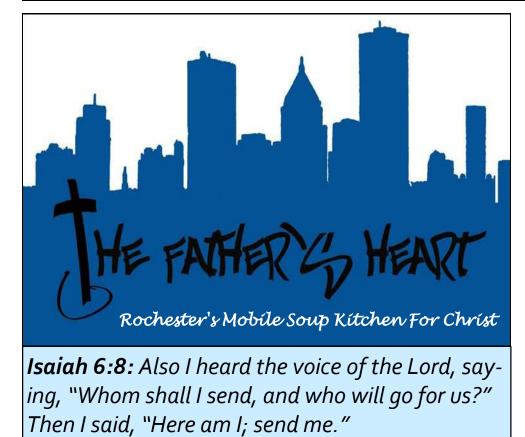
July-August 2023 Volume 13 Issue 4





Servants pray with a woman at Pinnacle Place apartments.

UPDATE FROM PASTOR RUSS AND ANNE LORIA

The Father's Heart: established April 30, 2011



The Lord is moving through His people

We have been busy at The Father's Heart. We just want to give you a rundown of events that will happen over the next few months and what the Lord has been doing the past two months.

The house that was donated to the ministry had its first guests. It will

be used for preparation and prayer for the Redeeming Love branch of the ministry.

BUT IT is also on our hearts for out-of-town, short-term missions groups to have a place to stay while they volunteer with the ministry, and to have their hearts stirred to do something similar in their hometown. If you have a team interested in doing something along those lines please feel free to send them our way.

SUMMER IS upon us, and we will be continuing the Kids Club at Edgerton Park on Wednesday afternoons from 2 to 3 p.m. starting July 12 and ending August 23. We have a few youth groups and Bible groups coming out with us on those days to do crafts, games, and/or skits with the kids. Then we will serve ice cream off the truck. WE HAVE a few Wednesdays open in the beginning of July if you have a group that is interested in getting involved. It is such a blessing for kids to see the love of Christ through a craft or a big ice cream sundae. Please keep these outreaches in prayer.

Also during the summer, we will be having our Reach the Beach outreach this year at Ontario Beach Park on Sunday, July 16 at 4 p.m. at the Portside Shelter and on Sunday, August 13 at 4 p.m. at the Shoreline Shelter. This will be an opportunity to invite someone to come to a church service right at the beach.

WE ASK those who are interested in handing out invitations to people already at the beach to arrive at 3 p.m. The service will begin at 4 p.m. and a hot dog meal will be served *Continued on Page 2*

The Father's Heart



At left, rain doesn't stop worship at Andrews Terrace apartments. At right, the hot meals line at Southeast Towers II and The Savannah apartments.

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around 5 p.m. Spread the word and look for a personal invitation to come on our Facebook or Instagram pages or via email.



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!

In June we helped at a special outreach called Rap on Lyell. It was held for two nights. It rained for the first night but the show still went on. There was perfect weather the next night.

VARIOUS CHRISTIAN rap artists sang and many from the city shared their testimonies and how the Lord set them free.

At that outreach seven people gave their lives to the Lord and were baptized right there!!! Thank you, Jesus!!!!

It was awesome to see young adults want to reach out to our city and to see young adults come to Jesus. Please pray for the young adults who have been moving into the inner city and have a heart to reach the lost for Christ. The Lord is moving!

1 CORINTHIANS 15:58 says, "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." Let's all keep our hands to the plow.

Love in Christ, Pastor 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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Email: <u>contact@thefathersheartroc.org</u>

The Kids Corner Ministry: kidscorner@thefathersheartroc.org

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On Facebook: <u>The Fathers Heart ROC</u> On Instagram:

thefathersheartroc

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

The Father's Heart

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.

Reach, pray, love for those in need

We got a van!!! We now have a minivan for the Redeeming Love outreaches. Thank you, Jesus, for His provision for the ministry.

THIS NOW allows us to bring up to four volunteers out at a time and have plenty of room for all the toiletries, food and clothing to pass out on the streets.

Starting the first week of July we will go out on Mondays and Wednesdays between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. We will also prepare for the outreaches on Wednesdays from 8:30 to 11 a.m., and then women will stay at the house that was donated to pray for the outreach while we are out there. If any of these opportunities interest you, please feel free to email me at: <u>contact@thefathersheartroc.org</u>

THE LORD is showing how faithful He is to us. I was questioning if the ministry was effective, and the enemy was putting doubt in my mind



Volunteers package and serve hot meals on Thurston Road.

one day, but the Lord showed me the opposite that night.

We were at an outreach with the mobile food truck and a woman came up to me and said, "Can I talk to you for a minute?"

I WENT over with her away from the crowd and she said to me, "I don't know if you remember me, but you and another woman last winter pulled over with your truck on Lyell Avenue and you gave me a blanket, toiletries and some food and you prayed with me and I just want you to know how much that meant to me.

"I now have an apartment, but I am still struggling with my addiction, but I know the Lord has not given up on me yet."

WE HUGGED and I thanked her for sharing that and told her that the enemy was bringing doubt into my mind.

We also recently found out that a girl we often ministered to has been clean for almost four months. She is in a halfway house, is doing great spiritually, is going to church, and is hungry for more and more of Jesus. **ONE GIRL** is nearing 21 days clean in a rehab and she is reading the word and praying with us daily.

