

The

Messenger



Greg Davis,

July 2022

Mission Statement

McCutchanville Community Church's mission is to connect our community with God's power and hope through the love of Christ.

9505 Petersburg Road •
Evansville, IN 47725
(812) 867-5735 •

*From the
Pastor*



Greetings to all,

We have just gone through a spiritual high in the church with a joy filled VBS. Thank you to all who served with their entire heart, mind, and soul – as children matter now as they always have, and MUST continue to learn about the love of God in Christ Jesus.

The theme was a good one – Trust Jesus – that’s a great reminder for all of us in the tumultuous times that we live. As I write this our nation is torn apart once again by the Supreme Court ruling on Roe vs Wade, placing abortion as a decision within each state. And with this decision, fifty years of abortion “on demand” has ceased – the life of the unborn has some protection once again. And I know this is difficult, but if life matters enough for God to send His Son to die for my life, then I have to believe (not feel) that each and every life, including the unborn have the opportunity to live. It makes no difference that the world is a mess because of our sinfulness, life is a gift – everyone’s life!

Another difficult issue is our recent vote to leave the UMC and join the Global Methodist Church because of Scriptural adherence and steadfastness. No, we are not better than those churches who stay in the UMC, we just believe (not feel) that God’s Word is truth and is unchanging.

We have gun regulations change, which rankled some-but I pray that children matter in this also and it will lead to more protection for the senseless shootings throughout our land. And the economy is a mess due to inflation, gas prices and we want answers. There continues to be the war in Ukraine. And this fall, we have another election – can’t wait.

In each of these areas mentioned, we have seen change. We all have experienced change in our lives. From the time we were born to the time we die, we change, our relationships change, our understanding and perspectives shift. Every day seems to bring another level of change accompanied by chaos and sorrow—a disruption to our everyday schedule that leaves us reeling. For many this time of change is accompanied by fear. We can't know the future, and the changes we see shake us. How do we then deal with either low or high levels of fear that accompany change?

First, we must realize with the teacher in Ecclesiastes that there is a season for everything and that God is in control of these seasons. *For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.* (Eccl. 3:1) There are seasons of building up and tearing down, seasons of crying and laughing. While we may be blindsided by a change, God is in control of the seasons and is not surprised. He has a plan and a purpose even for the worst situations that only he can and will work for good for those who love him.

Second, God does not change. *God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?* (Num. 23:19) God is the rock, the steady one, the one whose holy and good character never changes, whose steadfast love is sealed for his people by the blood of Jesus Christ. He will never leave you or forsake you. His plan for you is for your good, even in tough circumstances. He knows his people before they even existed, and he loves them to himself and will keep them into eternity.

Third, God gives peace to those whose mind is centered upon Jesus Christ. *“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. (John 14:1-3)* Jesus promises us life with Him for all who trust Him and believe.

During times of change, stay ever closer to the Lord in prayer. As the world seems to spin out of control, the media is filled with more bad news, and difficult personal changes keeping coming, Jesus is an ever-present help to you at this very moment. Spend time with God in prayer, trusting his promises. By his Holy Spirit he assures you that you are loved, his promises are indeed for you, and you are safe in the midst of change. Let God's perfect love cast out your fear.

Trust Jesus!

Pastor Greg



Four Ways July 4th Can be Like Freedom In Christ

By Jason Inman

July 4th reminds me of freedom in Christ. I promise, this isn't some smelly mixture of patriotism and Christianity. I just think there's some powerful imagery in Independence Day. Let me explain. First, why does America celebrate the 4th of July? Something about apple pie, explosions in the sky, baseball games, and BBQ flames, right? No. On July 4, 1776, thirteen colonies in North America decided they were done paying their taxes and over their allegiance to the King of England. Colonial leaders got together to write the Declaration of Independence and then sign it into being. The Revolutionary War had already begun, but this was a statement of unity and determination to gain freedom from England's rule. You might recognize this portion.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.-The Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776.

1. **It's a gift.** For all living Americans, July 4th is a gift. We didn't earn it-we received it from the people who lived, led, and died to fight for it. Everyone who gets a gift has two questions. First, "Who is it from?" Second, "What does it do?" My freedom in Christ is from Jesus. I didn't earn it. He died for it. That's who it's from, but what does it do? Galatians 5:1 reminds me, it's *for freedom* we've been set free. What does my freedom do? Give more freedom.. It's freedom for me, my marriage, my kids, my friends, my co-workers, and my neighbors. I was given this gift to share.
2. **It's a mid-war declaration.** July 4, 1776 came only about a year after the revolutionary war Began and about six years before it would finally end. Yet, it's the single most revered day of American history. This reminds me of battles we face. You may be fighting for your marriage, Struggling financially, or just trying to raise godly kids. Either way, it may be time to make a mid-War declaration of your freedom in Christ.

