



# THE FATHER'S HEART



The Father's Heart, hears the call to go to NYC



"Hebrews 13:16 "Don't forget to do good and to share what you have with those in need, for such sacrifices are very pleasing to God."

*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 RUSS AND ANNE



About a week after Hurricane Sandy hit the east coast, The Father's Heart packed up with the mobile soup kitchen and went to NYC to help with the disaster relief efforts. We soon saw the destruction of the storm as the first day we went out to the Far Rockaway area that was hit by the fierce fires and extensive flooding. We saw the over whelming devastation hands on, boats and cars upside down in the middle of the road, houses washed away, etc. It was something we have never seen.

The Father's Heart was able to go into the hardest hit areas of Far Rockaway, Coney Island and

Staten Island. All we wanted to do was to serve the hurting people in these areas. The people couldn't believe that we drove down from Rochester, NY to come and help them. From the bus, we served a hot homemade meal. For some it was the first hot meal in over a week, and the people were so thankful to receive it. Going over the time there, I was brought to the book of Acts- 11:29, "Then the disciples, each according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren dwelling in Judea." That was our team of seven men. With a desire to be God's hands and feet to the people of NYC, we were there to give our time for the Lord to serve the people in whatever capacity we were able.

God opened my eyes to see how much we take for granted in life that seem so small but are so important, like having hot food, electricity, running hot water, a blanket to keep warm, and other simple blessings in life that a lot of

times we don't even think about. What a blessing it was to give for the sake of THE GLORY OF GOD so that God could use us as a light to those that have lost all their possessions. It brings to mind the verse Isaiah 58:7-8, "Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, And that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; When you see the naked, that you cover him, and not hide yourself from your own flesh? Then your light shall break forth like the morning, Your healing shall spring forth speedily, and your righteousness shall go before you; The glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard."

Through practical needs, God opens doors to be a light to the lost and hurting. By our love for God, He will use us as a conduit, a spark of light to sow a seed of God's light into their hearts so that the next person can come along and water it more and in God's grace and timing that person will

be led into the arms of the Saving Savior Jesus Christ. As Romans 2:19 says, "And are confident that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness."

The week was led by the Lord to the different locations mentioned above. It was there that we worked with different churches. So much happened, we heard many stories of miracles and light in the darkness. One of those stories was of a woman named Maria whose apartment was on the first floor of her building. She, her son and dog were in their home when the water began to flood the room they were in. Maria's son grabbed a knife and cut a hole through the wall where they climbed through the hole to get to higher ground. Amazing. Another story was one in Staten Island with a woman named Risa who told us about her husband and sons that saw the next door neighbor in the rushing waste deep water holding onto a fence with his new born baby. Risa's husband and sons straddled themselves together and grabbed the baby out of the father's arms and got the baby to higher ground. Praise God they were able to rescue this little one. We were able to share the love of Jesus with Risa and pray for her family and especially for her little beautiful daughter who is battling with cancer. Please keep her in your prayers. In the course of the week, we served over 1,600 hot meals, provided hundreds of blankets and bottled water and above all shined for the Glory of God!!!

We would like to thank all the men of God who came and gave of their servants heart for this trip. For all those that gave of their time to prepare for the trip. For the boys up in Messina, NY who we

fellowshipped and served with and to NYSUM (New York School of Urban Ministry) for housing and feeding us and allowing us to prepare and store everything at the facility. Trader Joes for all the food donations. To all those that had a burden to give to make the trip possible. And so importantly, all to those that prayed for us. The prayers were felt. Please continue to pray for the ministry and for the next trip down to NYC from November 29<sup>th</sup> through December 6<sup>th</sup>. We love you all and are so thankful. Ephesians 3:20 says, "Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us."

Blessings,  
Russ and Anne Loria

## Pines of Perinton

Contributed by Scott and Robin Wilson

The third annual Pines of Perinton Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings was served to many a smiling faces on November 15th. The message of giving thanks was received by soft hearts, the worship group from Pittsford Community Church was a blessing to all the residents and servants alike. There were about thirty in attendance, servants included. Many children were present which made the afternoon shine. We would like to give thanks to the youth leader and the many youth that came out to serve from Pittsford Community Church.

Many thanks to all who were a part of this special day, for the many hands that prepared food and that helped in the kitchen. A special welcome back to Robin Wilson, who rejoined the ministry after a short absence due to

Cancer treatments. Eph. 5:20 "Always giving thanks to God the Father, for everything in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ."

## Cadillac Hotel

Contributed by Frank and Diane Rivaldo

We are always amazed at how faithful the Lord is. We arrive at the Cadillac Hotel each week about 6:30 p.m., and it always looks like we won't have enough people to feed. Then as we are busy setting up the tables and dishing out the food, the people start coming one by one. Soon the room is filled with hurting and hungry people. They listen to the message that is shared and are grateful for us being there. We are always excited when people ask us for prayer; or to explain some question they may have concerning the gospel and salvation. We have some very gifted people who share the gospel week after week with a message the people can understand.

Our annual Thanksgiving dinner went well, with about twenty five to thirty people being fed spiritually as well as physically. The meal was great! We served turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, mac & cheese, corn, rolls, pumpkin and apple pies.

We are so thankful to all that are involved in giving of their time and talents. Please continue to pray for this outreach, and that more people will give their hearts to Jesus. Please consider coming to the Cadillac and minister with us. It is a blessing.