I say all this to show you that when I was at a point questioning, the Lord was faithful to show otherwise. It isn't about numbers but about showing the love of Christ, choosing to be His vessels wherever He has us.

I AM praying that we all do not grow weary, but that we keep reaching, praying, and loving these women with the love of Christ. Remember, if only just for one it is all worth it.

Eternity is forever and I pray, as all of the volunteers do, that this is the most hell that any of these girls ever have to endure.

IN MATTHEW 18:12 it says, "What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine and go to the mountains to seek the one that is straying?" May we keep seeking out that one and praying for that one.

Love in Christ, Anne Loria

God Speaks Through the City Part 56: 1 Corinthians 9:24-25

Part 56: 1 Corinthians 9:24-25 By a servant in Christ

God leads a boy to a new path

t was early spring at Southeast Towers II and The Savannah, a stone's throw away from Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park. Pastor Russ' teaching of John 3:16 was drawing street people to the powerful message.

A LADY walking by the outreach stopped in her tracks and sat down on the parking lot to listen. After the message, she came to me and expressed her appreciation for The Father's Heart, saying: "Thank you all for the free food, but I have already been fed with the word of God."

After she left, I noticed noise and turmoil down the sidewalk close to

Outreach needs

Clothing: Women's Capri leggings and new women's underwear; men's summer clothing. **General:** Small body lotions. 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 groceries line at Southeast Towers II and The Savannah.

an apartment complex. Several young skateboarders were heading in our direction, moving as fast as the traffic on East Broad Street.

PEOPLE CHATTING by the sidewalk jumped back rapidly to avoid the skateboarders who had no intention of slowing down. As the skateboarders approached me, I moved out of their way, waved my hand, and shouted: "Jesus and free food to all!"

The lead skateboarder shook his head in confusion and stopped suddenly doing an amazing "drag the tail, pop in the hand," making the skateboard fly off the sidewalk and land in his hand. The other skateboarders were taken by surprise and came to a stop behind him.

THE LEAD skateboarder, "Caleb," walked toward me holding his skateboard, asking: "What's this all about?" I explained The Father's Heart mission — to share the love of Jesus in the streets of Rochester, and feed those having spiritual and physical needs. Caleb's eyes opened wide and he said: "Wait a minute..."

Caleb walked toward the other

skateboarders and shared what he had just heard. I overheard him say: "Let's stay here... Jesus and free food..." The others were puzzled and said: "We're supposed to be skateboarding; we don't need this..."

CALEB TRIED to persuade them to stay but the more he talked, the faster the rest of them shook their heads, seemingly annoyed. After more discussion, the group told Caleb before departing: "You can stay; we're skateboarding..."

Caleb came back looking disappointed and asked me, "What should I do next?" I told him that his decision may have been difficult but reassured him that he would be blessed.

IN LUKE 6:22-23, Jesus said, "Blessed are you when men hate you, and when they exclude you, and revile you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of Man's sake. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy! For indeed your reward is great in heaven, for in like manner their fathers did to the prophets."

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As Caleb waited in line for groceries and the meal, I shared with him how Jesus came to this world to die on the cross for our sins and how we can be born again.

CALEB LISTENED attentively, nodding his head and with increasing trust shared his age (14) and his relationships with friends and family. We hugged and I asked him if he wanted to meet the pastor who had just preached. Caleb shook his head

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. yes while he continued to wait for the meal.

AS CALEB waited in line, I approached Pastor Russ who was in fellowship with a servant. I shared my experience with Caleb and how receptive he was to meet him.

Pastor Russ approached Caleb, sharing the love of Jesus with him and the importance of being born again. After Caleb got his meal, he continued his discussion with Pastor Russ along with the servant and me.

CALEB OPENLY shared about his life, his family, and his excitement to be at the outreach. It was God's time, and Pastor Russ proceeded to lead us in prayer, asking Caleb if he was willing to repent of his sins and accept Jesus as his Lord and Savior.

Without doubt or hesitation, Caleb made the most important decision of his life and was born again. It was one of the most touching moments I have witnessed at The Father's Heart.

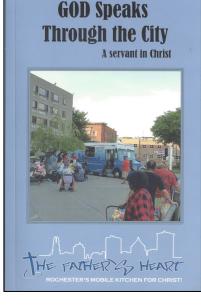
THAT THURSDAY was a day to remember. A 14-year-old boy had planned to skateboard with his friends but was guided by the Lord to take a different path. "A man's heart plans his way, but the LORD directs his steps" (Proverbs 16:9).

Caleb's skateboarding buddies continued their race, but it was Caleb, a new creation, who ended up with an imperishable crown by grace and through faith in Christ.

1 CORINTHIANS 9:24-25: "Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown."



Bread at Lyell and Sherman.



The writer of "God Speaks Through The City" has compiled previous columns from the newsletter into a book available through Lulu.com. ALL proceeds of the book's sales are being donated to The Father's Heart ministry.

If you want the book, go to <u>lulu.com/shop</u> and search for "The Father's Heart ROC" or "God Speaks Through The City." The book is \$15.96 plus tax and shipping.