- 3. It's a celebration of restoration.** Remember apple pie, explosions in the sky, baseball games, and BBQ flames? All to celebrate liberty one lost-but now found. Humans love to celebrate finding lost things because we were made in God's image, and God parties big for restoration. Jesus told a story about this called the Prodigal Son. When the son came home, the Father killed his best cow and threw a party (Luke 15: 11-24). Jesus even suggests angels celebrate in heaven when someone discovers freedom in Christ (Luke 15:10). And what happens when we all meet Jesus? A glorious supper (Revelation 19:16-17).
- 4. It's United.** The Declaration of Independence was written by thirteen different colonies, but within the document, they are called "we". "**We** hold these truths to be self-evident "Jesus set you and me free as individuals, but **we** live out this freedom as His Church. One body with many parts (1 Corinthians 12:1-27). When your "I" becomes "we", it's amazing what **we** can accomplish.



Prayer Requests: Our World, Phil Bryant, (Don Skelton's son-in-law) Ernie Spivey (Jane & Jerry's friend), Our

church, Kristy Georgeson, Joe Haseman, Jan Kinney's family, Doug Pearson's family, Brick Briscoe, Joan Reed, Cheryl Miller (our custodian) Mary Moore, Jim Smith, Sara Dixon, David Elkins (friend of Pastor Greg), Silas (Jerry and Jane Bennet's great grandson), Barbara Ballard's mother, Jenny Taylor, Debby Phares, Norm Koehler, Josette Higgins, Mary Lou Ellis, Ed Schiffer (cancer treatments), Dorothy Hansen all area schools and universities, God's Kids, Amy Dubber, Our Haitian children: Daphnica Noel and Richecarde Charitable Louissant, MCCutchanville Firefighters,

Do you have a prayer request you would like listed in the Messenger?

Call the church office at 812-867-5735



Dear Pastor Greg and his congregation, The church is the center of our universe. On 6-11-22 MCC was the center of the Burnett/Rea families hearts. You are truly a gift from God with your loving kindness. Charlie's celebration of Life service was very special because you opened your church up to us. Thank you also for serving the delightful lunch. My family wishes to extend our heart felt thankfulness for all you did for us and for all you do for your community.

Thanks

In God's Love,

The Burnette/Rea Families



We are currently collecting funds to support the Methodist build for Habit – any donations may be placed in the basket on the entry table. We have been asked to give \$1000 toward the current build.



Methodist Mountain
Mission



Friends,

This past month, we lost one of our most prized people to retirement! Ruth Collins, who you'll learn about in this month's Messenger, retired after 33 years of service to the UMMM. It's bitter-sweet, as we will miss her, but we want her to enjoy every single day without worry!

Please contact us if you need anything.

Blessings,
Andy

Below are the to the newsletter and Urgent Needs list.

[Messenger](#)

[Urgent Needs List](#)

**UNTO THE LEAST OF THESE –
MINISTRY TO THE HOMELESS IN EVANSVILLE**

I would like to make a request regarding the items we need for distribution to the homeless and others in need in our area. We DEFINITELY need the following:

Short-sleeved T-shirts for men AND women-clean, used. This is an URGENT NEED!!!

- Men's and women's used walking shorts-knee length, pedal pusher variety preferred. Nothing very short.
- TOWELS AND WASHCLOTHS-clean, used
- BLANKETS-clean, used
- BACKPACKS-clean, used
- Sleeping bags
- Light-wt. jackets. Men's and women's-clean, used
- Men's shoes
- Toilet paper, underarm deoderants, sanitary wipes for skin, hotel size toiletries-soap, shampoo, body lotion, hair conditioner, chapstick, razors. (NO MOUTHWASH!!) They may drink the latter! ALCOHOL!
- Menstrual pads for women
- Small pkgs. of Kleenex
- NO BABY CLOTHES, please. If we have a specific need for these, we will let you know. . Thanks HEAPS!

I hope the above information is helpful to you. This ministry is touching many lives in our area, INCLUDING MINE!! If any of you would like to go out on the streets with us sometime, please let me know. AND thank You, Dear Jesus, for being with us each step of the way. We can't do this without You!

Jennie Hiam 1-812-204-1190

"Unto the Least of These", Matthew 25:40 (Jesus speaking)

Ministry to the homeless and anyone else in need
Aldersgate UMC 1-812-477-7816
5130 Lincoln Ave.

