

Heart-felt prayer during an outreach on Cleveland Street.

*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



### The donated house is a blessing from God

We can't help but think of the hymn, "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow." The Lord provides, guides, and pours out His many blessings on The Father's Heart ministry continuously.

You may have all heard by now that the ministry was donated a

house in March. That's right; a house! Thank you, Jesus!!! What a blessing and a surprise.

**WE HELD** our monthly prayer meeting there in April and dedicated the house and anointed the doorposts. Many people are wondering what we will use the house for, so we want to update you all on what the Lord has been showing us, at least at this time.

The Lord has shown us that this won't be a house for the women from the streets that Redeeming Love ministers to (see news about Redeeming Love on Page 3). But it will be used for volunteers to prepare the toiletry packs, sandwiches, and snacks that they bring out to women on the streets.

**OUR HEART** is also that while Redeeming Love is out on the streets that women will meet at this house



The doorposts of the ministry's donated house are anointed at sunset.

and pray for the outreach going on at that time. Eventually we may add a whole different type of ministry to women who are exploited and/or trafficked and reach out to them by computer.

**THIS IS** why we are not letting the general public know the location of this house or those on the streets Redeeming Love serves. If you are

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Above, street worship at Andrews Terrace apartments. At right, reaching out on Cleveland Street.



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interested in praying while Redeeming Love goes out on Wednesdays and Thursdays from about 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., please email us at [contact@thefathersheartroc.org](mailto:contact@thefathersheartroc.org) and we will let you know where and when to come and meet.

**THIS HOUSE** will also be used for all our board and committee meetings. Along with that some people have ideas that we still request prayer and direction on.



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!

But one idea continues to be brought up. As many of you know, Russ served for six years at New York School of Urban Ministry in New York City. NYSUM is a place where churches bring groups to learn how to reach out to people in an urban setting, and then in turn they go home and start outreaches in their own city.

**IT HAS** been on Russ's heart for years to do this in Rochester on a mini scale. But now it seems that the Lord is bringing it to pass.

In the future we hope to house out-of-town missionaries or small groups that wish to learn how to reach out in an urban setting, all free of charge.

They would do this by participating in our outreaches at The Father's Heart and Redeeming Love. We also hope to teach and show different ways to evangelize to the lost and do those meetings right there at this house.

**OVERALL, IT** is our heart that the Lord would use this house for His glory, and that He would guide and direct us as to what He does and doesn't want for this house.

We ask for prayer from everyone for guidance. We also thank all the

volunteers who helped get the house ready. We couldn't have done it without you, just like all the volunteers who serve on the outreaches and behind the scenes.

**WE LOVE** you all. We thank Jesus most of all for all He provides and continues to do through the ministry. We are excited to see what the Lord has in store.

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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[The Fathers Heart ROC](https://www.facebook.com/TheFathersHeartROC)

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[thefathersheartroc](https://www.instagram.com/thefathersheartroc)

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.*

### We weep, rejoice with women on the streets

Romans 12:15 says, "Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep."

One afternoon, while the volunteers of Redeeming Love were driving around, we saw a woman walking. We weren't sure if she was a "working girl," but we decided to pull over and ask if she would like a toiletry bag and some food.

**AFTER SHE** replied "yes," we started talking to her and she said she had just lost her mom and was homeless and was living with a relative.

We asked her if she wanted prayer for anything and she also said "yes." As we were praying the tears came, and at the end of the prayer she was encouraged and comforted by the word of God that was spoken.

**ANOTHER TIME** a woman came up to the truck saying, "I'm so tired. I am going to detox this coming Monday. I can't do this anymore." As she shared with us



*Praying in the snow at a Chili Avenue outreach.*

what was going on, her tears just kept coming.

We shared with her that Jesus casts our sins as far as the east is from the west, and that when we become children of God He doesn't see our sins anymore but sees the blood of His Son, Jesus, on us, and all is forgiven and forgotten.

**SHE CONTINUED** to weep, and we reminded her that He bottles our tears. We prayed with her, and God through His word comforted her that day.

Just recently we learned that one of the girls we ministered to has completed rehab and is now at a halfway home. While at rehab she shared that the ministry is so appreciated by her and the other women on the street, and when they see the truck coming it gives them hope and joy for the day and reminds them that they aren't forgotten, and that they matter.

**IT REMINDS** me of one lady who wasn't overjoyed to see us at first, but after awhile when we kept reaching out to her,

praying for her, and just talking with her, she now smiles when we come into sight.

**SHE IS** a cheesecake lover and her smile lights up even more when we have a piece of cheesecake to give her. It is kind of a little joke that we have going; we give her a big smile when we have cheesecake to give her and a sorry look on our face when we don't.

When you get to know these women it is amazing the stories they share. Many times we can't help but to leave with tears in our eyes.

But after some of the stories we rejoice with them, as they are taking those steps to get clean and to get off the streets.

