

The Messenger

Greg Davis, Pastor

Mission Statement

March 2023

Our Mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly.

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



Have you ever wondered, why do we celebrate Lent? Why do we start Lent with Ash Wednesday? Why is the color of the season purple? Why does Lent last 40 days?

Lent is the season of the church year that follows the Epiphany Season. It is a time we set aside each year to remember the love of God that is poured out through Christ Jesus on the cross in His death; and His defeat of death, sin and Satan in Christ's death and resurrection that brings Eternal Life to you. This season has a penitential character, a solemn nature to it. This is to help us remember to be repentant and remind us of our sin and our mortality.

We begin Lent with Ash Wednesday as a day to help us to have a penitent mind throughout the season of Lent. This is why we have the imposition of Ashes as a reminder to us that in sin we will return to the dust from which we are (Genesis 3:19). While the imposition of ashes reminds us of our mortality and our sin, it also reminds us of Jesus' defeat of death and sin on the cross, and the atonement for our sin by His blood (Ephesians 1:7). As we feel the sign of the cross with the ash, we are also reminded of our baptism, as we were marked with the cross upon our forehead and upon our heart as one redeemed by Christ Jesus, who secured for us eternal redemption from sin and eternal life (Matthew 28:16-20; Hebrews 9:12). This penitential character is also shown in the color used during this season of the church year.

The color purple is used by the church to remind us of the character of the season. The color purple is used as a color of penitence, and you will see the colors displayed throughout the sanctuary, his character is carried over in the words we use in worship as we will omit the alleluias until Easter. This is also shown in the length of the season.

Lent is 40 days long as a reminder of Christ's 40 days in the wilderness, and His defeat of temptation (Matthew 4). Here we are reminded that Jesus was also tempted and that He stood firm against Satan's temptations. This reminds us that He is our strength against all temptation in this life and our need for Christ's death on Good Friday. It also reminds us why we have a character of penance in the Season of Lent: we are in need of redemption from sin, death, and Satan.

2 Corinthians 5:21 tell us, "For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God." As you begin Lent remember God became sin for your sake by taking on our sinful flesh and dying on the cross to atone for our sin with His blood. In this defeat of death, sin and Satan by His own death, He freed you from them forever; and as He rose from death, you too shall be resurrected from death to Eternal Life, being made into the righteousness of God as you are justified and forgiven in Christ. This is why we celebrate the season of Lent, to prepare us to receive God's reconciliation in Christ Jesus on Easter as we celebrate Jesus' glorious resurrection and the free gift of God's Grace that brings us forgiveness, Salvation, and Life Everlasting.

We follow together toward the cross,,

Pastor Greg

Lent Schedule

April 2nd: Palm Sunday
April 6th: Maundy Thursday Service
April 9th: Easter Celebration!

8:00 AM—Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall

9:00 AM— Easter Morning Worship
Celebration



Don't forget
to "SPRING
Forward"
before you go
to bed on
March 11th!

The
Season
of
Lent



The Lenten donation cans are set around the church for you to gather coins and bills. Your donation this year will go to both Habitat and Haiti missions.

There are several Lenten Devotional Booklets available on the table in the foyer. Lent began February 22nd. It is not too late to pick up a devotional which will enhance your Lenten journey.



The Men's
Lenten Break-
fast gatherings
begin on
March 4, 2023.



The gathering time is 7:15 on the following dates and locations:

March 4	Simpson UMC
March 11	Old North UMC
March 18	St James West UMC
March 25	Salem UMC

The theme this year is "The Resurrection" as the group is trying to resurrect the breakfasts. The new chairman for the committee is Arthur "Art" Middle, a member at Salem UNC. Please call him at 812-760-4349 with any questions. Leave a message if you don't get an answer and he will return your call.



Order forms for
Easter Lilies or tu-
lips are now availa-
ble on the table in
the foyers. You can
help decorate our
sanctuary for Easter
Sunday by ordering a
Lily or Tulip in Honor of or in Memory
of a loved one.



Orders are due on April 2, 2023



I want to express my appreciation to all who have been praying for me during my Breast Cancer journey.

Since learning of my diagnosis in May of 2022, I've had surgery, completed chemotherapy, and recently completed radiation. My outlook and prognosis is good.