(The weekly "Street Talks" are attached at the end of this Messenger)



Robert Holder	2
Martha Lease	3
Sunmi Davis	10
Kemper Lease	11
Charles "Chaz" Burris	16
Dean, Cindy A.	24
Keagan Smith	24
Kadelyn Smith	24
Dean Hubble	27
John Turner	30
Pastor Greg	31
Jonathan Tapp	31



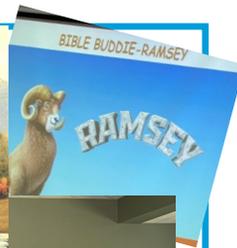
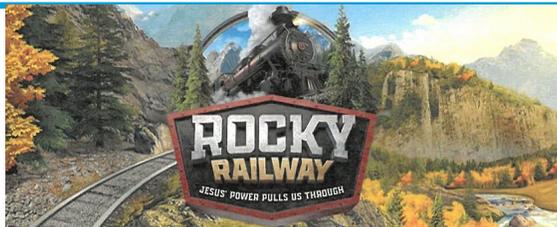
JULY	
Keith & Debbie Kinney	10
Frank & Julie Morgan	25
John & Mardee Rea	23



There are EXTRA pecans available for purchase at \$9.95 a bag. These are the pecans that we enjoyed at Christmas time. If you are interested in purchasing additional pecans, please see Joan Reed.



Dear Church Family, I just wanted to share with you about how really GREAT our VBS Rocky Railways went this year.



Even before we had given a thought to our 2022 VBS planning, God our Great Provider, had started providing us with the wonderful props and other decorations that good friends of Greg & mine from a church in Huntingburg offered up. from their 2021 VBS decoration in July of last year . It was a great kick start to our planning this Spring as we had just completed a very successful Easter Community Outreach program that included games, actually experiencing what it would have been like to see into the Tomb and of course our Egg Hunt.

As soon as Natalie, Ashley and I posted the Volunteer SignUp sheet, we had lots of names filling the empty spaces. Praise the Lord for these very special people! From Games where Jerry & Jane Bennett kept them moving everyday including activities with a lesson that included not one but two days of Obstacle Courses.



Snacks, including the sweetest lumps of coal that you would ever want to eat, were lovingly prepared by Helen, Annelle, Sue M who also led the kids in a discussion of the Kid Vid which was a short video of a actual youth sharing about how they had applied our Daily Bible to their lives.



Last but not least was the Bible Adventure Team of Barb D, Barb S, Kathy E & Roxie I. If you had been a little mouse in the room you might have seen them portraying Ananias sharing the Good News of Jesus with blind Saul on Monday or maybe Thursday heard them share about Jesus' Resurrection.

Also we had other volunteers such as Sue H, Maren H, Mary G who helped guide and participate with the children throughout each morning.

Sun, Cherrisa & Joan were also great behind the scenes support from decorating to cutting hundreds of Bible Buddie character cards. As I walked through the church each day, I witnessed dedicated passionate Brothers & Sisters in Christ who were fulfilling the Great Commission and children who were not only taking it all in but eagerly and energetically interacting with each activity. Last but not least



THANK YOU to everyone who donated supplies for all our snacks and activities.



Always remember that JESUS' POWER WILL PULL US THROUGH,
TRUST JESUS

With thanksgiving and in His Love, Teresa

We would have left a couple of important people out if we would have stopped with Teresa's note . . .
 Teresa got the kids singing and dancing each day! Pastor Greg helped with the videos and took hundreds of pictures, Natalie was busy making sure everything went smoothly. Everyone worked together and had so much fun!



Have a safe and Happy 4th of July!!



August is anything goes! As you walk around the grocery store and see items on sale, pick some things up for Patchwork Central. Please bring your donations and put in the basket. EVERYTHING is appreciated!



TUESDAY

MENU

- July 5: Chicken Salad with fruit**
- July 12: Vegetable Soup**
- July 19: Burgers & Brats**
- July 26: BBQ Chicken**
- August 2: Baked Spaghetti**
- August 9: Baked Potato & BBQ**

June 2022 Attendance and Giving

	Att	Building Fund	General Fund	Internet Giving	Tue Meals	Missions (Habitat)	Youth Home Meals	Total Checking Deposit
June 5	70	\$1,025.00	\$2117.00		\$150.00	\$5.00		\$3,297.00
June 12	50	\$840.00	\$1,602.00	\$310.00		\$1.00		\$2,753.00
June 19	57	\$350.00	\$1,072.00					\$1,422.00
June 26	59	\$45.00	\$1,198.00		\$35.00	\$31.00		\$1,309.00



