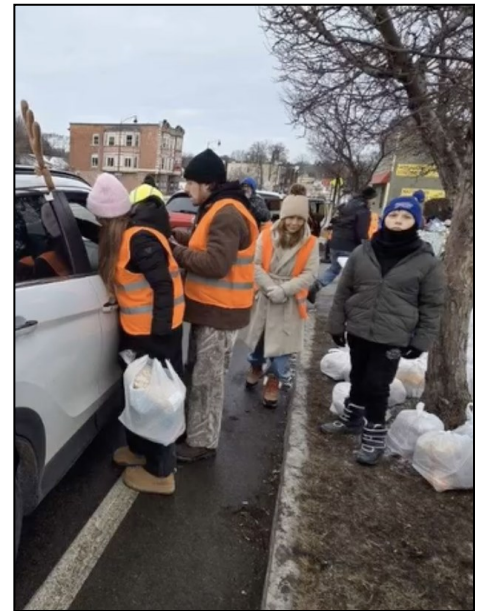




**Isaiah 6:8:** "Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' Then I said, 'Here am I! Send me.' "



*Servants load cars on Lake Avenue at the Christmas outreach, which drew more than 250 people in need.*

UPDATE FROM PASTOR RUSS AND ANNE LORIA

The Father's Heart: established April 30, 2011



## We stand in awe of the Lord's works

**W**hat a year it has been at The Father's Heart Ministry! We think of Isaiah 43:19: "Behold, I will do a new thing, Now it shall spring forth; Shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

**THE LORD** has done new things this year with the Soup and the Savior Shed. We have seen many come to the shed and receive prayer. Some have gone into detox programs, and some have just found a place to get a hot meal and to sit and chat and walk away knowing that they were seen by God and provided for and not forgotten.

**SOME HAVE** called out to the Lord and made Him Savior of their lives. Many of the volunteers feel like some of those who walk up have become like their kids. We trust that in 2026 the Lord will continue to use the shed and the home-cooked meals served there, and prayers spoken to show His eternal love for each and every one of them.

**BOY, THIS** Thanksgiving and Christmas season was busy. The Lord pro-



*A hot sandwich is served on a cold day at the Soup and the Savior shed.*

vided again, as He always does. We weren't sure where we were getting the turkeys for our Thanksgiving outreach. We knew we were getting 70 from a trucking company in Lan-

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caster, Pennsylvania, but we needed close to 200 more.

**WELL, OUR** God knows our needs. A brother in the Lord asked Russ how many turkeys he needed. Russ said 200, and guess what that brother said? He said, "Russ I am going to buy 200 turkeys." Thank you, Jesus!

We also want to thank that brother, the trucking company in Lancaster, and Northfield Church for their generous monetary donations to go towards purchasing the sides for all the side bags, and all the individuals who donated side bags. Because of all your generosity we were able to give out 250 turkeys along with side bags full of all the fixings for their Thanksgiving meal. It was such a blessing and we even got a thank you note from a family that was blessed with everything.

**THEN FOR** Christmas we gave out close to 250 hams, chickens, and



*Turkeys and bags with all the fixings are ready for the Thanksgiving outreach.*

turkeys along with side bags again. Along with all those we gave out more than 300 children's gifts, 170 women's gifts, and 150 men's gifts. All adults got a gift for themselves

and took home a gift for their kids, and every kid who came through the line was blessed with a gift.

**ALL WERE** prayed for and given a booklet telling them about Jesus. Thank you to all the donors and to The Charles Finney School for all the side bags you collected. What a blessing!

At our Edgerton Kids Club Christmas party, we were able to teach the kids about Jesus and all the kids were given a story booklet about Jesus and the real meaning of Christmas, and each got a cross necklace. Thank you to those anonymous donors who made that happen.

**WE JUST** stand in awe of all the Lord did in 2025, and we are looking forward and upward to Jesus and all that He has for The Father's Heart in 2026. Let's press on, brothers and sisters, looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith.

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



## 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.*

## God's goodness shows in transformed lives

In the beginning of 2025 the Lord gave me a verse regarding the Redeeming Love ministry for the year. It was Psalm 27:13, which says, "I would have lost heart, un-

### Amazon shoppers have a new way to donate

Are you interested in donating to The Father's Heart ministry? If so, we have a way you can get involved! For more details, please check out our Amazon Wishlist on the homepage of our website:

[www.thefathersheartroc.org](http://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!



*People loaded with bags of fresh groceries and bread line up on a frigid December morning to receive hot meals from the ministry's mobile kitchen.*

less I had believed That I would see the goodness of the Lord In the land of the living."

**WHEN I** think back on this past year, we have truly seen His goodness in the women that we have ministered to on the streets of Rochester.

We have seen the Lord's faithfulness by hearing and answering the prayers of all the volunteers and women who pray for these women week after week, day after day.

**WE HAVE** seen some of the women get off the streets, we have some start to open up to us and trust us, we have seen some becoming open to the Lord and to prayer, and we have witnessed to and have gotten to pray with some to receive Jesus as their Lord and Savior!!!

We have seen those who were sober prior to 2025 remain sober. Some have gotten jobs and apart-

ments, had children, and been reconciled with family members. We have seen the Lord's provision through many of you by your generous donations of all the clothing, toiletries, and food items that we give out to the women on the streets.