Thank you to all the prayer warriors praying for me. ~ Kristy Georgesen

February
2023
Attend-
ance
and
Giving

	Att	Building Fund	General Fund	Tue Meals	Missions (Habitat)	Inter-net	Pancake Dinner Children Ministry	Missions (Haiti)	Total Checking Deposit
5	40	\$800.00	\$1,721.00	\$15.00					\$2,536.00
12	52	\$500.00	\$2,725.00	\$100.00		\$310.00		\$210.00	\$3,656.00
19	62	\$250.00	\$2,735.00					\$111.00	\$3,096.00
26	60		\$530.00		\$20.00		\$181.00		\$731.00



MARCH

Issac Bultitude	3
Adam Sponseller	8
Isaac Meador	9
Barbara Doty	13
Annelle Mills	15
Helen Finke	20
Michael Barnett	23
Mardee Rea	28
Lauren Burris	29



We collected \$111.00 in free will offerings for the Haiti Mission! That's enough to feed a family for a month!

In True Methodist style, the Souper Bowl festivities included lots of Soup and sandwiches as well as mouth-watering desserts! There was a great turn-out for lunch and fellowship.



I failed to snap a picture of the food

Donations but the baskets were Over flowing!



Way to go MCC! Our donations to the mission work is Outstanding!



Natalie & Kurt Decker 10



Good Friday

Women are invited to the Good Friday Breakfast April 7 at Salem Church of Darmstadt. Details are on the Bulletin Board in the foyer.

Issac Bultitude's Birthday is March 3 and he just finished US Navy boot camp. If you would like to send him a card, his new address is:

440 Roberts Ave
PMB #2332
Pensacola, FL



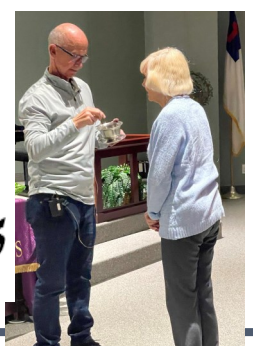
First, Pancakes for Shrove Tuesday . .



. . . And Then Fellowship



Followed by the somber Ash Wednesday Service





Prayer Requests:

Kristy Georgesen,
Mary Moore, Victor
Doty, Don Skelton,
Joe Haseman, Jim
Smith, Sara Dixon,

Martha Lease (loss of sister), Silas (Jerry
and Jane Bennet's great grandson), Jean
Woods (Jand and Jerry's friend) Jane
Bennet's parents, Jenny Taylor, Ruth
Ann Hyatt (Helen Finke's friend), Deb-
by Phares, the homeless and addicted
community,

Josette Higgins, Mary Lou Ellis, Our
church, all area schools and universi-
ties, 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? 812-867-5735

Call the church office at 812-867-5735



Well, maybe not a
garage sale but Pastor
Greg will be bringing
all of his goodies in
March for a sale.
Be on the lookout for
many wonderful bar-
gains that will be dis-
played in the Fellow-
ship area.

Do you have any small
or gently used items
you would like to
donate?

Proceeds will go to our
Youth Ministries.



North
High
School
will
present
The
Sound of
Music

March 9-11 @ 7PM
March 12 @ 2PM

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:

Items needed-USED blankets, bath towels, wash cloths,
sleeping bags, winter coats, warm hats and gloves,
warm scarves, all hygiene items, menstrual pads, blue
jeans for both men and women, NEW men's and New
women's cotton underwear (latter size 7 and or 9).

Amazon address- <https://a.co/bBRUAMg>

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.

Integrity Compassion Safety Team Oriented Committed



UNITED METHODIST
YOUTH HOME

Did you know?

Inviting your Facebook friends to like our Facebook
page is a quick and easy way to help us get the
word out to more people about the great work we
do!

