



A servant hands several hot, tasty meals to a woman at a Lyell Avenue outreach.

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



God shines on us; let's shine for Him

Psalm 96:1-4 says, "Oh, sing to the Lord a new song! Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, bless His name; Proclaim the good news of His salvation from day to day. Declare His glory among the nations, His wonders among all peoples. For the Lord is great and great-

ly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods."

THE LORD IS so worthy, and we are always in awe of how He provides above and beyond all the time at The Father's Heart. It has been a busy few months.

On November 11 we had our annual fundraiser, which was a luncheon at the RIT Inn and Conference Center. We are overwhelmed by how He provided through His children again above and beyond.

THEN WE HAD our annual Thanksgiving outreach on November 18 where we gave out more than 240 turkeys and side bags of fixings, along with more than 350 hot meals to go. All the side bags came from donations from you all, and many were blessed.

It is always a drive-up, walk-up event but everyone is prayed for



Serving those in need at the Christmas outreach.

and given a booklet telling them the salvation message of Jesus.

Our annual Christmas outreach was huge this year. It was on December 16 and we gave out more

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Clockwise from top left: Turkeys are unloaded from a freezer, a Christmas tree is tied to a car, prayer is offered, and children check their gifts.

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than 250 turkeys and side bags of fixings, along with more than 400 hot meals.

ALONG WITH ALL that we gave out close to 500 gifts to men, women, and kids. We even gave out Christmas trees and wreaths that were donated by Wayside Garden Center in Fairport.

Our annual Christmas party for the kids of Edgerton Community Center was December 21 and we gave gifts to every kid who attends the Bible Club that we help with on

Thursday nights throughout the school year. We even had leftover gifts to provide for the Webster Avenue Community Center!!!!

WE SAY ALL this because He is so worthy to be praised! How can we not make it known to all those we encounter that there is a Savior and His name is Jesus, Wonderful Counselor, Alpha and Omega, the Great I Am, Heavenly Father, and Prince of Peace!

Because of all your prayers, donations and above all Jesus providing, we can keep going out to the

streets of Rochester to declare Jesus to those who are hurting, lost, lonely, addicted, and forgotten.

We pray that the coming New Year would continue to be filled with opportunities to serve Him and declare Him to all.

WE PRAY THAT we would see our city of Rochester become a city set on a hill shining for Him.

We thank all of you for everything. We can't do it without you all.

We pray that the Lord blesses you and your family in this new year and that He would shine upon you, and that you would all shine for Him! We also pray that all of us would declare His glory and His wonders to all.

Happy New Year and love in Christ,
Pastor Russ and Anne Loria

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 our homepage at: www.thefathersheartroc.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 and you will be billed through Amazon. Thank you in advance and may God bless you always!

Amazon has ended its AmazonSmile program, which benefitted the ministry. Many thanks to those who used AmazonSmile to donate to the ministry. We ask that you prayerfully consider donating through Amazon Wishlist.

Redeeming Love

By Anne Loria



Redeeming Love is a branch of The Father's Heart ministry that focuses on addicted and/or exploited women on the streets of Rochester.

She saw Jesus' love and accepted prayer

Matthew 25:35-36 says, "...for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me."

THIS VERSE MAKES me think of the outreach we did for those we serve through Redeeming Love on the day before Thanksgiving. Russ made a whole Thanksgiving meal and we plated up about 30 to 40 meals and hit the streets, driving around to see who we could bless.

There were many that day, both men and women, who ran up to the van wanting a meal. It was cold and I couldn't help but notice that many of the people had tattered coats or no coat at all, no gloves, and no hats. Some were even dressed as if it was summertime.

WE HANDED OUT gloves, hats, socks, leggings, and some

coats, and most walked away with smiles on their faces and a hot meal in their hand.

ONE GIRL, "SUSIE," immediately opened the container of food and ate it while we were talking with her. She was so hungry that it was gone within two minutes.

She commented on how good it was to have a hot homemade meal. We gave her a second meal as she couldn't have weighed more than 90 pounds, if even that.

IT WAS SUCH a blessing to see her be able to eat, and yet so sad to think that she hadn't eaten like that in so long.

But that wasn't the only blessing that day. You see, Susie never let us pray with her. She normally took the bag of toiletries and snacks and sandwich or salad and ran away. But not on this day; she stayed and talked to us.

RUSS SHARED HIS testimony as to how he was an addict and about 27 years ago the Lord came into his life and set him free. He shared that Jesus could do that in her, that she was worthy of His love for her, that when He died on the cross, He was thinking of her.

