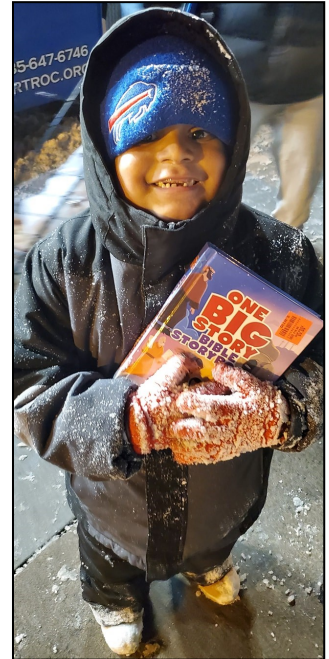




*Isaiah 6:8: Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here am I; send me."*



*This young man received a children's Bible from the ministry. Donations of Bibles are always needed; see the Outreach needs box on Page 3 for details.*

**UPDATE FROM PASTOR RUSS AND ANNE LORIA**

**The Father's Heart: established April 30, 2011**



## Through it all, Jesus was true

**P**salm 27:13-14 (NKJV) says, "I would have lost heart, unless I had believed That I would see the goodness of the Lord In the land of the living. Wait on the Lord; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the Lord!"

**AS 2021** begins at The Father's Heart we cannot help but look back and reflect on the year 2020. What a year it was: Covid-19, protests and riots, politics; with all this came loss of jobs for many, depression and anxiety ramping up, addictions and overdoses on the rise, sickness and loss, and a loneliness that some have never had to deal with.

You could sense many felt hopeless and afraid of what the next day would bring to their lives. There were times that you could even see it on the volunteers' faces: fear, doubt, and weariness.

**BUT THROUGH** it all the volunteers continued to come out. The Father's Heart was able to continue to go out throughout the city of Rochester and spread the good news that Jesus is the Savior of the world, that He has overcome the grave,

and that death has no hold on the believer.

**THERE IS** a hope in Christ that can never be found on this earth. Jesus is the victory, Savior, and Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, who was and is and is to come. He is the answer and the One that this world needs to turn to.

That is why The Father's Heart continued to go out throughout all of 2020. We needed to point the people to the One they could call upon, the One whose promises never fail, Jesus. He allowed us to do that and we are so thankful.

**THE LORD** not only strengthened the servants of Jesus at The Father's Heart in a mighty way this past year, He also showed His faithfulness, provision and love for the people in mighty ways.

*Continued on Page 2*

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We thank the Lord that in just the month of October we were able to distribute almost 5,000 boxes of food via the Farms to Families program through City Serve and NYSUM, to those in need in Rochester and our surrounding area.

**WE THANK** the Lord that we were blessed to be able to give out more than 260 turkeys and bags of side dishes for our Thanksgiving outreach.

In December at our Christmas outreach we handed out more than 250 turkeys and bags of side dishes along with almost 500 gifts, 375 hot meals and some Christmas trees.

Throughout the end of 2020 we witnessed those on the streets who said in tears, "The Lord knew what we needed," "Someone led me here," and "Thank you. We had no money to get gifts for our kids this year."

**THROUGH THOSE** sayings many servants were able to smile and say, "That is Jesus, your provider and most importantly the One that you can cry out to for salvation."



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.



*As a line forms down Lake Avenue, volunteers for the Christmas outreach distribute turkeys, gifts, hot homemade meals and the love of Jesus to those in need.*

So, as we share a few of the many miracles, and ways that the Lord showed Himself faithful and true, we cannot leave out all those who prayed for us, came out and served with The Father's Heart, and donated. Through these things, Jesus showed up in mighty ways. He is providing more than ever. At the start of this New Year, we are excited to see the many things that the Lord will do at The Father's Heart ministry in 2021.

**THE RACE** is not over yet, brothers and sisters. Let us keep running to finish it strong. Let's look up and keep that eternal perspective this year.

Love In Christ,  
Pastor Russ and Anne Loria



*A hot meal made from scratch and served with love.*

## 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 your mobile device:**  
m.thefathersheartroc.org

**On Facebook:**  
The Fathers Heart ROC

**On Twitter:**  
TFHMinistry7



By Maryann Quirk

## The Lord is faithful through our struggles

**J**ehovah Jireh, my provider! God uses The Father's Heart ministry in an awesome way to provide the word of God, food, clothing and prayer for all who come to be served.

It was an amazing blessing to be a part of the Christmas outreach. I loved seeing the hands and feet of the body of Christ (more than 30 volunteers) work together to serve the community in such a powerful way!

**I HAD** the privilege of praying for people along with my father-in-law while they were standing in line waiting to pick up food and Christmas gifts. We had the opportunity to hear the testimony of some who were believers continue to praise God for the ministry as well as praise God for his faithfulness even through their tremendous struggles.



*Presents prepared for giving.*



*Food ready for distribution.*

**AS WE** prayed some were moved to tears; it was evident that God was working on their hearts and dealing with their struggles in those moments.

One woman shared she had just moved down the street and was beyond thankful that we were there. There were children, people of all ages and even women days away from giving birth standing in line and hoping for better days.

**I PRAISE** God for the blessing of working alongside His faithful servants Anne and Russ and I am thankful for the gift of being a part of such a powerful ministry that God uses as a beacon of light in our city!

