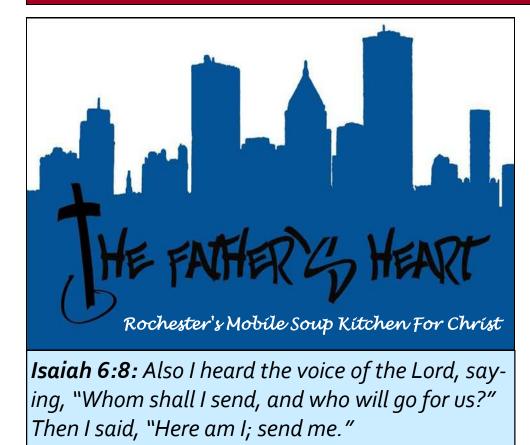
March-April 2023 Volume 13 Issue 2



THE MELSING MESSAGE O

A servant on the food truck helps a man laden with grocery bags get a warming sip of hot coffee.

UPDATE FROM PASTOR RUSS AND ANNE LORIA

ther's Heart hopes to follow all the days that we exist.

MANY TIMES throughout the week people stop at The Father's Heart headquarters building on Lake Avenue. Most are homeless and through the years we have built up a relationship with many.

Some come weekly, some daily and some on and off when they are really in need. Some have become our friends; they know that when they come to the house that they will be fed, clothed, and prayed for.

Proverbs 14:31 says, "He who oppresses the poor reproaches his Maker, But he who honors Him has mercy on the needy." We never want to not be available to those who knock on the door.

AT TIMES, however, if we admit it, we don't always feel like opening the door, or we are busy doing something else. We hate to think about the blessings that we would have missed out on if we didn't open the door.

The Father's Heart: established April 30, 2011

WE CAN'T help but think of one of our friends, "Vince." He would come two or three times a week and knock on the back door with this big gentle smile. He was always so appreciative of anything that was given to him, and he especially loved Russ's homemade food.

He was a humble man, always acting like he didn't deserve anything that was given to him, or the love of Jesus. Russ prayed with him many times and we truly believe he was a believer but was just stuck in his addiction.

WE FOUND out in January that "Vince" had died of a drug overdose.



The Lord can use one word or smile

saiah 58:7 says, "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?"

That scripture is one that The Fa-

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Then there is "Joe" and "Becky." They would come anytime we were there and take a seat at the table out back, and Russ would serve them

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.



The clothing line at a Lake Avenue outreach has warm winter boots.

whatever he was cooking for the outreach that day. They loved it. They would tell us their stories, their struggles, and their desire to get right with God and kick the addiction that is holding them captive in chains.

There's good news though. Instead of living in a tent down by the river, they are now in a shelter and working into getting into permanent housing.

THANK YOU, Jesus, for letting the ministry help them when they were at their lowest.

Then there was "Greg." He would come to our outreaches weekly but one day he knocked on the back door with tears in his eyes saying, "I just wanted to kill myself on the bridge, but I came to you guys. I need help."

WE WERE able to pray with him and be a comfort and remind him of the scriptures and the value that his life had, and to call someone to get the medical help he needed.

Then there was "Cheryl." She had been to outreaches at Lake Avenue but one day she knocked on the door and said, "Where is the Pastor? I need to tell him something."

RUSS WASN'T there so she told Anne what the Lord had done. She went on to say that she was prayed for at the outreach over her heart condition and guess what? The Great Physician healed her and she just wanted to say thank you for that person praying for her. God did a mighty miracle.

Why do we share all those stories? Because we want you all to know that the Lord is working all the time — not just on our outreaches, but all the time.

WE WANT to encourage you to never ignore a knock, never ignore the nudge of the Holy Spirit prompting you to do something, and to be aware of the needs all around you.

You never know what the Lord is going to do through just that one prayer, that one meal, that piece of clothing or that smile or a hug. You are His vessel, be used by Him to do mighty things.

Love in Christ,

Pastor Russ and Anne Loria

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.

Pray steadfastly for hurting women

I am good; I just prayed earlier." That is what some of the women say to us at times. But then, as they walk away, they say quickly, "But keep me in prayer please."

AT TIMES out there we feel like the enemy wants to make these girls believe they aren't good enough to be prayed for, that they aren't worth the time. But we know they are. In God's eyes they are precious.

Some will say, "I am in a hurry, I need to be somewhere but please pray for me when you pull away." We will lift up them to the Father who formed them, their Creator, and intercede on their behalf for safety, for freedom from addiction through Christ, and for them to feel the love of Jesus through the items and food they were just given.

SOME ASK us, "Can you pray for my kids?" At that point we ask them, "But what can we pray for you for?" They respond, "Nothing, I just really need prayers for my kids." The world looks at these women as selfish at times for their addiction and not thinking of their loved ones, but we see many who ask for prayer for their families before themselves.

THEY KNOW they are hurting their families and kids, but the drug is so strong that without Christ they can't overcome it even though they hate the person they have become.