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
June 26	June 27 Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00	June 28 1:30 Gym Reserved 3:00 Gym Reserved	June 29 10:00AM VBS Volunteer Meeting Gym reserved 1:30-3:00	June 30 Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00	July 1 1:30 Gym Reserved	July 2
3 Communion Sunday	4 1:30 Gym Reserved Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00	5 1:30 Gym Reserved 3:00 Gym Reserved	6 1:30 Gym Reserved 6:00 Gym Reserved	7 Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00	8 1:30 Gym Reserved	9 8:00 AM Fellowship Hall reserved
10	11 Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00	12 1:30 Gym Reserved 3:00 Gym Reserved	13 Gym reserved 1:30-3:00	14 Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00	15 1:30 Gym Reserved	16
17	18 Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00	19 1:30 Gym Reserved 3:00 Gym Reserved	20 1:00 Women's Meeting 1Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 6:00 Gym Reserved	21	22 1:30 Gym Reserved	23
24 4:00 HOA Meeting in Gym	25 Gym reserved 1:30 Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00	26 1:30 Gym Reserved 3:00 Gym Reserved	27 1:00 Woman's Meeting Gym reserved 1:30-3:00	28 Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00	29 1:30 Gym Reserved	30
July 31	August 1	August 2 1:30 Gym Reserved 3:00 Gym Reserved	August 3 Gym reserved 1:30	August 4 Gym reserved 1:30 Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00	August 5 1:30 Gym Reserved	August 6

STREET TALK

Unto the Least of These Ministry to Homeless in Evansville

6.4.2022

Hello everyone!

Is always very good to have contact with you! The following are some of my observations and thoughts regarding this past week while on our street ministry.

Last Sunday, I stopped downtown at Ruth's House (for homeless women) to deliver some things to them. The maximum capacity of women who can stay there is 22. They had that number at this time. I still get distressed when I see that number of women who have to be out on the streets during the week-from Monday through Friday. 7 a.m.-7 p.m. They can't be there anytime of an evening until 7 p.m. other than on weekends and at night when they have permission to sleep there. We see several of these women out on the streets and over at the United Caring Shelter during the day. One good thing that happened at Ruth's House a couple of weeks ago is that a woman from one of our local churches brought an outside grill over there on the Saturday before I was there this last time and she prepared a wonderful cook-out for these women. I was told she served a nice chicken dinner for them in the backyard of their facility. The women REALLY appreciated this! This indeed is showing the Love of Jesus to these women, many of whom have suffered abuse in all forms, subsequent mental illness, among other problems.

I have another idea regarding Ruth's House. I wonder if we could start a Bible Study for these ladies perhaps on a weekend once or twice a month? I'm not a leader when it comes to organizing an event such as this but perhaps one or two of you might enjoy doing this. It would probably have to be conducted outside because Christian meetings cannot be held inside a facility which is provided governmental grants. It's this way over at the UCS, too. If any of you would be interested in doing this, please let me know. Maybe something like this is already being done, but I just don't know about it yet. When we see individuals out on the streets, if the opportunity presents itself, we always offer to pray with them. They seem to really appreciate that. Anyway, what do some of you think about this idea?

Early this last week, I stopped over at the Ozanom Family Shelter on Read St., right behind Deaconess Midtown Hospital. They can house up to 66 individuals (I think that is the correct number). At the time I was there, I was told that they currently have two very young babies-one who is 2 weeks old and another one who is 8 weeks old. As you all know, obtaining formula for these babies is a BIG problem! The gal in charge told me that they had only one can left. ALSO, they didn't have any bottled water to use for preparation of the formula! WELL!! I remembered that my grandson had placed a large supply of water in my trunk for us to distribute as needed. SO!! One of the teenage boys who is living at this shelter promptly came with me out to my car and carried the supply of water I had inside to the woman in charge! They were MOST appreciative of that water source which we "JUST HAPPENED" to have in my car! This was ALL of God! Things like this have happened so often in our ministry that I simply MARVEL every time! God is so VERY GOOD! AND He is with us ALL the way! Thank You, Jesus!

After spending some time at the Ozanom Shelter. I stopped by the Trotter House (2207 Morgan) to hopefully pick up some diapers and clothing items for these dear babies. Trotter House was closed at the time. (I'll stop by there this coming week for some baby supplies.) HOWEVER, the pastor from the McCutchanville Community Church had just brought us a large supply of NB diapers for us to distribute where needed. He had placed those in my garage. SO!! I took them over to Ozanom so they could make use of them with their new little ones in their facility. Thank You, Dear Jesus, for ALL of the above! WOW!!