The greatest needs for each of our programs are al-
ways changing. If you have any new or gently-used
items from the list below that you would like to do-
nate, please bring them to the UMYH campus or
email Shelby at spowell@umyh.com

- * Utility Cart
- * Hand Mixer
- * Bath Towels
- * Dish Cloths
- * T-Shirts (Boys and Girls)
- ◆ Basketball Shorts
(Boys & Girls)
- ◆ Sweatpants
(Boys & Girls)
- ◆ X-Box for Holder
Home



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
February 26 9:00 Small Group 10:30 Worship	February 27 Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 Fellowship Hall Reserved 6:00-8:00	February 28 10:00 God's Kids Chapel with Pastor Greg & Teresa 1:30 Gym Reserved	March 1 Choir 6:00 pm Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 6:00 Gym Reserved	2 1:30 Gym Reserved Fellowship Hall reserved 6:00-8:00	3	4 Men's Lenten Breakfast: Simpson UMC
5 Communion Sunday 9:00 Small Group 10:30 Worship 3:00 Gym Reserved	6 MMM pick-up 1:30 Gym Reserved Fellowship Hall Reserved 6:00-8:00	7 10:00 God's Kids Chapel with Pastor Greg & Teresa 1:30 Gym Reserved	8 Choir 6:00 pm 1:30 Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00 Gym Reserved	9 1:30 Gym Reserved Fellowship Hall reserved 6:00-8:00	10	11 4 Men's Lenten Breakfast: Old North 
12 9:00 Small Group 10:30 Worship 3:30 Gym Reserved	13 Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 Fellowship Hall Reserved 6:00-8:00	14 10:00 God's Kids Chapel with Pastor Greg & Teresa 1:30 Gym Reserved	15 Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 6:00-8:00 Gym Reserved Choir 6:00 pm	16 1:30 Gym Reserved Fellowship Hall reserved 6:00-8:00	17	14 Men's Lenten Breakfast: St James West
19 9:00 Small Group 10:30 Worship 3:30 Gym Reserved	20 Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 Fellowship Hall Reserved 6:00-8:00	21 Fat Tuesday-Pancake Dinner 5-7 10:00 God's Kids Chapel with Pastor Greg & Teresa 1:30 Gym Reserved	22 Lent Begins Choir 6:00 pm 1 Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 6:00-8:00 Gym Reserved 1:00 Women Meeting	23 Fellowship Hall reserved 6:00-8:00	24	25 4 Men's Lenten Breakfast: Salem
26 9:00 Small Group 10:30 Worship 3:30 Gym Reserved	27 Gym reserved 1:30 Fellowship Hall Reserved 6:00-8:00	28 10:00 God's Kids Chapel with Pastor Greg & Teresa	29 Choir 6:00 pm Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 6:00-8:00 Gym Reserved	30 1:30 Gym Reserved Fellowship Hall reserved 6:00-8:00	31	April 1

STREET TALK

Unto the Least of These Ministry to Homeless in Evansville

February 4, 2023

Hello to all!

Hope everyone is well! I am on the "mend" from my fall on the step getting out of the church van a couple of weeks ago. I am still walking with a walker and am wearing an ortho boot. This last week, I started driving my car and simply following the van when we went out on the streets doing our ministry. Actually, until we can perhaps get a different van (larger and with more appropriate steps for getting in and out of it), I am going to continue to just do the above. I'll just park my car behind the van and then get out and work with our dear people in that manner. Actually, without my personally sitting in the van, there is more room for us to carry hygiene supplies, towels, washcloths, Bibles and other Christian literature right in the back where I would be sitting on the one step that is there. I can foresee that we might even be able to remove the one seat in the back where I was sitting when I was in the van thereby giving us more room for our "love gifts" for our people. I'll just wait and see what our other team members say about the above. Will keep you posted on all of that.

I spoke with Sue Kincaid this past week. She is continuing to conduct a weekly Bible Study at the Salvation Army every Thursday from 12:30-1:30 p.m. She has some faithful attendees that come to this event. The ones I have spoken to who are thrilled that she is doing this! She is presently leading a discussion in the Gospel of Luke. It has been AND will continue to be VERY helpful for our dear people. Thank You, Dear Jesus, for being in attendance at that Bible Study, too. I've heard about Your being there. Thank You!