# Sharing

CONTRIBUTED BY:  
ELIM BIBLE INSTITUTE  
STUDENT  
KAITLYNN MERCKLING

As a student at Elim Bible Institute, I've been working with The Father's Heart now for only two months. Yet, I've seen tremendous blessing take place. People's lives are truly affected each time a team goes out. The Lord has made us to be His hands and feet, and this ministry takes that call seriously! They do a tremendous job of balancing "faith and good works." They minister first to the spiritual needs of a person; but also tend to their physical needs. As the Bible says, "faith without works is dead" (James 2:20).

This ministry simply GOES! They go out and minister to the hurting, the broken, and the poor. They serve with no questions asked. Russ and Anne have dedicated their lives to see hearts transformed by the truth of God's Word and the power of the Holy Spirit. I get so excited every time I get to go out with this ministry because they let us loose!

We get to pray for people's needs—whatever they may

be. Sometimes people need physical healing, so we pray... and people are healed! Sometimes people need to be encouraged, loved, or built up. Sometimes they just need a hug!

Personally, after spending my week being filled with God's Word, I'm ready to explode! I just need to share the Gospel with the lost and the broken. As Christians, it's so important that our lives are a constant *overflow*. We cry out for more of God's love, grace, and power, and then we pour out everything we have to the broken and lost of the world. There is no need to worry whether or not we will wear ourselves out. As long as we stay hungry and dependent on Jesus, we will be filled with His Spirit. To quote Bill Johnson, "The Holy Spirit is in you as a River, not a lake." Constant overflow!

No matter what your gifting, I encourage you to join with The Father's Heart. I encourage you to come out ready to pour the Spirit of Jesus Christ onto the poor and hungry of this world. People need to see the love of Christ displayed. I can tell you from my own personal experience; that I could never have fathomed the Father's love for me until someone came alongside

me and showed me unconditional love.

As I said, no matter what your gifting is, you have a place in this ministry. Pray and ask the Lord to give you vision for how you can join hands with The Father's Heart—don't miss out on the fun! There's nothing like seeing a group of people receive Christ. There's nothing like wrapping your arms around a hurting single mother while she weeps all over you. I've been tremendously blessed by serving with this ministry, and I can't wait to see what the Lord has for the rest of this year! I pray that you come and take part in this ministry with us, and I am sure that you will be truly blessed and filled with joy!

In Christ,  
Kaitlynn Merckling



Russ preaching at Oakman Street



As the world transitions into that time of year where we celebrate the birth of our Savior, perhaps you are wondering how you might follow Jesus' command to go and preach the Gospel to the whole world (Matthew 28:19-20). Statistically, most of us will never visit a far-away country on a mission's trip. Many of us won't ever leave New York State either. But that doesn't mean we can't be obedient to the Lord's mandate.

The good news is that there is an outreach ministry right here in Rochester, NY. The Father's Heart ministry has the privilege of sharing the Good News of Christ every week of the year, and many lives of inner-city Rochesterians have been changed for eternity through the preaching of the Word and the work of the Holy Spirit. And you can be a welcomed part of this outreach. Every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, the mobile soup bus travels to various parts of Rochester to freely give food, hot meals and clothing to those that society has written off. But before anyone receives these free gifts, the Gospel is preached, and to God's glory, people are being saved. You can be an integral part in this outreach for the Lord by helping to serve the hot meals, to handing out the food, and to praying for those desiring Jesus to be their Savior. Some have walked away from Him, some have never reached out to Him, and some need the Lord to help them through their everyday existence (the same as us!). You can be the vessel used by God to work and pray with these people: to help show them the way through life, and to tell them one-on-one, about the One who died for their sins and has forgiveness waiting for them if only they will repent

and believe in the Lord. For many of us, Christmastime is our favorite time of year. The world seems a bit more open to hearing about Jesus, the Savior of the world. Perhaps you're looking for a place where you can be used of Him to help fulfill the Great Commission during this wonderful holiday season. The Father's Heart just might be that opportunity. Why not come out and see how the Lord will use you for His glory. You would be a blessing to the ministry, to the Lord, and to those to whom He sends you. May you have a blessed Christmas as you reflect on what He has done for you and what you allow Him to do through you as you minister to the lost.

"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11 ESV)

The Father's Heart Ministry wishes you a very **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**



**A big Thank You to the Tops in Greece. The Store closed in late October, and they donated two truckloads of food items to the ministry. What a blessing!**

**Contact Info:**  
**The Father's Heart**  
**678 Lake Avenue**  
**Rochester, NY 14613**  
**585-647-6746**

***thefathersheartroc.org***

## Donation of the Month



**December-Toothpaste**  
**January-Soap**

Thank **YOU** for the many donations that are turning up in the basket, what a blessing!

### **CAN YOU HELP?**

The bus needs a home for the winter. We were looking into getting a secured fence installed at HQ. After much thought, this is not going to work out for many reasons. It would be ideal if the bus could be parked indoors (the bus needs to be kept warm for many reasons and needs to be plugged in for the night). It would need to be near ER or Headquarters on Lake Ave. Just putting the call out if anyone has access? A school bus garage, warehouse or a city garage? Please pray for a winter home for the bus. If you can help, please contact Russ . Thank you!



**PayPal**

To donate through PayPal, please go to the website-  
 thefathersheartroc.org and go to the PayPal icon.  
 Thank you!