



Hot meals to go are served on Hudson 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



## A planted seed grows bountifully

**P**salm 27:13 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."

Throughout the years the Lord is always faithful to show The Father's Heart some fruit from doing what

the Lord has called us to do at the ministry. In September, Pastor Matt Smeltzer, a brother in the Lord who runs Bethlehem Family Shelter and also works at The Salvation Army, shared with us a testimony from the streets.

**HE POSTED** this testimony to Facebook, and we know that not everyone has Facebook so we share this to encourage all of you who are praying for The Father's Heart or volunteering with the ministry.

"An interesting example of sowing seeds....." Pastor Matt wrote.

"A homeless man came to me today, broken and filled with shame. He said that he really wanted help because he was having continuous thoughts of suicide and he didn't trust himself.

"**WITH HIS** consent, I called 911 for professional support. And while we

were waiting for them to arrive we prayed together and talked about the trap of shame ... and the freedom found in Jesus Christ.

"**HE SAID** that he used to live at Pinnacle Place apartments and it meant a lot to him to hear the gospel being preached by The Father's Heart ministry. He believes hearing the gospel was what gave him the hope to reach for help.

"Very often in ministry we never know how God will use our obedience. Thank you Pastor Russ and Anne Loria!!! — Pastor Matt Smeltzer."

**WHAT AN** amazing testimony to hear and what encouragement it brought to us.

Along with that encouragement it showed us that as it says in 2 Corinthians 9:6, "But this I say: He who

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sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.”

**WHEN WE** as the body of Christ are obedient to plant those seeds the Lord is the one who will bring the harvest.

That man who sought out Pastor Matt was struggling, was listening to the lies of the enemy, and didn't feel his life was of value. But thankfully because of the obedience of Matt, the Lord showed him His love for him and the Lord even reminded him that He was there and ministering to him when The Father's Heart would come to his apartment building and share the gospel.

**THANK YOU,** Jesus, that His word never, never returns void and that the Lord's love is truly everlasting.

As the days are growing darker the light of Jesus will shine brighter. We thank all the ministries that are out there sharing the Good News, bringing hope to the hopeless and preaching the truth in the midst of all the world's lies.

**IT SAYS** in Ephesians 4:16, “from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.”

Let's continue to walk in the calling that the Lord has called us each to do. When we do that we will see the darkness flee and the light of the Lord shine.

Love in Christ,

Pastor Russ and Anne Loria



*Prayer is always available at ministry outreaches.*

**By Anne Loria**

## The Lord will give beauty for ashes

**P**roverbs 19:20-21 says, “Listen to counsel and receive instruction, That you may be wise in your latter days. There are many plans in a man's heart, Nevertheless the Lord's counsel — that will stand.”

**THIS WAS** one of my daily verses when I was away to Cincinnati checking out two different ministries that reach out to women who are trafficked and the “working girls” on the streets.

I went there not really knowing what to expect but I went with a prayer that the Lord would speak to me and direct me to

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## 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 on 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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Unless noted otherwise, all scripture in the newsletter is from the New King James Version.

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what His vision is for Redeeming Love, a new branch of The Father's Heart ministry that reaches out to addicted and exploited women on the streets of Rochester.

One of the Cincinnati organizations, the Women of Alabaster, has three parts to its ministry.

The first part is street outreach from their vehicle, where they pray with the women and provide snacks, toiletries, and clothing.

The second part is a walk-in place where the women can take a shower, take a nap, have a hot meal, get clothing, and receive prayer. The women can sign up for health insurance, apply for a driver's license or a birth certificate, get into detox, and just have a resting place for a few hours twice a week.

The third part is a home for women, called Agape Farm, where the women stay up to



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!



*The crew from Beauty For Ashes ministry is ready to go out to minister to the women on the streets of Cincinnati.*

two years once they are out of detox. The organization helps them get their GED or an associate's degree, helps them find a job, provides trauma counseling, Biblical teachings and devotions, and helps them find a place to live.

The other ministry, Beauty For Ashes, has a small bus that goes out once a week. They drive throughout the city and when they see a woman in need they pull over and have her come inside to receive clothing, toiletries, and prayer. They also provide transportation to detox facilities or shelters.

Both organizations are amazing, and I learned a great deal.

On the night I went out with

Beauty For Ashes we met a girl named Faith at the first stop we came to. She was so young and under the dirt on her face from sleeping in the woods was such a beautiful face.

She came to the back of the bus and sat in the "Princess Chair" and asked for prayer.

She was living on the streets, her mom is an alcoholic, her kids live with her grandparents, she had been homeless for quite a while, and she was tired. She wanted to find a place to sleep where she wouldn't be afraid of being attacked.

We called several places and even drove to a shelter, but she was turned away from all because they were over capacity.

She burst into tears several times throughout those few hours we were with her. We prayed over her, we cried out for the enemy to flee, for her to find shelter, but at the end of the night we had to drop her off at a building where she would be sleeping

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### Amazon shoppers have a new way to donate

Are you interested in donating to The Father's Heart ministry? If so, we have a new way you can get involved! For more details, please check out our Amazon Wishlist on the homepage of our website [www.thefathersheart.org](http://www.thefathersheart.org)

Once there, click the "TFH Amazon Wishlist" button and shop for items that we use for our various outreaches! All items will be shipped directly to us. Thank you in advance and may God bless you always!