I received a phone call this week from our dear team member, Pat Roberts, who is in Florida presently. He also volunteers at Mother Theresa's Treasures, located in Newburgh, on a regular basis when he is in town. The woman in charge of that ministry told him that they have 5-6 large bags of items they would like to donate to us for distribution out on the streets. With Roger's help, we will get all of those bags into our mission room at church by this coming Tuesday. Pat Marienau, we will have those there to you by that date. The Salvation Army generally gives us 4-5 bags of items for distribution to our people every time we are there. One more item along this line-when I stopped in our mission room at church this last Thursday, I saw a very LARGE box of BRAND NEW nice sized canvas bags FILLED with numerous hygiene items that we will distribute to our people ASAP. There were approximately 25 or so of them available. In fact, I plan to try to get some of these out to the streets this afternoon or tomorrow afternoon at the latest. There were some other wonderful items available, too! Jesus, my walker, and I will do what we can to distribute these this weekend.

Roger and I went out on the streets this last Thursday to see our people. We stopped at Patchwork Central, the United Caring Shelter, the Salvation Army, and the Mets Bus Station. We saw around 10 ment at Patchwork. I talked at length with Matthew while there. He and I have been buddies for several years now. He lives in a wooded area over off of St. Joseph Ave. He told me there is a small business at that site that lets him "set up his tent camp" right close to their office. He is the only homeless person at that spot. They let him do this because they know he will act as a guard over their building during the day and night. He told me that otherwise he goes to the library and does "computer work" there. Just as an extra note here-a lot of the homeless in our area go to the library during the day. I have to tell you that I am not too trusting of so many adults who have nothing else to do other than searches on computers. I think you probably understand what I mean here.....

We were able to speak with a large number of people at the United Caring Shelter on Thursday. So many of them were very concerned about ol' granny "walking around on a walker"! My old friend, Billy, came up to me and more or less stood guard over me until we were ready to leave.

One thing I want to mention here is that we are in dire need of sleeping bags for our people. They can use new ones or old ones that are clean and very usable. I have personally thought about trying to get over to the Rural King and seeing what they had along this line at a decent price. If any of you know where we could get some of these, please let me know. This is a "hot item" right now.....

I talked with one man who had been stabbed in the back while he was sleeping behind a garage somewhere. Apparently, it was not a deep wound. Thank You, Jesus, for that!

Another man I spoke with had injured the tips of his fingers in some manner in the recent past. They were healing somewhat now, but had been blood-raw. I have seen wounds like this in the past in homeless individuals who have been "messing" with fire-trying to cook some food out in the open, etc. Oh my!

I saw Michael inside the Salvation Army eating his lunch. He was sitting by himself but was hallucinating in a very loud manner. I waved at him, but he didn't not acknowledge me. I have told him several times in the past that I love him and that Jesus loves him. I talked with a few more people and then went back outside to my car. Momentarily, Michael followed me outside and came over to my car. He said very little but DID smile at me. With his horrible home background as a child that he told me about one time, this young man has NEVER known human love and has never known about the Love of God. You know, I REALLY wish, I had several dozen red cookie hearts (just red icing on them) that I could give one to each one of our people on Valentine's Day. I'm not a cook anymore, so I can't do that. Could any of you help me out in this area? Valentine's Day is on Tuesday, Feb. 14th. If I have some of the above mentioned cookies, I personally will take them around to the shelters and to anyone I see on the streets that day. I want them to know that we love them AND that Jesus loves them more than they can ever know. Let me know if you can help me out here. You could bring the cookies into our church (Aldersgate UMC-5130 Lincoln Ave.) I would be distributing them around town on Tuesday afternoon, the 14th, after 12 noon.

One more thing I wanted to mention to you. Some of the individuals we saw out on the streets this past week were inmates at the Vanderburgh County Jail on Christmas Day when several of us went caroling at that site. They PURPOSELY came up to me and thanked me for coming to see them on that date. They told me that our doing that was SO VERY special for them. They TRULY were made to feel that there is indeed a God (THE ONE TRUE GOD) who loves them! This was very overwhelming to me when they told me this! We have done this for several years now and, by the Grace of God, we will continue to do this every Christmas Day afternoon from 3-4 p.m. I'll send out more information as the time draws near this next Christmas. Please stay tuned!!

Everyone! Please stay in touch with all we are doing in this ministry for our dear people on the streets. Please send this newsletter to anyone you wish. Jesus is INDEED with us in this ministry. Our Amazon address that you can use to make purchases is the following:

<https://a.co/bBRUAMg>

Thank you, EVERYONE, for your love, caring, and support for our dear people.

Jennie Hiam 1-812-204-1190

February 11, 2023

Hello to all!

