



The grocery line at Thurston Road and Chili Avenue.

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



People are hungry for the word of God

Matthew 4:4: "But He answered and said, 'It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God."'"

We have been so excited to get

back out on the streets of Rochester the past two months. So blessed to see everyone we missed who couldn't get to the weekly outreaches that we did at our headquarters from March through June.

AS WE pulled up the truck at many sites throughout July and August, the people from the neighborhoods echoed the same thing: Yes, they missed the food and missed seeing us, but many of them said, "We miss hearing the word of God." They needed the food that would fill them spiritually, not just physically.

With all the violence going on in our city and across the nation some may feel that it is hopeless. We are here to tell you that we have seen the Lord move in many

mighty ways. He is still on the throne.

ON ONE Friday evening the truck pulled up to a corner where five people had been shot a week earli-

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The food truck at Pinnacle Place.

Behind the scenes



Volunteers for The Father's Heart often work in the background to support the ministry. This group from Lakeshore Community Church came to headquarters on Lake Avenue to sort donations, clean inside, and spruce up outside.



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er. People were drinking in the parking lot, but they soon moved to allow the truck to set up. They also turned down the music from their cars.

AS WE set up, worship music began to play, people were being prayed for throughout the parking lot, and then the life-saving message of Jesus was preached. The Holy Spirit filled that parking lot.

People in line were in tears, crying out to the Lord. Some were asking for forgiveness, some were just asking for prayer for provision, for safety, for health. But the Lord moved that night. The darkness fled and in its place the light of the Lord shone to the people all around.

THERE IS a song by Elevation Worship called "Here as in Heaven." Some of the lyrics say, "The atmosphere is changing now, For

the Spirit of the Lord is here. The evidence is all around, That the spirit of the Lord is here ... Overflow in this place, Fill our hearts with Your love, Your love surrounds us, You're the reason we came, To encounter Your love, Your love surrounds us."

WE HAVE seen this come to pass at many of our outreaches the past two months. The Lord filled His children to minister His love to those we encountered through The Father's Heart.

Please continue to pray that all the servants of the Lord are filled afresh with the Holy Spirit as we continue to go out and share the love of Christ. Pray for protection, pray for endurance, and pray that there would be a huge harvest of souls for Christ. Pray, pray, pray! We love you all.

God bless,
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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The view from the front lines

The Father's Heart is fighting a spiritual war against the powers of darkness, and our outreaches often have a profound impact on the volunteers who serve. Two volunteers recently shared their thoughts. One asked to be nameless; the other asked to be known only by his first name.

By Jason

The Lord abounds where man cannot

During difficult times these past six months, we can attest to the Lord's mercy, lovingkindness and faithfulness.

From the perspective of a volunteer serving for the glory of God, it's amazing to observe what He is doing. I've seen God's awesome handiwork when man's ability was clearly lacking.

WITNESSING God's provision during these times can only point to His amazing love and power. Groceries and hot meals help physical needs; however, people have shown a great hunger to fulfill a spiritual need that is missing in their lives. It is a blessing to know as Jesus said, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled" (Matthew 5:6).

During the time when it wasn't possible to have mobile outreaches, He brought the people to the outreach headquarters.

During the time when lockdowns made it difficult to reach the lost and hurting, He abounded with op-



Praying at an outreach.

portunities to pray and share the gospel with people in their vehicles.

DURING THE time when there was scarcity on the shelves, He abounded with provisions. God performed these wonders for His glory, and we give it all to Him for He is worthy to be praised!

Psalm 145 encourages us to praise the Lord for his goodness and wonderful works. "Great is the Lord and highly to be praised, and His greatness is unsearchable" (Psalm 145:3).

WHEN SPEAKING with and praying for people, the hurt and anxiety in their eyes was sometimes palpable.

There was a family with a young child who asked for prayer for health and protection. Some people wanted prayer for sick family members, while others were searching for the word of God and asked to be saved.

MANY, MANY times tears streamed down while sharing the love of Jesus and praying for their needs. The Holy Spirit was called and working in people's hearts at those very moments. It is a powerful reminder that we serve a living God who continues to work in the hearts of the saved and unsaved.

Having opportunities to pray with people and point them to Jesus really strengthens the faith of the believers. It also encourages us to pray without ceasing (1 Thessalonians 5:17).

LINES OF cars waiting outside the ministry's headquarters building have changed into lines of people at mobile outreaches. We see familiar faces and new ones, and people ask to hear the word of God preached.

We've been catching up and rejoicing with people we haven't seen in months. They are grateful The Father's Heart is back to mobile outreaches; we point them to Jesus and give thanks to God.

We give Him all the glory for what He has done and will continue to do, knowing we serve a faithful and loving God.

A caring stranger leads him to Jesus

Today a woman came to me and told me a man behind her in line (she did not know him) was not in a good place. She asked if I could pray for him.

I approached him and I asked him how he was. He looked down and shook his head, saying, "Not good."