(cont on P.8)

On Thursday, Pat Roberts and I visited the shelter and also the Salvation Army over their lunch time. We always see several people at both sites and are able to help many with their personal needs. We always thoroughly enjoy taking 15 or so box lunches from the S.A. downtown to the Mets Bus Station for distribution to people in need at that site. We are thinking we need to start taking perhaps even 20 lunches with us from now on for the people at the Bus Station. They are ALL most appreciative. Whoever is driving the van distributes the lunches and the bottles of water and I get out of the van and walk around in the bus station area "drummin' up" business! The people we serve there are MOST appreciative! When talking with people, we find that many are traveling all over the country. As I have mentioned before, we see several Old Order Amish families with small children at that site, too. They really seem to appreciate the kindness and the food. We have had very little if ANY problems with anyone at this site or at any of our other sites. Overall, the people we serve on the streets are MOST appreciative of all we (AND YOU) do for them. As a Christian ministry, we firmly believe this is exactly what our mission goal should be.

By working with all local governmental and social work agencies, we want to reach people and introduce them to Jesus, the Master of the Universe. He alone is the Source of our Strength and of our Lives.

Thank You, Dear Heavenly Father, for this wonderful opportunity to serve You.
Jennie Hiam

June 11, 2022

Hello everyone!

I read something this past week from a devotional book (Sarah Young) which REALLY spoke to me- "Look at other people through Lens of LOVE. See them from Jesus' Perspective". This was VERY powerful to me! I think we can apply this not only to our homeless ministry BUT also to EVERYONE we come in contact with in life-our families, neighbors, friends, and our enemies, too! As I said-VERY POWERFUL! We NEVER know when we have touched a life, not even until years later. I had an experience like this just this week.

I was at a local place of business and a "youngish" man came up to me and asked me if I was "Grandma Jennie". I told him I was and he related a personal story to me from several years ago when I worked at ECHO Clinic as a Nurse Practitioner. He was homeless and in need of physical, emotional, and spiritual help. Without relating the entire story now, he said that I had offered to pray with him and had given him some further directions for his life. He had a heavy history of mental health and related drug issues, many dating from maltreatment as a child. I never saw him again after that encounter years ago UNTIL that day last week. But he wanted to tell me how much those "words of Love and Care" had helped to change his life. He received significant help from some of our local social service agencies and got his life back on track. He is now married, has a family, and also has a stable job income. He and his family are now Christians and are members of a local good church and are functioning well in society. "My life is back on track", he told me. He was SUPER grateful to me, per his statement. However, I assured him that it sounded like to me that his life had been touched by the MASTER'S Hands! AND they weren't mine! RATHER they belonged to the God of the Universe! Jesus Christ, Himself!! WOW! What he told me REALLY touched me, TOO!!

What we are doing in our street ministry is exactly the above! We want to direct the people we see to Jesus Christ-for Redemption, Salvation, and a Life of knowing HE is in control and that they are worthy of His Love and Care. This has nothing to do with us personally. We just want to direct them to the MASTER!! Thank You, dear Father for this opportunity of serving You on the streets of E'ville!

O.K., now I'll tell you a little about our experiences this past week! On Monday, it started raining when we left the church and rained VERY HARD UNTIL we got to our first stop. THEN, there was NO further rain until we got back to the church in the afternoon. Thank You, Father, for letting us continue our service that day! We were very busy at all sites. Bibles were given to virtually everyone in need and/or

who requested them as well as copies of daily devotionals. If we sense the need for prayer with anyone specifically, we offer to do that if they request it.

We have discovered that several homeless women are living under the bridge down by the river. This can be frightening because of the drug use that goes on there as well as the possibility of male/female interaction which can definitely be very unhealthy. It appears to us that there is an increasing number of women out on the streets now, too-more so than when we first started this ministry a couple of years ago. We will try to stay on top of this issue.

As you recall, I have told you on occasion about the Marine Veteran, "Jim", who is now living in garage or room somewhere on the NW side of town. He was living in a large cardboard box! So, from what he describes to us now, his "accommodations" have improved. I trust so! However, I did want to tell you how Jim is helping us now-he saves a good many of the plastic bags we give him to carry items AND is now bringing the bags back for us to "re-use" if need be. They all seem to be clean. He stores them in one larger bag and returns them to us to use for other people. It's just his way of helping with this ministry, per his statement. He has no other material way to do this. Please continue to pray for this dear man.