**PLEASE PRAY** that these women would see that their hope is in Jesus and Him alone.

God bless,  
Anne Loria

## Outreach needs

**Clothing:** We are now collecting summer clothes and specifically need men's shorts, jeans, and T-shirts, women's shorts, and new underwear and summer socks for men and women.

We are no longer collecting winter items and do not need dress clothes, such as men's suits and dress shirts.

Donations can be dropped off at The Father's Heart headquarters, 678 Lake Avenue, Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 12 noon, and Thursdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information, call (585) 472-4331.



*A beautiful day on Lyell Avenue.*

## God Speaks Through the City

Part 55: John 5:24-25  
By a servant in Christ

## He received Jesus, now is with Him

The beginning of this story took place a few years ago during a Father's Heart outreach with Petra Christian Fellowship, a faithful Bible-believing church then located on Thurston Road, a few blocks from Chili Avenue.

**THIS AREA** can be both a challenge and a blessing given the large number of drug dealers, drug addicts, and homeless individuals that so badly need Jesus. Petra lovingly welcomes lost souls to come as they are, unlike some churches in similar neighborhoods that are reluctant to open their doors for street people in need of the Lord.

That evening, after Pastor Russ shared the word of God, "John K"

staggered to the outreach seemingly drunk and/or high on drugs. After servants shared the gospel with him, John K described in detail his difficult life involving drugs, alcohol, homelessness, and separation from his family for the past 30 years.

**WITH** compassion and the love of Jesus, he was invited to attend Petra while also developing a relationship with men he met at the outreach. As it turned out, John K was sleeping at a nearby garage and was able to intermittently attend church on Sundays. He would vanish at

times as he wandered to other locations in Syracuse, Buffalo, and Rochester, living under bridges and in garages.

With time, Petra became John K's anchor as he grew closer to Jesus. One glorious day while John K was at a fast-food restaurant with a brother in the Lord, he repented, asked Jesus into his heart, and was born again.

**THIS EVENT** was mindboggling to many given his history, but as it is written in Matthew 19:25-26: "When His disciples heard it, they were greatly astonished, saying, 'Who then can be saved?' But Jesus looked at them and said to them, 'With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.' "

Not long after his salvation, John K went to a beach on Lake Ontario and was water-baptized.

**ALTHOUGH** John K had attended many rehab programs for his alcoholism and addictions, his last rehab program finally removed the yoke of drugs because he had accepted Jesus into his heart.

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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](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!

**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.**



*Delicious and nutritious hot meals are packed to go on Chili Avenue.*



*Volunteers like this make The Father's Heart ministry possible.*

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His church attendance improved and he became a new man. "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17).

**PRAISE GOD**, John K was then able to move into a small apartment after 30 years of homelessness and be blessed with a roof over his head, heat, a bathroom, and a companion cat that he dearly longed for. He offered his services to Petra and was involved in painting the church. When he went to restaurants and fast-food places with brothers in the Lord, John K started paying for his meals. Last month he was asked about his testimony, and he shared one piece of advice for others struggling with homelessness, addiction, and sin:

**"THE LORD** will help if you ask for it. You will find out. Submit and give in to what God has for you."

**THREE DAYS** after John K spoke these words, a loving brother called him to partake in Christian fellowship, but the call was not answered. Wondering what was up, the brother went to John K's apartment and found a sticker on the door stating that he had just passed away and a medical examiner had removed his body.

His passing of natural causes was very difficult to deal with for friends and family, but eternal life with Him is the greatest blessing we could ever receive:

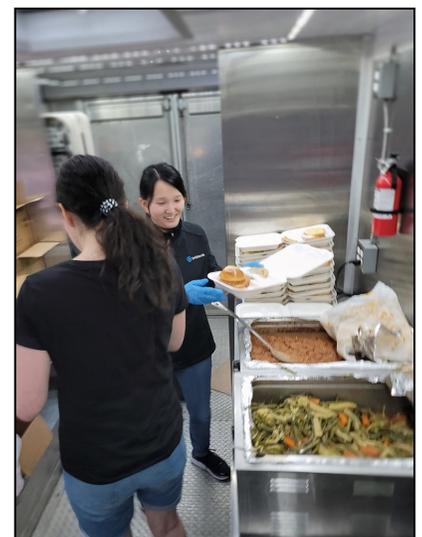
**"O DEATH**, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?' The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 15:55-57); and "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never

perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand" (John 10:27-28).

**THE FATHER'S HEART** outreach planted the seed for John K's salvation. Diligent follow-through by a loving church and brothers he met at the outreach were also part of our Heavenly Father's plan.

At times, angels may intervene as ministers and servants of the Lord (as it is written in Hebrews 1) but ultimately our salvation and everlasting life come from Jesus dying on the cross to atone for our sins.

**JOHN 5:24-25:** "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life. Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who will hear will live."



*The food truck is busy serving meals at Andrews Terrace apartments..*