Hope everyone is well and ready for some more news regarding our homeless ministry here locally. I have to admit to you that I often find myself quite sad with this situation when I sit down to write this newsletter. I try to share some things with you that are not only sad BUT also are uplifting! Every week, we see some glimmer of hope in the caring of those that Jesus referred to in the Bible as the "least of these" (Matthew 25:40). He used that terminology because this was the attitude of the day, as it is now, that so many people have when discussing those we see on the streets, in shelters, etc. Let me tell you about some of the situations we encountered this past week-both good and bad.

As I mentioned to you last week, our local Lions Club has given our ministry many items to distribute to our people on the streets. One in particular that was noteworthy was that they gave us approximately 25 nice size light weight canvas bags filled with hygiene supplies to distribute as needed. Last Sunday afternoon, I took those bags downtown and distributed many of them to some of the women who are currently living in Ruth's House. They were VERY MUCH appreciated, as you can imagine!

I had several of the total number we had been given left over so I took them out to the Fresh Start Recovery program on Kratzville Rd. which is operated by the Volunteers of America (VOA). I had 14 of those bags left over so I thought some of the women at the latter site would LOVE to have them. I didn't know how many gals they had there at the time, but I felt the need to just go check it out. WELL, when I arrived, the girls were SO excited to see me! And, would you believe it, the number of women at that site NOW was 14!! Some of them were so depressed because of the situation they had found themselves in. WELL, they were THRILLED when I showed them what we had to give to them! We were able to give one nice bag of hygiene items to EACH one at that location! I get teary just thinking about how God worked all of that out! We want to give the local Lions Club a HUGE "shout out" for this wonderful donation which these children of God received because of their generosity! Thank you, Don (the local club governor) and his wife, Sue, for making the above possible.

Our mission room team at church had set aside some clothing, etc., for small children, which we had received so I took all of those items to the Fresh Start Recovery program, too. They have noticed an increase in the number of women with children now at this recovery center. With this being the case, we took all of those children's items to them for distribution. They definitely were VERY appreciative of all we were able to provide for them last Sunday. Thank You, Dear Jesus, for Your Guidance and Direction in this ministry. Wow!

On Monday morning, Roger, Janet, Jesus, and I went over to the United Caring Shelter to see our people there. I was talking with one man (in his 50's) who showed me a large sore he had noticed in his mouth. It had been there for a "long time", he said. He was a heavy drinker and drug user. Had teeth rotten to the core. I told him that I very strongly suspected that this was an oral cancer AND that he needed immediate Dr. attention! I referred him over to ECHO Health Clinic for exam and referral. He told me he would go over there. He knew where the clinic was. I worked at this clinic as an NP for close to 20 years so I knew he would get an immediate exam and referral for further care. I am SO VERY thankful that we have such health care facilities/clinics, etc. available here locally for our people.

We talked with 3 pregnant women at different sites while we were out on the streets this week. Two of them told me they had follow-up MD appointments, so I hope that was the case. The third young woman was one we saw at the bus station with her boyfriend (baby's father??). They were waiting on a bus and were heading out of town somewhere. I have no clue just where.....Oh, Dear Jesus, please be with all of these young women and their unborn children. Please be with them in their relationships with the fathers of these children. Keep them all safe.....Thank You!!

One of our very faithful team members, Pat Roberts, called me a few days ago and told me that he had received a phone call from the woman in charge at Mother Teresa's in Newburgh telling him that she had several very large size bags of items to donate to our ministry. So, I went out and picked them up on Tuesday. There are some men who donate time at Mother Teresa's by helping with heavy lifting, etc. Well, I was certainly thankful for that! These guys managed to stuff all of those large bags into the trunk and the backseat of my car so I could get them into the church. On Thursday morning, Roger came in early to pack the van for us to hit the streets AND then he placed all of those LARGE bags in our mission room. I could NEVER have done that!!! Thank you SO VERY MUCH, Roger! I might add here that Pat Roberts always does the very same thing when he is in town. I am SO VERY GRATEFUL for these great men of God and for ALL of their support in this ministry! Thank you, dear friends!

