven young men were shot, three fatally, outside the Boys and Girls Club of Rochester. The Father's Heart ministry took its mobile soup kitchen and the gospel of Jesus Christ to the club in outreaches two nights in a row to offer the healing, hope and joy of Jesus to the neighborhood. As always, the Lord delivered. In this issue of the newsletter, three servants of the ministry — Paul Brock, Daniel Rowan and a brother who prefers to be known as a servant in Christ — share their powerful testimonies of how the Lord worked through them.*

### By Paul Brock

Going to the Boys and Girls Club of Rochester — the scene of a triple homicide eight days earlier — was not how I planned on spending my Thursday night or the following night.

On Thursday night, with about 15

other saints, we headed out to share the gospel. When we arrived at the Boys and Girls Club, there were a number of young adults grieving the loss of their three friends. Memorials were set up, hugs were abounding, and there was great sorrow over the area.

**THAT NIGHT** we did what The

Father's Heart ministry does at every outreach.

**WE SHARED** the gospel, fed the crowd and blessed them with groceries that the Lord provided. The message that night by Russ was powerful and filled with the Holy Spirit. It moved many of the adults, as only the Lord can. At one point I scanned the crowd, and every servant from The Father's Heart was praying with someone. Hearts were very heavy, grief was very real, and sadness, pain and sorrow were so very evident.

**AS WE** packed up for the evening, Russ declared, "We are coming back tomorrow night!" And he asked me, "Would you give the message?" I recall saying "Absolutely" without hesitation, but as I drove home, and

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prayed, I was at a total loss as to where to begin, what to say, and what message they needed to hear.

**IN THE** morning I typed a couple of paragraphs that I thought I would use. I prayed all day and when it was time to go back, I asked the Holy Spirit to lead the way.

How does a middle-aged white suburban male relate to the inner city youth whose friends were slaughtered? The Lord led me to share my experiences as a Rochester firefighter. I was able to grab their attention by telling them of the sadness involved when a teen-

### 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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ager is shot and killed. I told them several stories of young black men who died from unnecessary evil. I told them of hugging the mother of a young man who lay dead of a gunshot in the street.

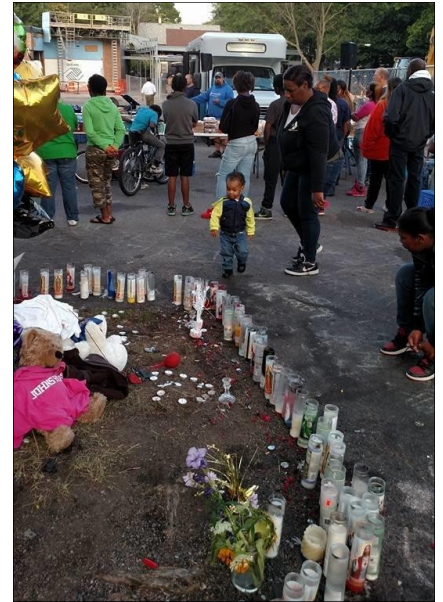
**I TOLD** them about a 5-year-old boy whose mother did not value his life and how I worked diligently for 55 minutes to try to revive this little boy. As I mentioned his name, a car was driving by. The people in the car heard his name over the loudspeaker and pulled into the parking lot. I shared with them how, as I did CPR on a hot July night, I was sweating and my tears were dropping onto his young, frail chest. I told them how I had prayed that whole time. I told them how much our Lord and Savior loved this little boy and didn't want to see him suffer anymore. That night, he went home to be with the Lord.

**THE PEOPLE** in the car were the two aunts of the boy. They were full of joy that somebody remembered their nephew. We prayed together. They praised the Lord and thanked me for being willing to come to their neighborhood.

Only the Lord could orchestrate the timing of the aunts driving by. Only the Lord could provide the healing that was so evident that night. Only the Lord could use me, and use all of us, for His glory. That Thursday and Friday were God-ordained! He provides God appointments for us. We just have to be willing to say yes!

**By Daniel Rowan**

**W**hile witnessing to a group of young men at the Boys and Girls Club on Genesee Street, I met a young man named Tommy.



*The Father's Heart bus set up near memorials to 3 shooting victims.*

**HE WAS** visibly shaken by the drive-by shootings that had occurred one week earlier. He shared with me that it was one of his friends that was murdered. I expected him to walk away after that. Instead, he stayed and listened to what I had to say.

I shared the truth with him about our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and what he has done for me and my family.

**HE WAS** captivated by our conversation and agreed that he needed the Lord to come into his life and change him. He was tired of the same old thing and expressed interest in getting involved with a church.

We gave him a list of nearby churches and exchanged phone numbers. We prayed together. He was clear that he wanted Christ in his life because he believed that the two of us talking was no coincidence and was designed by the Lord.

**PLEASE KEEP** Tommy in prayer that the Lord will water the planted seeds and bless him with his walk.

## Extended Ministries of The Father's Heart

By Frank and Diane Rivaldo

### Winter brings end to our outreach in park

Once again it is time to put away the hot dog cart and put on hold our outreach in East Rochester.

It's sad to say, but the weather won't co-operate in the winter. We will not continue the outreach inside our fellowship like last year; it was too hard for people from the village to get there, especially for those without transportation.