Pat and I stopped at the "Safe Haven" shelter over on Franklin St. this last Thursday and had a nice chat with the woman in charge. This is all part of "N.O.W. Counseling". (New Opportunities for Wellness). They have 7 shelters around town-some for women, some for men, and one for women with children. Many of these individuals receiving care at these sites were recently released from prison/jail, are homeless, etc. Others have abuse problems-alcohol, drug, etc. On occasion, we have visited a couple of these in the past, but we want to start helping some of these individuals on a regular basis. We just go out on the streets on Mondays and Thursdays, so we will have to see how we can manage the above. We can't "overdue" ourselves. Will keep you posted on the above.

As we were heading down Fulton St. to the Salvation Army, we stopped at the park on the corner of Franklin St. and Fulton. There were 4-5 homeless individuals sitting on or lying down on the tables in the shelter on that property. We had not seen these people before. They needed food in particular we discovered. One man said he hadn't eaten for 3 days. ? new to the area? I don't know. There are definitely sites around town where people can receive a meal. Anyway, we went on down to the Salvation Army and assisted our people at that site as much as we could, and then we took the box lunches and went back down the street to the shelter mentioned above. We gave those men who were in need a lunch and some water. We had 18 lunches left over so we took them on downtown to the Mets Bus Station. There was a large number of people (many homeless) there at that site. Many use the benches there to sleep on. I have been told that the city is trying to stop the large numbers of homeless who sleep there from doing so. I can certainly understand that. I really appreciate the city govt. doing all they can to help meet the needs of the homeless in our area.

Jennie Hiam 1-812-204-1190

"Unto the Least of These", Matthew 25:40 (Jesus speaking)

June 18, 2022

Hello everyone!

Well, as all of you know, we had a VERY WARM week temperature-wise this past week! Terri and I made it through on Monday and Pat and I did the same on Thursday. Thank You, Jesus, for being with us! As long as we kept ourselves "watered down", we were o.k. I trust we will have a little bit cooler weather this coming week! (Although I'm not counting on it!!)

Before I go further into our itinerary for this past week, let me bring to your attention the Youth Care Center downtown which houses teenagers who are wards of the court for one offense or another, are homeless, etc. I volunteered at this site as a Nurse Practitioner for several years so I had a lot of contact with the kids who were there. When I was there, we generally had approximately 22-25 kids (the majority being boys) with particular offenses on their record which necessitated their being confined for varying lengths of time. Some of the kids were homeless with nowhere else to live but the majority had committed a crime of one sort or another. Some of the young teenage girls were "working" as prostitutes around town. All of this REALLY tore me up (still does)! Many with serious crimes against them were transferred out to the Vand. County Jail or were sent up North for prolonged confinement in other adolescent based facilities. Because of my experiences at the YCC, I have taken some of our clothing items, etc., that have been donated to this ministry downtown to the YCC for the kids to wear once they are released or transferred elsewhere. While there, they have to wear "prison garb". I want you to know one thing about the YCC. I have checked with those in charge there now and I have discovered that they now have a population of anywhere from 35-40 teenagers, the majority of whom are placed there because of GUN POSSESSION! (Or gun related crimes!) I have asked the staff at that site to let me know if and when they have further need for the clothing, shoes, etc. that we have available in our mission room. Many of those children will eventually wind up on the street, in shelters, and elsewhere with no productive life in sight. Evansville, as a community, is doing all they can to help these teens. I am very grateful for that. I will keep you posted on the situation there.

Terri, Pat, and I had several interesting situations happen this week. One was at the Mets Bus Station where we met a former Iraqi war veteran who had been blinded in combat and needed assistance going to and fro. He was waiting for a bus to get him out to the state of Oregon. When we saw him, he was very hungry AND thirsty! Terri was distributing box lunches out of the van which were provided by the Salvation Army. I helped this man make his way over to the van where he picked up a meal and then we got him back over to the bus station. While there, we found a young man who offered to help him find his way over to the bus that he would need to continue his journey. I hope and pray he made his trip safely.

We have told you in the past about Michelle, a 50-ish y.o. homeless woman that we have seen around town on numerous occasions. Well, I was driving downtown on Tuesday of this past week and I saw someone lying on a cement slab close to the old court house. I stopped to assist this person and discovered that this was Michele. She was wearing a heavy sweatshirt and sweatpants at the time. I went over to her and asked if I could help her. She recognized me and seemed glad to see me. I also gave her a bottle of water to drink. She got up off of the cement slab and we hugged each other. She had not eaten, so I gave her some cash to take over to a nearby small deli and get something to eat. She is not permitted in any of the downtown area shelters because of malbehavior on her part. A local merchant who knew Michelle told me that she had "burned all of her bridges" to places of safety. I found out the next day that Michelle never made it over to the deli as I had suggested to her. Someone told me a day or two later that they had seen her laying on a picnic table in an area park several blocks away. Michelle is just one of the increasing number of homeless women who are out on the streets nationally AND here locally. I just read the following statement in a news report-100% of women who are living out on the streets GET RAPED!! This is even more reason for us to be concerned about the women who are living here locally in Ruth's House. They are out on the streets MORE than they are being protected from dangerous predators!! Oh, Dear Lord! Protect these dear women! I will update you on further news I hear. A friend and I plan to visit Ruth's House tomorrow afternoon to deliver some clothing items, Bibles, and daily devotionals.