HE SHARED that he was homeless, living at the park a few blocks away. He was in pain since he was hit by a car crossing Lake Avenue. The driver did a hit and run. He told me that he wanted a gun, "Not to kill or rob anybody but to put a bullet through my head."

We prayed. I shared the gospel with him and offered him a Bible. He said, "Yes, I need it bad," and

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wept. I also gave him three tracts with the theme, "Why does God allow suffering?"

HE WAS very thankful. I told him not to look at our sick world but to look upward to Jesus who loves him and will never forsake him.

As Russ shared the gospel (right in front of this man), the man wept, wiping tears from his eyes. His fists were clenched, eyes closed, looking upward. When Russ offered prayer, he raised his hand, thanking Jesus and thanking the ministry.

HE WENT through the food line but wasn't sure what to do with the frozen uncooked food since he lives at the park.

When the outreach finished, he came over holding bags with food and the meal, and squeezing the Bible with tears in his eyes. He told me, "Thank y'all and thank Jesus. I am looking up. He's with me ..."

The times are crazy but The Father's Heart is being used by Jesus for His glory.

Bless you guys.



Donated frozen food ready to distribute.

God Speaks Through the City

Part 40: Colossians 1:19-22
By a servant in Christ

The love of Jesus forgives all of us

It was a sunny Saturday on Lyell Avenue and the line of people listening to the word of God was long. When Pastor Russ asked if anyone wished to accept Jesus as Savior and receive prayer, an elderly man lifted his arm.

SINCE HE was in a wheelchair in the middle of the crowd and nearby servants did not see him, he started waving his arm vigorously to get our attention. I rushed over and ministered to him, sharing God's glory and love.

"Wallace" passionately repent-

ed of his sinful ways and surrendered his life to Jesus with one arm raised. He was in bad shape, missing teeth and some fingers, and I asked him if he wished additional prayer for anything else in his life. He started to cry and asked me to pray for his loving wife who was very ill.

I BENT down to be at his level and after the prayer, he suddenly grabbed my head and kissed me, in humor apologizing for his bristly beard.

Jokingly, I mentioned it reminded me of an incident pruning roses in my yard and called it a "close encounter of the prickly kind." He laughed and wanted to continue in fellowship.

WALLACE SHARED that he was illiterate and was in prison for many years. With sadness he repented of his many sins while in prison, saying, "I will not be forgiven."

I told him to rest assured; if he truly surrendered his heart to Jesus and repented in his heart, he would be forgiven. He smiled with joy and gave me another cheek kiss.

DURING HIS time in prison, Wallace shared that he was beaten badly, placing him in a coma that lasted three months. Although doctors thought there was little hope for him, he miraculously came back to life and realized only God could have done it.

He became a believer when he regained his senses but felt blessed for this day when he openly proclaimed his love for Jesus and repented of his sin.

AS WALLACE shared his testimony, he wanted to show me what he relied on during tough times. He opened his clenched fist (missing some fingers) to show me a ring he

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was wearing. It was silvery, plain, and did not look like a wedding ring.

NOT KNOWING how to respond, I politely said: "Very nice." He then rapidly turned over his hand to reveal a cross that was attached to the ring.

Wallace explained that whenever things get too tough to handle, he clenches his fist and feels the cross, being reassured that Jesus died for his sins and was with him. His favorite Bible verse is John 3:16. Although he can't read, he has memorized some Bible verses and recognizes them in print.

I PUSHED him through the line as we continued to talk, and he was blessed with groceries and a delicious meal.

After Wallace finished eating the meal, I pushed his wheelchair to the sidewalk. He asked me to pray for his wife's salvation. He ministers to her often and hands her a Bible, but she pushes back, saying it is too hard to read.



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!



Free groceries on Lyell Avenue.

ALTHOUGH SHE is not illiterate, her reading proficiency is not high, making the thickness of the Bible and its fine print intimidating.

I offered to find something that she could read easily and, God willing, strengthen her faith. I left him to search for tracts on a table and a bin outside but found nothing appropriate.

THERE WAS another bin of tracts in the bus and on top of the pile there was a small booklet that had John 3:16 in large print on the cover. Hoping this would be appropriate, I brought it to Wallace to see what he thought.

He squinted, trying to decipher what it said, and after examining it he exclaimed with joy, "It's John 3:16!"

WE HUGGED, he stated his appreciation and love for the ministry, and rolled away due west on Lyell Avenue.

I am thankful to God for allowing me through The Father's Heart ministry to meet Wallace, an elderly,

wheelchair-ridden, illiterate man having a long history of sin and imprisonment. After surviving severe injuries and a coma from a brutal beating, he continues to face difficult trials and tribulations.

DESPITE IT all, this saved loving man takes comfort in being reconciled by the peace of the cross of Jesus. The Lord of his ring will never forsake him.

Colossians 1:19-22 says, "For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross. And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight."

"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

Outreach needs

At this time we still are NOT collecting clothing donations. Our greatest needs are toiletries and large-print 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.