**GOD WILLING**, we will return to Northside Park on Magnolia Street next April or May to serve the people the gospel and hots and hamburgers once again. We thank God for the good weather we had, the great fellowship, and all those who came out each time to help minister to the dear people of East Rochester. We look forward to what the Lord will do when we resume the outreach.

**AS FOR** Pinnacle Place apartments,



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the turnout has been great. About 50 to 60 people came to hear God's word being presented and some asked for prayer afterward.

One young man named Adam, who has several times thought about ending his life because of his addictions, started asking questions about the Lord. That gave us an opportunity to pray with him and he gave his life to Christ.

**HE WAS** given a Bible and a lot of love and compassion from many people there. Please pray that this young man will read God's word and continue the commitment he has made to the Lord, and also that he will find the peace that only the Lord can give him.

Because the Pinnacle outreach is inside the building, bad weather does not affect the people coming. One night the outreach for the mobile soup kitchen was canceled because of the weather, so Russ pooled all his resources and came to the Pinnacle. We had enough food for all and everyone was thankful. This outreach continues to be a blessing to the people, the volunteers, and especially the Lord. One of our servers even sang to the Lord with the residents while she was serving them food. She also asked them if they know Jesus and if she could pray for them.

**WE STAND** committed to serving the Lord and the offer is always open to anyone who would like to serve in this ministry as well.

"... As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15).

*Extended Ministries conducts outreaches year-round at Pinnacle Place apartments in Rochester, and from spring to fall at Northside Park in East Rochester. To serve with them, contact Frank and Diane Rivaldo at [frivaldo@outlook.com](mailto:frivaldo@outlook.com)*

## Pines of Perinton

By Scott and Robin Wilson

### Prayers requested for those in need

It was a cool fall day. The tables slowly filled as the people wandered in for a hot meal and some preaching of the word.

We were blessed to learn that a young man's life had been changed for the glory of God through the ministry at the Pines of Perinton.

God is faithful to those who call on his name.

**OUR FRIEND** Laura, who was diagnosed with cancer, is cancer-free. Praise God!

Maureen and Frank were in a car accident and Maureen has five broken ribs.

We ask for prayer for our friends.

*If you would like to serve at the Pines of Perinton, contact Scott and Robin Wilson at (585) 402-5756*



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## God Speaks Through the City

Part 11: 1 Peter 1:6-9  
By a servant in Christ

### The Lord restores joy to a grieving aunt

It was an eerie evening at the Boys and Girls Club, just one week after the tragic shooting of seven young men. Not coincidentally, we wound up setting up the outreach close to memorials marking the spots where three of the victims had died.

In contrast to the somber mood around us, loud rap music, laughter, and thick smoke emanated from cars occupied by young men who appeared intoxicated. Not surprisingly, when I approached the cars inviting the young men to participate in the outreach, I was mocked and dismissed.

**OUR SOUND** system broadcast the Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir while a small team of servants began to walk the neighborhood. As we approached the Boys and Girls Club building, we were drawn by a woman singing the song being played. Her voice was bold and beautiful. She sang looking upward with emotion and conviction. Next to her was another woman who sang softly while looking down. We stopped and listened.

**WHEN THE** song ended, one of the servants exclaimed to the singer: "That was beautiful! The neighborhood would be blessed by your singing! Please come to the bus and we'll give you the microphone!"

The singing lady, whom we will call

"Tonya," responded with a beautiful smile. She rapidly approached her new fan with her left hand held up high. The two then did a "high five," followed by a warm hug.

**THE INTERACTION** was so natural and spontaneous that one of the brothers asked: "You guys know each other?" Our brother responded: "Indeed! She's my sister!"

Since Tonya was an African-American lady while the servant was white, his answer was confusing. To clarify, our brother responded: "This is better than DNA! She is my sister in the Lord!!" Laughter and another warm hug followed.

**WE CONTINUED** our neighborhood walk and returned for the message delivered by Pastor Russ. Surprisingly, some of the hard-core kids that were intoxicated in their cars were drawn by the word. A miracle was occurring in front of our eyes. Cool, black teens were surrounding middle-aged uncool white men, listening to them and glued to their every word. Telephone numbers were exchanged. Jesus was there, "to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me." (Acts 26:18).

As we ministered and shared food

#### Outreach needs for November and December

As cold weather settles in, we have a need for men's and children's winter clothing, including coats and jackets.

We also need plates, forks and hot cocoa mix.

with the people, I noticed Tonya coming toward us. She focused her attention on her new brother in the Lord, saying "I will never forget you..."

Our brother responded laughing, "Not surprised, I'm a goofball!"

**TONYA DID** not laugh this time. She became very serious, saying as her voice quivered: "That's not the reason. One of the young men who were murdered was my beautiful nephew. He was a loving young man of faith. My sister and I have been crying non-stop for a week. Today is the first time I have smiled since the shooting. You brought the joy of the Lord back into my life. I will never forget you..." We were left in total shock, praying and praising God with her for His enduring love.

**THE LORD** provided at the scene of another all-too-common tragic shooting. Serving as His vessel, one of our servants was blessed to bring the joy of the Lord to a grieving woman. A group of "cool" lost teens from the ghetto was touched by Jesus.

How can this happen? HE is the coolest of cool, the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords. Our blessed Messiah reigns.

**"IN THIS** you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, receiving the end of your faith — the salvation of your souls." (1 Peter 1:6-9).