Well, she listened as she ate her second meal, and at the end of the conversation she said YES to prayer!!!!

AS IT SAYS in Matthew, we clothed them, we gave bandages to some who had wounds, we fed them, and we gave them water, all in the name of Jesus.

I believe that day Susie saw the love of Jesus like never before and a little bit of the hardness of her heart softened and she began to maybe believe that Jesus did come for her and that

He loves her, and that He hasn't forgotten her.

AS WE START this New Year at Redeeming Love, we pray that it will be a year full of many miracles, that many would see the love of the Savior, that many would be set free, and that above all they become daughters of the King of Kings.

Happy New Year and blessings,
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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Unless noted otherwise, all scripture in the newsletter is from the New King James Version.

God Speaks Through the City

Part 59: Ephesians 2:1-5

By a servant in Christ

His salvation blocked by unbiblical burden

During the holidays, The Father's Heart ministry blesses the needy with meals, groceries, clothing, and hundreds of Thanksgiving and Christmas turkeys. "...for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me" (Matthew 25:35-36).

MINISTERING TO those in need of salvation is a key mission as directed by Jesus: "And He said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will

Outreach needs

Clothing: Deodorant, new women's underwear, and winter coats.

Spiritual: Kids' Bible books.

For newly purchased items, please consider making the purchase through Amazon Wishlist. See the Amazon Wishlist box on Page 2. Or, 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.



The food line forms at Lyell and Sherman on a cold December morning.

be saved, but he who does not believe will be condemned" (Mark 16:15-16).

FOOD AND CLOTHING clearly meet important temporary needs, but salvation leads us to Him for all of eternity. As this story will present, "religious baggage" at times can make it difficult for some to be born again of the Spirit.

As Pastor Russ was preaching on Lake Avenue about salvation and being born again, I noticed a gentleman, "Larry," weeping while wiping tears from his eyes. After the message, I approached Larry, asking him if he was touched by what he heard and needed prayer.

WITH HIS HEAD down, he shook his head no but was thankful for my concern.

After I summarized Pastor Russ' message about salvation and being born again, Larry's weeping escalated in intensity and emotionally he hugged me, saying "I love you." I proceeded to pray for him as he held his head down. In some ways it was a beautiful experience, but I felt an emptiness given Larry's lack of communication. I prayed that I would see him again.

TWO WEEKS LATER on Hudson Avenue I was busy setting up groceries on the tables when all of a sudden, I heard someone scream

my name from the line. Sure enough, prayers were answered and there was Larry standing next to his bicycle. I approached him and we had a nice conversation as I continued to share how much Jesus loved him.

ABOUT 30 MINUTES later, Pastor Russ shared his message and while he asked people to raise their hands to receive Jesus as Lord and Savior, Larry began to weep again. History repeated itself and I prayed for discernment for how to best minister to him.

When the message was over, I approached Larry and again he hugged me. This time my conversation and offer to pray for him was specific to his salvation.

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The gospel message is presented.

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Larry sadly shook his head saying "I can't be saved..." "Why can't you be saved?" I asked. Larry's weeping intensified and he said: "I have been divorced three times, each time because of my drug addiction and sins ... I can't be saved..."

I RESPONDED: "IF you repent of your sins, and confess that Jesus is Lord, and truly believe He rose from the dead, by God's grace you will be saved ..."

Larry looked confused and asked me, "What is it about grace?" I explained that grace is God's gift, giving us salvation that we do not deserve.

WE STARTED A long discussion and after some time, Larry shared his testimony of having been a Jehovah's Witness and his departure from his church because of his sinful nature.

I finally began to understand his attitude and his weeping. Jehovah's Witnesses do not believe in true grace. In their bible and writings,



Volunteers for the Christmas outreach at ministry headquarters.

the word "grace" is substituted by "undeserved kindness." They believe salvation can only be obtained by meeting stringent requirements in order to become one of the 144,000 who will go to heaven.

I explained to Larry how Paul persecuted Christians and was an enemy of Jesus before Jesus confronted him on the road to Damascus. That was much worse than three divorces and drug addiction, but by grace through faith he was saved.

LARRY LOOKED DOWN and remained silent. Unbiblical beliefs overwhelmed him, explaining his lack of understanding of God's grace.

Prayers for Larry's discipleship and his abandonment of unbiblical religious beliefs continue. Let not his heart be troubled. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life.

EPHESIANS 2:1-5: "And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the de-

sires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)..."



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!



Hot meals are prepared for serving.