Then we get women who have prayer requests like, "Yes, please pray for me, for me to have the strength to quit, for protection, for a place to sleep, to get my kids back, for me to not be killed."

WITH TEARS in their eyes and some of ours we speak prayers and scripture over these women. We come boldly to the throne of grace and we call upon the Lord to break the chains, to show them that they are loved and not forgotten.



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!

After the prayer they walk away drying their tears because someone showed them that they are loved, or they walk away smiling, having a little bit of the burden lifted off their shoulders.

THE LORD has put on my heart that we need to pray for these women without ceasing. The two scriptures that come to mind are Romans 8:26: "Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which can-

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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.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.

The Father's Heart



The North Clinton food line.

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not be uttered." And Matthew 17:21 says, "However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting."

WE ARE wrestling against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places every time we go out to minister to these women. Sometimes out there we feel like there are no words and we trust the Spirit is interceding to the Father for us for these women.

We feel weak but we know that God is our strength. But we are asking for you to pray, pray, pray for these women.

WE WANT to see miracles, to see the women be unshackled, to see the mountains fall, to see a mighty movement of His Spirit, and see our city transformed for Him.

We will be starting a prayer chain that will be sent out weekly for the women that Redeeming Love ministers to. If you are interested and want to sign up please email me at <u>contact@thefathersheartroc.org</u> and let me know your email and name and we will put you down to receive weekly prayer requests.

WE CAN'T do this without your prayers. We know the prayers of the saints are powerful and we are calling on the saints to rise up and pray and let us watch the Lord do mighty things.

Love in Christ, Anne Loria God Speaks Through the City Part 54: 1 Corinthians 6:9-11

By a servant in Christ

We're all sinners needing salvation

A lthough it was a beautiful day at the Hudson Avenue outreach, there was a surprisingly short line being blessed with groceries after Pastor Russ' powerful preaching.

The streets were mostly empty, except for the usual drug dealers standing by a nearby grocery store. I approached the dealers offering them free groceries, a homemade meal, and Christian fellowship, but was shunned.

WHILE WALKING the empty streets to attract people to the outreach, I noticed a car standing at an intersection across from the grocery store. The driver and passengers apparently had no intention to park or turn onto Hudson Avenue.

Approaching the car to invite them over, I noticed a drug dealer across the street was also heading their way. He beat me to the punch and started a dialogue with the driver.

WHEN I arrived at the car, the dealer was receiving payment in exchange for a small bag he gave the driver. Upon seeing me, the dealer squinted his eyes, giving me a menacing look.

Given the potential conflict as I intruded in his deal, Romans 8:31 came to mind: "What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"

After I introduced The Father's



Prayer on Hudson Avenue.

Heart and offered the car's passengers free groceries and a meal, the drug dealer snatched the small bag from the driver, angrily grimacing at me before darting away. In sharp contrast, one of the passengers said: "That is so nice... what church are you all from?"

I SHARED with them what a blessing The Father's Heart ministry is and how churches work together to serve the Lord, spread the gospel, and feed those in need. After a brief discussion they took me up on the offer, parked their car, and walked over to the outreach. Jesus wins, heroin loses.

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Outreach needs

Clothing: New socks and underwear for men and women.

General: New, unopened travelsize toiletry items.

Spiritual: Giant-print Bibles, both in English and Spanish.

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 Father's Heart









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Although I was tempted to minister to them at the outreach, my attention was drawn to a second car standing at another corner. Encouraged by what had just happened, I headed to the second car.

AS I approached the car, I noticed men in the back seat kissing. Although concerned about being intrusive, I decided to move forward and share His good news.

I proceeded to talk with them and

At left top and bottom, bread and other baked goods in abundance on Hudson Avenue. Above, a busy grocery line on Lake Avenue.

Invited them to the outreach. When they heard me, men in the back seat angrily closed their windows.

THE YOUNG lady in the driver's seat kept her window open saying, "That is very nice of you, but look at us ... do you REALLY want us there?" I responded, "Jesus loves you." The driver looked at the other passengers, checking for their reaction, when a man in the back seat screamed at her: "CLOSE THE WIN-DOW!!" The driver shrugged her shoulders, told me she was sorry, and closed her window.

AS I walked back to the outreach, I meditated on what had just happened. A drug dealer was furious losing business, but his customers in the car were receptive and joined the outreach. In another car, some men rejected Jesus, shutting car windows, while a young lady seemed appreciative.

The Lord provides healing, but we need to seek Him. Jeremiah 17:14: "Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be

healed; save me, and I shall be saved, for You are my praise."

THE BIBLE is clear about our need to seek Him and follow His ways. At times, harsh condemnation by "religious" people can polarize sinners against Jesus rather than against the sin itself.

After all, as a sinner, who am I to harshly condemn others by "casting the first stone"? As Paul told believers in Corinth, there is hope for us all.

1 CORINTHIANS 6:9-11: "Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God."