I did want to tell you about a woman we have seen on frequent occasions at the Salvation Army. She has become a Christian and has joined a good church near where she lives. Virtually every time I have seen her, she tells me that she is now tithing her meager income and has been SO VERY BLESSED because of this! This church is helping her so very much. She has daily interaction with the God of the Universe! Wow! I'm always glad when I see her heading my direction. She has a powerful testimony which she shares with anyone who is willing to listen. Thank You, Jesus!

When Pat and I were at the Mets Bus Station this past Thursday, a man came up to us expressing his PROFOUND GRATITUDE for the assistance our ministry has given to him. We first met up with him several months ago at the United Caring Shelter. We gave him several blankets and other items he and his wife needed. ALSO, if I remember the situation clearly, I believe he is the man that Bill Clippinger prayed with right there at the van when we were distributing items. He was SO VERY APPRECIATIVE of the encouragement that he received at that time. He told us that immediately following this encounter, he and his wife obtained housing with Aurora's help and also received counseling and treatment for alcohol and drug problems. They began attending the "Gathering" church downtown and received spiritual help there. They still attend services there. "We are back on track now!" He is working at a regular job now. They are MOST GRATEFUL for the direction they have received from many sources here in town. Wow!! His testimony REALLY inspired Pat and I out on the streets when we saw him this week. He helped us in our spiritual growth, too. Thank You, Dear Father!

In conclusion, I would like to share with you a couple of comments which I heard from a pastor on TV this past week:

1. "The only time we should look down on somebody is when we are helping them GET up"!
2. "We are God's personal representatives here on earth"!

Thank you, everyone, for your prayers and support of this ministry. The needs that we have still stand from what we included in our "Street Talk" last week. If you have any questions about this, please call me at 1-812-204-1190.

Jennie Hiam

June 25, 2022

Hello everyone!

I always enjoy touching base with you to keep you updated on what's happening out on the streets via our ministry. Last Sunday, I went downtown to Ruth's House to take some items to them that I thought they might be interested in. They continue to have their quota of women (22) who are permitted to be housed in their facility. One of our team member churches is focusing just on this one facility to provide some hygiene items they very much need. This is a very good idea. I'll keep you posted on how this progresses. We were not able to take the van out this last Monday because our drivers had some health issues which precluded them from helping us that day. So, I made a trip downtown to the United Caring Shelter with some things in my car for distribution. While there, I saw a young man walking toward me with a thick book under his arm. To my pleasant surprise, he had a Bible with him which appeared to be one that was being read regularly. This young man and I had a very nice chat. He is from Taiwan by birth but had been adopted by an American couple at a very young age. He no sooner had been adopted by a family here in Southern Indiana when his new parents divorced and the children were placed in foster care. That is where he has been all of his life thus far. He did not complete high school but has been out on the streets for several years. He is now living at the UCS and is attending a local Evangelical church which he loves very much. In fact, he's a member of that church, and is participating in active Bible study with other members. He seemed very positive about his new life. I asked him to watch for us on that following Thursday and we would be able to provide him with some more Christian literature and other personal items. He seemed very appreciative. Sure enough, he was waiting for us on Thursday! He was sitting on the sidewalk right at the entrance of the parking lot at UCS. He and I had a nice time together talking about God, our Father! I referred him to the Aurora staff person who would be there on Friday morning so he could get more info regarding a job. Please be praying for this young man with me. He has an oriental name so I don't recall just what it is. But God knows! I will keep you posted on what we find out about him in the future.

There is a young woman who walks aimlessly up and down the streets downtown that we are concerned about. Her clothes are tattered and she appears to have a definite mental problem. Please be praying with us regarding her and the situation she is in. I am VERY concerned for her mental and physical safety. Will keep you posted on this situation.

We stopped at Patchwork Central on Thursday a.m. I am SO VERY thankful that particular Mission is available to those in need in our area. John Rich and his staff are doing a GREAT job with people in this neighborhood and those on the streets. John is a pastor AND an RN. He and his staff are VERY sensitive to the needs of those they serve. Thank You, Dear Jesus.