On Thursday a.m., Roger, Janet, Jesus, and I went to Safe Haven, a recovery site over on Franklin Street for women who have been incarcerated, victims of abuse of all sorts, etc. They currently have 8 women there. They are ALWAYS MOST appreciative when we stop by there (generally once a month) to distribute clothing, hygiene items, Bibles, Christian literature, etc. We pray with individuals at any site we go to if they feel the need and/or it seems appropriate to us.

When we were at the United Caring Shelter on Thursday, one man (20'ish) came up to me, showed me a picture of a young woman, and asked me if I, or any of us, had seen her. None of us had. I have no idea what that was about. I CANNOT stress to all of you enough as to how much in need our people on the streets are-spiritually, emotionally, and physically. Oh Dear Father! HELP!!!

I want to close this edition of "Street Talk" on a more positive note! I received a very nice request from an officer in a local financial institution telling me that he had collected a trunk full of clothing, shoes, AND toilet paper for us to distribute in our ministry. We CANNOT stress the need for these items any more than to say, "Yes! We absolutely need ALL of them"! Just as an FYI here, whenever I give a talk to groups of people about this ministry, I ALWAYS mention all of the above items that he mentioned to me.

Needless to say, this was a WONDERFUL surprise! He plans to deliver all of these donations to the church (Aldersgate UMC) on this coming Tuesday. So, that will be wonderful! Thank you SO VERY MUCH, Will M.!! This coming Tuesday, Valentine's Day, Janet and I will be taking heart-shaped Valentine cookies around to the shelters to personally distribute one to each person we see. The same applies to other homeless people we see on the streets. We just want them to know that we love them and, MOST IMPORTANTLY, that Jesus loves them! If anyone of you would like to donate some cookies as described above, please bring them to the church (AldersgateUMC) no later than Tuesday morning, 11 a.m. Thank you SO VERY MUCH!

I also would like to add that we REALLY need bluejeans (used or new, mens and womens), men sizes 32,, 34, 36, 38, and 40. For women-12, 14, 16, 18. We also are in need of NEW underwear for men (med., large, XL) as well as NEW panties for women (size 7 in particular as well as size 9). New or used crew socks are ALWAYS needed for both men and women. If anyone would like to make a purchase through Amazon, the address is <https://a.co/bBRUAmg>

We are VERY MUCH aware of the Presence of Jesus when we are out on the streets in this ministry. We are MOST grateful that He is with us AND will continue to work in this ministry with us in order to bring positive loving change into the lives of our people. We want to thank ALL OF YOU for your partnership with us. If any of you would like to visit the streets with us, please don't hesitate to contact me. Our days for visitation are Mondays and Thursdays.

Thank you everyone!!
Jennie Hiam 1-812-204-1190

February 18, 2023

Hello everyone!

At least it's sunshining today, so we are all glad about that, I am sure! Thank You, Jesus!
I have some bits of street news for you from this past week. It is as follows:

I received word from Patrice Schroder this past week that she was able to order another 100 copies of New Testaments for us to distribute to our dear people on the street. We should receive them early this next week. We are so very grateful! Thank you, Patrice, for your diligence in this matter. Approx. one month ago, I received over 120 copies of "Our Daily Bread" from the publishing company in Michigan that produces it for devotional reading. Some of you may know this but that devotional is distributed to jails and prisons around the country. Our people LOVE to read it. They are ALWAYS reaching for one of them right when they come up to the van. This is a means we have for reaching them and telling them about Jesus. Thank You, Heavenly Father.....

While I am giving you some information about prisons and jails, as some of you know, several of us went caroling out at the Vanderburgh County Jail on Christmas Day again this last year. We have done this for several years now AND hope to continue doing it this year. I am saying this to tell you that several of the individuals we saw as inmates in the jail we have been seeing out on the streets since then. They ALL come up to us and thank us for caring about them, even during a family holiday time. We plan to continue doing this every upcoming year. Will keep you posted on this. ALSO, we will be having a Communion Service on Good Friday at the United Caring Shelter this year again, as we have in the past few years. Will keep you posted on this likewise.

Some of you may remember the young woman, Christy, that I have mentioned to you on occasion in the past. She keeps "producing" babies-has just had another one. From what she tells me, it is a different father each time. Since I have gotten acquainted with her, she has had, I think, four children. They are at different locations around town. I did take the liberty this time of asking her if she was using contraception of any kind. She told me that she started using Depo Provera, an injectable form of birth control. Does anyone have any other suggestions as to how to deal with this situation? Please let me know, if you do. My heart aches for her and those babies.