**I WANT** to let you know that every item that is given out is given out in the name of Jesus. So now I ask myself if Psalm 27:13 was truly a verse for this past year. Yes, it was, and I trust that the Lord will continue to show His goodness in the land of the living in 2026.

For the holiday season with Redeeming Love, Russ made more than 60 hot meals that we served the day before Thanksgiving out on the streets. All of the women loved the home-cooked, hot Thanksgiving meal, and were blessed.

**FOR CHRISTMAS** we gave out to the  
*Continued on Page 4*

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women 70 gift bags full of goodies. For these gift bags we thank Webster Assembly of God. Many women were blessed through the gifts. They felt special and not forgotten and their smiles were awesome to see.

**PLEASE KEEP** us all in prayer in 2026 as we go out and be His hands and feet extended in love to those who feel hopeless. Pray that as we continue to tell them about the One who is our only Hope, that they come to know him, Jesus, as their Hope and Redeemer.

I pray that 2026 will be full of many blessings and new beginnings for your family and you all. I pray that you all press on, seek Him, behold Him, serve Him, and love Him more every day. May you all trust that you too will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

Love in Christ,  
Anne Loria



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!



*Prayer is a vital part of The Father's Heart ministry. At left and right, prayer on two separate Saturday outreaches at Lyell Avenue and Sherman Street.*

## God Speaks Through the City

**Part 71: 1 Corinthians 1:30**

**By a servant in Christ**

### God helps us grow as we reach others

**A**lthough The Father's Heart ministry follows an orderly process established over the years, sometimes the streets provide challenges on how to deal with situations we encounter.

**AS 1 PETER 3:15** states, we need to be ready for challenges involving our faith and how we share the word of God: "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear." The events of the story

that follows caught me by surprise, causing me to reexamine my perspective regarding certain areas while meditating on the situation at hand.

After Pastor Russ asked street people to lift their hands if they wanted to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior, I noticed a boy's hand lifted up. After approaching him, I saw that an adult was holding the boy's arm up while the boy looked down. The adult told me how important it was for his nephew "Aaron" to accept Jesus into his heart.

**I MINISTERED** to Aaron, telling him how Jesus gave His life for him and rose from the grave after being crucified and buried. To better connect with him, I bent down to his eye level, asking if he would accept Jesus into his heart, and he responded: "Don't know ..."

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I asked Aaron if he had any questions I could try to answer, and his response was: "Just not sure ... too many words for me ... " I reached out to Aaron and hugged him, telling him how much Jesus loves him, as he shrugged his shoulders and smiled.

**WHEN I** said goodbye to Aaron and his uncle, a gentleman, "Vince," who witnessed what just transpired, tapped me on the shoulder asking: "Can we talk?" We proceeded to get into an interesting conversation. Vince expressed his support for what we do in the streets ministering to the lost saying: "Sometimes it helps to touch peoples' hearts using pictures."

I asked him to explain. Vince then took out his cell phone and showed me a very detailed drawing.

**"SEE THIS** drawing? I drew it to share Jesus with my elderly mother. Like that boy, she had difficulty understanding who Jesus is, and after studying the picture, she gave her life to the Lord. She continues to

reflect on the picture; maybe a picture like this could have touched that boy ... "

**VINCE GAVE** me his cell phone, and I examined his drawing in detail. Vince's artistic talents were amazing. The drawing depicted Jesus wearing a crown of thorns while looking upward, with rays of light emanating from Him. Next to Jesus was a scroll, and in the distance was a dove flying over Calvary. I gave Vince my phone number and he texted me the picture.

Although I was in awe of Vince's drawing, a thought entered my mind involving the second commandment: "You shall not make for yourself a carved image — any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth" (Exodus 20:4).

**I PRAYED** for wisdom and carefully continued to examine the drawing. Jesus was shown looking up to the Father and "... His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became white as the light." (Matthew 17:2). I recalled from Luke 4 how Jesus used a scroll of the book of Isaiah in a synagogue to preach the gospel. The dove in Vince's drawing represented the Holy Spirit, thereby completing the Trinity.

**AS I** continued to examine the drawing, it struck me that Vince's elderly mother connected to Jesus through this drawing. Published books that include biblical imagery are often read by elderly people who have dementia, or by small children. As Aaron pointed out,



*Fresh groceries are distributed at The Hamilton apartments on Mt. Hope Avenue.*

teaching the Bible to Vince's mother may have been "... too many words ... " Since Vince's drawing helped bring his elderly mother to the Lord, a children's Bible story book may have helped Aaron better understand who Jesus is. The Father's Heart gives away children's Bible books with pictures that Aaron could have benefitted from.

**AS THE** saying goes: "Learn something new every day ... " Evangelism can be a learning experience, doing so with gentleness and adapting to the situation at hand. Thank You, Lord, for the sanctification You provide us as we encounter situations that help us grow in the Spirit while ministering in the streets for Your glory.

1 Corinthians 1:30: "But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God — and righteousness and sanctification and redemption."

## Outreach needs

**Clothing:** Winter gloves and hats.

For newly purchased items, please consider making the purchase through Amazon Wishlist. See the Amazon Wishlist box on Page 3. Or, donations can be dropped off at The Father's Heart headquarters, 678 Lake Avenue, Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 12 noon, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday from 8 to 10 a.m. For information, call (585) 472-4331.