#### September-October 2018 Volume 8, Issue 5



**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."

**Matthew 28:19:** Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations...



Pastor Bienvenu from Congo proclaims the gospel at Andrews Terrace.

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

The Father's Heart: established April 30, 2011



## Pray for people snared by drugs

P salm 86:3 says, "Be merciful to me, O Lord, for I cry to You all day long." And Psalm 61:1 says, "Hear my cry, O God; attend to my prayer."

At The Father's Heart ministry we

have seen many tears shed, and many people just coming up broken, crying and reaching for the answers, or to be made well, or to be set free.

**LATELY WE** have seen an increase in women who are in bondage to crack or heroin. One night actually sticks in our memory.

We were at Jefferson and Ruff Alley. Russ was giving the message and a woman starting shouting expletives and wanted us to leave. She was being so distracting to those who were listening to the message that one of the volunteers took her aside and asked her what was going on and if she needed prayer.

**SHE ANSWERED** that she really loved the Lord, then began to cry and wanted a hug. And then she quickly walked away.

LATER THE same night a woman came up to us, asking if we remembered her from a North Clinton Avenue outreach. She said that the Lord was looking out for her and that over a year ago she had overdosed and the Lord didn't allow her to die, but she was now addicted to crack.

She began weeping and asking for prayer and help asking if we would check on her every time that she would come to an outreach. We prayed and encouraged her to seek help from agencies whose phone numbers we gave her.

JUST AFTER that woman walked away another one walked by quickly, looking like she had some place to be. A volunteer walked to her and asked her if she at least needed prayer.

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Right then *she* began to cry and said, "It is my birthday today. I know the truth. My father is a pastor."

**THE VOLUNTEER** asked, "What is it that is holding you in these chains?" And she answered, "Crack."

The volunteer prayed for her and got her a meal but she stated she had to leave because she would

#### 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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**FathersHeartROC** 

miss getting into the apartment she was staying at and would have no place to sleep that night. Just as she turned away a car pulled over with some men in it and she got into the car and drove away.

These women have two things in common: They are bound in chains to the things of the devil, but they also are crying out to the Lord, pleading with Him for help.

**THEY WANT** to be made whole but they can't fully surrender. They know He is Lord, but He is not Lord of their lives yet. The drugs and other demonic influences are controlling them.

Please pray for these women, and for all those like them that we minister to every time that we are on an outreach. Pray that when we look at them, that we are looking at them as the Lord would see them.

**1 SAMUEL** 16:7 says, "But the LORD said to Samuel, 'Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.'"

We know the Lord is doing a mighty work. Times are getting darker and the battle is getting fierce but we know who the victor is, and He lives in us.

Revelation 21:4: "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."

**UNTIL THAT** day though we must continue to be His hands and His feet.

In Christ, Pastor Russ and Anne Loria

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

## Fight temptation with God's word

Our outreaches at the Pines of Perinton are always held the third Saturday of the month. Those who came to the most recent outreach were blessed with a wonderful meal and groceries to take home.

**MORE IMPORTANTLY,** they were blessed by a message given by Pastor Dan about resisting temptations.

The scriptures he used were from the devil's temptation of Jesus in the wilderness. We can all benefit from the example Jesus set in Luke 4:1-13.

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Keep your calendars open for **Saturday, December 1,** the annual fundraiser for The Father's Heart.

Details will come, but anyone who is interested in making a gift basket valued at least \$100, or heading up a table, can call (585) 472-4331.

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James 4:7 says, "Resist the devil and he will flee from you." Jesus did just that by quoting scripture. That's why it is good to read and memorize scripture. When we get tempted we can fight back with God's word.

AS PASTOR Dan taught, he gave good examples of how we are tempted, and each step that takes place leading up to the actual sin. It was a great message that we all needed to hear, especially in the days in which we are living. Being tempted is not a sin, but it is when we give in to temptation that it becomes a sin.

There are many temptations we all face every day, and in God's strength we can turn away from them.

PRAY ESPECIALLY for our teens, that they would grow closer to Jesus, and want to be more like Him so they can resist many of the temptations all around them. Pray that they would make good choices with the friends they pick, the shows they watch, the music they listen to, and where they go on the internet. These are some of the tools Satan uses to cause us to fall into his trap.