When Pat and I were at the Salvation Army on Thursday, we again had contact with the woman I have mentioned to you before regarding her pleasure and delight in being able to tithe to the ministry of the little church which she attends now. She told me this week that she is in their church "praise band" and THOROUGHLY enjoys being able to play a small instrument with the other musicians. She is SO VERY GRATEFUL that she can do this now. I don't know much about her past life, BUT I do know that NOW she has met the MASTER of the UNIVERSE through her participation in this church! I can almost FEEL her smile as she comes up to the van to tell me the latest about her church AND her relationship with Jesus! Thank You, Dear Father!

As we have mentioned to you before, there is a city park on the corner of Franklin St. and Fulton. Many of our people like to sit there AND sleep in the shelter area. This past Thursday, when we drove by there, we saw several of our people at that site. After we had visited the Salvation Army area, served our people there, and had obtained 18 box lunches for us to give to people out on the streets and at the Mets Bus Station, we headed back down toward the above mentioned shelter. We stopped to serve some of these to the people in need there. I opened the van door and I saw someone RUNNING toward us with shouts of "Hey, Grandma Jennie"! It was Michelle! The woman we have had a lot of contact with on the streets off and on during our ministry. I have mentioned her to you on other occasions. She has been in jail in recent months for an undetermined length of time having been arrested for trespassing on Coliseum property downtown. I have seen her MANY times sleeping behind the pillars in front. Over the past couple of years I have seen other people doing the same but I think the city has decided to take some action on this problem with the homeless. I honestly don't blame the city for doing this, especially since the govt. is trying very hard to help our homeless population by providing housing, jobs, etc. Regarding the latter, we are having more people just in our conversation with them tell us that they now have a job OR have one being saved for them. I am SO VERY grateful for this!

Just a couple more things-I received a phone call from Pastor Darrell Rice of the "Connection" Church out on the North side of town. We have worked with him and his church on numerous occasions. This time, however, he had been given a large number of moderate size heavy-duty plastic bags with straps on them which our people could use for carrying their belongings. HOWEVER, inside each of these bags was a LARGE NUMBER of pre-packaged food items in unopened cans, plastic bags, etc., They had been given to Pastor Rice from another pastor in Madisonville, KY. I KNEW we could use these somehow! So, yesterday afternoon, I loaded them up in the trunk of my car and hauled them downtown to the House of Bread and Peace on Chandler St. The shelter director, Vera Williams, was DELIGHTED to receive them. She herself is a devout Christian and is a church member downtown. We got all of these food items unloaded from my car and into the shelter. THEN, Vera and I had a chat about how we could help her women and families more. I have been thinking about the possibility of starting some Bible studies in different shelters around town (as I mentioned to you in last weeks' "Street Talk"). Vera seemed excited about this and told me they would probably be interested in doing this perhaps in the Fall of this year. So, she wants us to discuss this further later in the summer. I am THRILLED! What's so amazing to me is that when we think something CAN'T be done for one reason or another, then, God works it out in a different way! Thank You, Dear Jesus!

I have ONE more thing to tell you about! I had a phone call from a new friend, Kristin Hardiman, who heard about this ministry via one of our team members. Kristin is a recovering alcoholic and is now a devout Christian who attends the Freedom Life Center Church on the North side of town. She has been in recovery now x 7 years. She found out through one of our team members that we were interested in establishing a Bible Study in at least one of our homeless sites. She herself is now involved in leading a

program such as this at the Safe House (the Work Release Program for Women) located on Vanderburgh County Jail property. She has been doing this for some time. What I plan to do is investigate this further and, hopefully, include 1-2 members of our team in on this Christian outreach for our people. I have been amazed by the fact that just my mentioning the idea of a Bible Study in some of the facilities we visit causes a negative reaction, EVEN THOUGH several of these agencies were founded on Christian teachings. Anyway, all of the above just "seemed to happen" out of the blue (God ordained, in my opinion!)

Please feel comfortable letting me know your thoughts regarding any of the above mentioned ideas. Our people on the streets and in the shelters all need any help we, as church and community members, can give them. We very much appreciate all our city govt., social service agencies, and other interested groups are doing to help these dear people and their families. "Our job is not to reject people-our job is to love them" (Joel Osteen-T.V. pastor) Thank you, EVERYONE, for caring! And thank You, Dear Jesus, for being the Master Builder of this ministry!

Jennie Hiam 1-812-204-1190

"Unto the Least of These"-Matthew 25:40 (Jesus speaking)
Ministry to the homeless and underserved of our area
Aldersgate UMC 1-812-477-7816
5130 Lincoln Ave.