*Maryann Quirk is a volunteer.*

## God Speaks Through the City

Part 41: 1 John 4:17-19

By a servant in Christ

## Perfect love casts out fear

**S**ometimes we get into autopilot modes, becoming creatures of habit with a 'been there, done that' attitude. History repeats itself at times, but as James 4:13-14 (NKJV) points out, we often do not know what lies on the horizon and must reach out to our Sovereign God.

**"COME NOW,** you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit'; whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow."

Having been a servant of The Father's Heart ministry for many years, I have experienced those "been there, done that" moments.

Although the story that follows starts out exactly as the last article

*Continued on Page 4*

## Outreach needs

**Food:** Canned goods.

**Spiritual food:** English, Spanish, and children's 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.

**Continued from Page 3**

of God Speaks Through the City in the September-October issue, I learned that a “cookie cutter” mentality is not what God desires of His vessels.

**IT WAS** a sunny Saturday on Lyell Avenue. The line of people listening to the word was longer than usual as a result of compliance to Covid-19 social distancing guidelines. When Pastor Russ asked if anyone wished to accept Jesus as Savior, many raised their hands.

At the very end of the line, a lady standing next to a gentleman waved her arm emotionally, reminding me of “Wallace” in our last story.

“Olivia” wept, saying she wanted Jesus in her life but, unlike Wallace, did not mention any repentance of her sinful ways. Instead, she asked an unusual question: “Please explain what ‘fear of the Lord’ means. I read the Bible every day and this terrifies me...”

**CATCHING ME** by surprise, I explained that fear of the Lord can be thought of as being overwhelmed in



To donate to The Father's Heart through PayPal, please go to [thefathersheartroc.org](http://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!



*Menacing clouds on Hudson Avenue don't stop an outreach before Thanksgiving.*

reverence and awe for Him. This type of fear drives us to respect God as our Father, encouraging our submission to Him as His children.

Olivia listened attentively but admitted that her fear of the Lord drove her to torment. In encouragement, I explained that fear of the Lord is powerful, giving us the knowledge and wisdom to follow and obey Him as in Proverbs 9:10 (NKJV): “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.”

**OLLIVIA ABSORBED** the information looking downward, as if in shame, while the gentleman with her, “Calvin,” looked upward with his eyes mostly closed.

After taking a deep breath, Olivia stated: “My fear of the Lord is terrifying. I prostitute myself and do drugs. God is going to strike me down for my sins...” Calvin made eye contact with me as if confirming her confession.

Olivia claimed that she read the Bible every day, so I suggested that she reflect on verses that addressed her concerns. The Lord loves us, sent His only begotten Son to save us, and is longsuffering in spite of our sinful nature.

**YES, FEAR** of the Lord is “the beginning of wisdom” but she needed to turn her fear and sorrow into repentance.

“Now I rejoice, not that you were

**Continued on Page 5**



*A volunteer distributes baked goods to a person in need on Lyell Avenue.*





*Food for the body and the soul.*

**Continued from Page 4**

made sorry, but that your sorrow led to repentance. For you were made sorry in a godly manner, that you might suffer loss from us in nothing. For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death" (2 Corinthians 7:9-11 NKJV).

**REPENTANCE SEEMED** to hit a nerve. Olivia firmly stated: "I cannot repent..."

When I asked her why, she said after some hesitation: "I may repent of my sins today, but it will only be a matter of time until I sin again..."

I tried to explain God's grace and His promise to blot away our sins when we humbly seek His forgiveness. After salvation, the Holy

Spirit dwells within us and guides us to avoid sin. "For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age..." (Titus 2:11-12 NKJV).

**I TRIED** to comfort her, explaining sanctification: We are not perfect after salvation and will sin at times, while gaining awareness of our wrongdoing, and curtailing future sin. Sadly, Olivia still refused to repent. Calvin shook his head looking upward in frustration. Two weeks later I approached Calvin at another outreach, seeking an update. Calvin responded by shaking his head, tightening his lips, and saying: "Our prayers must continue. Olivia has not changed her ways..."

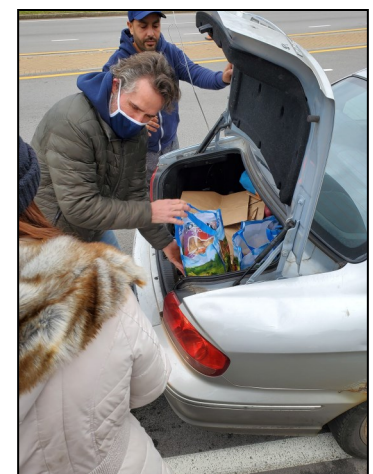
**WHEN PASTOR** Russ calls for people to raise their hands if they wish to be born again, he often says: "This has to be real. Raise your hand only if you truly mean it..."

Olivia's fears and feelings of guilt were real, but acceptance of His amazing grace also requires our heartfelt responsibility to repent and change our ways. I hope and pray that Olivia's fear of the Lord will change into one of awe and love for what Jesus did for us on the cross.

**1 JOHN 4:17-19** (NKJV) : "Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love. We love Him because He first loved us."



*Jayden, a young lady volunteering for The Father's Heart, collected donations of toiletries and hygiene items for distribution as part of her Girl Scout Silver Award, the second-highest award a Girl Scout can earn.*



*A volunteer loads a car trunk with a turkey and all the fixings at the Thanksgiving outreach.*