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on a hard floor, but at least out of the woods.

**BEING IN** Cincinnati just reaffirmed to me that the need is everywhere. There are so many women on the streets. So many looking for hope, so many fearful for their lives, so many addicted to the drug that is their heavy chain.

As I watched Faith walk away that night, I prayed that the Lord would protect her, that she would follow up with the ministry the next day, that she would be able to get into a shelter where she could get rest, and that the Lord would restore her and her family and set them all free. I prayed that the Lord would be her hiding place and that He would shelter her under His wings.

**UPON COMING** home I have many ideas and thoughts. I am asking for prayer that the Lord directs Redeeming Love.

I ask you to pray that the Lord would provide a van where the wo-

men could come in to sit and have a meal. We would pray with them and give them clothes and toiletries and provide transportation to detox and rehabs.

**PLEASE PRAY** that it would be a place where they would feel safe for a little while. Pray that it would be all the Lord guiding this ministry and not man, and that He would be at the center of it.

Pray that we would be a light in this very dark world. Please pray for these women; for their safety and protection, for them to surrender to Jesus, and that they would know they are loved with that everlasting love.

**ISAIAH 61:3** says, "...To give them beauty for ashes..." We want these girls to come alive in Christ and be transformed by the power of Jesus.

Love in Christ,  
Anne Loria

## God Speaks Through the City

Part 52: James 2:1-5  
By a servant in Christ

### He finally realized that Jesus loves him

**T**his summer The Father's Heart took its ministry to Ontario Beach Park on four Sundays for "Reach the Beach for Christ." In addition to Pastor Russ and other pastors preaching the word of God, crowds were attracted by musicians playing worship music, children's activities, meals, and servants handing out tracts. The ministry was blessed by being at the Portside



*The food truck serves meals at Lyell Avenue and Sherman Street.*

Shelter, a key location close to the walk by the beach and Charlotte Pier.

**AS I** walked around handing out tracts, I saw a young man riding an electric wheelchair on the pier. Approaching him, I noticed that his body was literally covered head to toe with tattoos. I mentioned to him that it would be a blessing if he joined us to glorify God, have a free meal, Christian fellowship, and prayer.

"Gabriel" was appreciative but reluctant to join us; "I don't think you want me there. Just look at me..." His negative attitude encouraged me to convince him to come, starting a long personal conversation.

**WE SLOWLY** made our way to a gazebo next to the Portside Shelter and with some help, Gabriel worked his way out of the electric wheelchair and onto a bench. He shared his earlier struggles with drugs and sin that lead him to dark places.

"I should have never done drugs and gotten all these tattoos. I have

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## Outreach needs

**Clothing:** We are collecting only men's and women's jeans, hoodies, coats, and new underwear and new socks. Please, no dress clothes at this time.

**General:** Feminine toiletry items.

**Spiritual food:** Kids' Bible books.

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.



*A young man shows off his new Bible story book while a servant of the Lord offers a Bible book to another child. The ministry needs donations of children's Bible books. See Outreach Needs on Page 4.*

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been stopped by the police suspecting me to be criminal just because of my appearance. When I told them I could not get out of my car and stand on the street by myself, they began to pull me out, until I told them, 'See my wheelchair...'

**SURPRISINGLY**, Gabriel shared his early life by singing a Christian song he sang as a child:

"Cristo me ama,  
la Biblia dice así.  
Cristo me ama bien lo sé.  
su Palabra me hace ver  
que los niños son de Aquel  
que El es nuestro Amigo fiel."

Translated: "Christ loves me, the Bible says so. Christ loves me this I know. His word makes me see that children are of Him, who is our faithful Friend."

**I WAS** truly touched by Gabriel as he shared what happened during his episode with drugs: "I was able to stop cold turkey — have been clean for years but now concerned that I may return to my ways... how can I stop myself??"

My answer was short: "Jesus."

We listened to a pastor's beautiful sermon, followed by Pastor Russ as he shared the gospel. "Did you hear him?" I asked Gabriel. "Yes, very inspirational," he replied.

**"WELL, YOU** know what? Pastor Russ and his wife lead this ministry and he, like you, was a hardcore drug addict. But the Lord set him free forever by His mercy and grace. I will introduce you to him..."

Again, Gabriel was reluctant to connect with others given his past and his appearance. I assured him, "Pastor Russ and others would love to meet you!" while sharing from 1 Samuel 16:7:

**"FOR THE** Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart."

Gabriel finally made his way to the shelter but was reluctant to go where meals were given out. I went to the servant passing out the hot dogs and meals, told him what was going on, and with a smile he waved Gabriel over.

**GABRIEL FINALLY** came. After the meal, I introduced him to Pastor Russ, who shared his powerful testimony, the gospel, and prayer. Gabriel then approached me with tears in his eyes saying: "I don't know what to say, except thank the Lord for this day." I gave him a schedule of the ministry's outreaches. We hugged, and he went home. As Gabriel's song confirms: "Christ loves me, the Bible says so."

**JAMES 2:1-5:** "My brethren, do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with partiality. For if there should come into your assembly a man with gold rings, in fine apparel, and there should also come in a poor man in filthy clothes, and you pay attention

to the one wearing the fine clothes and say to him, 'You sit here in a good place,' and say to the poor man, 'You stand there,' or, 'Sit here at my footstool' have you not shown partiality among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brethren: Has God not chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?"



*A long line for groceries.*

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