1 Peter 5:8: "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks

### **Outreach needs**

**Clothing:** Kids' clothes, men's jeans.

**Toiletries:** Conditioner and razors.

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

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.



Blessings from our gracious Lord at Pinnacle Place.

about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour."

The Father's Heart is a valuable ministry because it makes people more aware of the message of the gospel and the hope we have in our redeemer and savior Jesus Christ. It brings to people hope that there is a way to break free of temptation and sin by putting our faith and trust in Jesus.

**HE LOVES** us and will rescue us from every evil. All we need to do is call upon Him and He will answer.

"You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world" (1 John 4:4).

Extended Ministries conducts outreaches from spring to fall on the second Thursday of the month at Northside Park in East Rochester and 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. To volunteer, contact Frank and Diane Rivaldo at frivaldo@outlook.com

# **God Speaks Through the City**

Part 28: 1 Peter 2:21-25 By a servant in Christ

### God shows His blessing in a young girl's smile

The word "blessing" has several meanings depending on how it is used. It often refers to a special favor or gift bestowed by God that brings joy, mercy, or undeserved benefits. The story that follows took place at Brown and West Main streets in a parking lot next to a recent outreach of The Father's Heart. It was there that beautiful examples of God's blessings were clearly revealed.

AS PASTOR Russ began sharing the word I noticed a weeping woman in the passenger seat of a parked car. As I approached the car she extended her hand and said,

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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!

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"This is so beautiful. We are so thankful to have you here..."

"Anna" introduced her husband "Jim" sitting in the driver's seat. "Jim and I have been together for 17 years. He has always been there for me through very difficult times," she said with emotion.

**SHE THEN** said: "Meet 'Blessing' " as she pointed to the back seat. I was confused at first until I looked behind Anna and I saw a precious little girl smiling at me.

Anna cried while sharing her powerful testimony. She thanked God for His grace during her addiction to crack cocaine while pregnant. Prospects for a healthy baby were low. Guilt and self-condemnation were devastating. After a challenging pregnancy, the baby was born a perfect little girl, a wonder of His creation and named 'Blessing.' After



A young lady passes out Bible tracts at Edgerton Park.

Blessing's birth, Anna gave her life to Jesus and never did drugs again.

Anna wished to get closer to the preaching so the three of them got out of the car. Anna approached the outreach while Jim cared for Blessing. When Anna reached the curb behind Pastor Russ, she knelt on the ground, face close to the pavement, with arms stretched out loudly proclaiming, "Thank You Jesus! Thank You Lord for Your love and grace!"

"O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker" (Psalm 95:6).

WHEN PASTOR Russ finished I offered them groceries, clothing, and a hot meal. Anna was very thankful but insisted that she wished to make a donation to The Father's Heart. I tried to persuade her to keep the money, but she insisted: "We want to give!"

Because they are not a family of great means, I responded, "Anna, the three of you have already given to the ministry. Not with your money, but with your hearts."

ANNA ASKED Blessing about \$10 she had earlier received as a gift. Blessing smiled, nodding her head in approval and offering a tightly wrapped \$10 bill.

I paused to ask God for guidance and He gave me clarity. The vacuum this money would leave in their wallets will be filled with the love of Jesus in their hearts.

It took some time for Anna to unfold the bill. When she gave it to me, I stretched it as flat as possible and placed it in the bus as their offering. I was blessed with hugs from the whole family as they left with the joy of the Lord.

**GOD SPOKE** through Brown and West Main streets. A baby was born in perfect health despite her heavily addicted mother. An addict found

hope, love, and healing with Jesus. A marriage remains strong despite many trials and tribulations.

Job 5:9: "Who does great things, and unsearchable, marvelous things without number?"

**UPON REFLECTION,** the greatest blessing that day was one we often witness in the ministry and our daily lives. God's only begotten Son became man and fully paid on the cross for our transgressions. Only through Him, sinners like Anna and I are healed.

1 Peter 2:21-25: "For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps: 'Who committed no sin, nor was deceit found in His mouth'; who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously; who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness — by whose stripes you were healed. For you were like sheep going astray, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls."



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