Jesus, Janet Lewis, and I had a good time this past Tuesday on Valentine's Day. Some friends donated heart-shaped cookies for us to distribute to our people on the streets that day. We made approx. 10-12 stops around town to share these delicacies with individuals and at some of the local shelters. Everyone was thrilled to receive these treats. One that I wanted to mention to you specifically was the N.O.W. shelter on 8th Street downtown. We stopped to chat with a young man who was standing outside. While we were there, a young woman came running up to him and was very upset. We heard her say to him: "I just relapsed!" He kindly led her inside the building. We didn't see them anymore. Our hearts are still aching for her and for whatever happened in her life that day AND in her past! This is probably one of the MAIN problems our people on the streets are dealing with-drugs, alcohol, all forms of abuse from the past AND the present, correlating with mental illness.....Oh, Dear Father, please intervene in that young woman's life and in the lives of all the streets people we encounter....

On Wednesday afternoon, I took some nice female clothing items downtown to the House of Bread and Peace. They have 16 Moms and 4 children there now. While there, I had the good fortune of seeing Sarah Wolf, who formerly was the director of that shelter. She is a WONDERFUL person-and is now employed by ECHO Housing under the auspices of Aurora. When I was getting some things out of my car, a young adult couple walked up to me from the other side of the street. The woman asked me if I thought she could get housing there at the that particular shelter. Just then, Sarah came out of the shelter along with one of the staff. I introduced them to the young woman in need that I was talking with. They told her that they thought they would be able to help her. They would have to refer the young man with her to another location. The young woman had told me that she had a 21 y.o. son that she had delivered when she was 15. (She was now 36 years old.) This young man currently is in prison. She had NO idea who the father of this child was. We need to continue stopping at the House of Bread and Peace-actually making it one of our regular stops. They are SO MUCH in need...

On Thursday of this past week, Roger, Kristin, Jesus, and I stopped at Patchwork Central downtown to help those dear souls who stop by there for breakfast, for bathing, and for health care and evaluation provided by John (pastor and RN). Our team member, Jane (NP), is often there, too, and provides care, also. Then, we went on downtown to the United Caring Shelter where we saw several people in need. We had regular prayer "meetings" with some of the individuals we saw. We could really sense the Presence of God there with us. Thank You, Dear Father. Kristin, in particular, is such a wonderful person to have in charge of this aspect of our ministry. Thank you, dear friend. Janet is a great prayer warrior, too. We appreciate both of these team members SO VERY MUCH!

There were several individuals at the UCS who were just recently released from prison. They so very much appreciated all the help they were being given by the community groups who stop by to see how they are doing.

When we were over at the Salvation Army, I was VERY suprised to have Michael voluntarily come over to me and give me a hug! He is usually walking up and down the street hallucinating. I couldn't understand just what he was saying but I appreciated this small gesture of kindness and appreciation out of him. I have told you about him before. Has a deeply drug dependent Mother and a father locked up in prison indefinitely. Every time I see Michael, my heart literally aches for him. Oh, Dear Father.....

To end on a positive note, I had the distinct opportunity of seeing Sue Kincaid this last Thursday at the S.A. as she arrived at this site to conduct the ongoing Bible Study that is in progress there. She tells me that more people are starting to attend, which is WONDERFUL!! Thank You, Father!

The staff at the Salvation Army is SO VERY helpful in this street ministry. Twice a week, when we are there, they prepare 20 box lunches each day for us to deliver downtown to the Mets Bus Station for individuals in need there. As I have said before, I am VERY grateful that they are in the area there on North Fulton to help all of those dear people in need. Thank You, Dear Father, for the ministry of the Salvation Army. On behalf of the people of Evansville, we are VERY grateful!

One more specific need that we have that I don't think I have ever mentioned to you. We try to keep a supply of bus tokens on hand so we can distribute to those in need. This is especially important during bad weather, if someone has an illness and has an appointment to see a physician, if someone has a job interview coming up that they simply CANNOT miss, etc. If any of you are interested, you can purchase some of these at the main Mets Bus office on East John Street. I usually purchase 30 of them at a time at a cost of approximately \$22.00. If you do have the opportunity to provide the above for us, please put them in a sealed envelope with my name on the outside and leave them at the church office on Monday thru Thursday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. We are VERY careful with our distribution of these. Thank you for considering this opportunity to help in this ministry.

On behalf of our people on the streets and the poor of Evansville, we thank you for ALL that you are doing to help in this ministry. I cannot express that to you enough. We have many people in need and, with your help, and that of the many local social work agencies and other churches, I really believe we are bringing positive change in the lives of the "least of these", as Jesus speaks of in Matthew 25:40. Thank You, Dear Father, that You love and care for ALL of us.

Jennie Hiam 1-812-204-1190

February 25, 2023

Hello everyone!

Well, I have some interesting things to talk about today. Some of them you may have already heard about. One of them is the new homeless health care clinic that is being set up over at the local Rescue Mission. I stopped in there yesterday (Friday) just to see what was happening. At the moment, it is open only on Friday mornings from 8 a.m.-12 noon and will be serving only the homeless who are residing at the Mission. It sounds like to me they will eventually be providing some extensive health care for those in need at their site. I am sure some of you already knew about this, especially those of you who are involved in our local social service agencies, Aurora, etc. Will keep you posted on what all I find out. By the way, the Rescue Mission has been doing some remodeling at their site on Walnut Street which really enhances the look and also provides other services for their people. Wonderful!!

This last Monday, Terri and I stopped at the United Caring Shelter first. We saw quite a few people. There was one young man, age 18, who came directly up to me and wanted me to pray with him. He told me he had been clean from drug use x one month. He said he DESPERATELY needed Divine Help to stay clean. Well, I was honored to pray with him. Interestingly enough, when Janet, Roger, and I stopped by there on Thursday, he immediately came up to us again and requested prayer. I really think that this is one of the most significant needs our people on the streets have. PLUS, they know we really WANT to pray with them, so they don't have any hesitancy asking us to do so. Thank You, Dear Jesus, for this opportunity. Please continue to be with us and open these doors for us to minister to your people in this manner. This is a PRIVILEGE to do so!

On Monday of this past week, the Salvation Army wasn't serving meals because it was "President's Day", so we just parked there for a short while and interacted with the people who were on site. As we were leaving the S.A., we were driving down Franklin St. and saw the women from Safe Haven sitting outside. That is one of our monthly stops so we simply pulled over and helped the gals there all we could. They were most appreciative.

When we got back to the church, Roger carried all of the bags of clothing, etc., that the Salvation Army gave us into the church and placed them in the mission room. Roger is SO VERY SUPPORTIVE of our street ministry! The same applies to Pat Roberts when he is working with us. When I got home, Pastor Greg, who ministers at the MCGC, came over to my condo and brought several other bags of items for us to distribute.

Everytime I look out in my garage, I generally see more bags of needed supplies for our ministry. There are SO MANY people in Evansville who truly care about our people on the streets. We are SO VERY grateful for ALL of their help!

At 5 p.m. on Friday, one of my neighbors brought over a large supply of canned food goods and packages of frozen meat she had just purchased from the store. She rememberd my saying one time that several of our people have to provide their own food at the shelters where they are living. This friend had a family member who had been deeply addicted to alcohol/drugs at one time, but was now clean and was living out in California. She wants to start bringing fresh food items as mentioned above to me for us to distribute in our homeless ministry simply because she is SO VERY GRATEFUL that her son is now CLEAN! When she told him about this, he was THRILLED and was very overwhelmed by her love for him, no matter how he was in the past. Let me just say this here-ALL of that food was distributed to the resources here in town who VERY MUCH put it to good use. Thank You, Dear Father, for this opportunity to share in this family healing process. We are SO GRATEFUL!!

On Tuesday of this past week, I was able to locate two more N.O.W. shelters for us to serve. By the way, just in case you are interested, "N.O.W." stands for the following-"New Opportunities for Wellness". We visited one of them just this past Thursday and on this coming Monday, we will visit two more of them-one for men and one for women. BY THE WAY! These dear people need clean, used bathing towels and washcloths VERY BADLY!! If you have any we could share with them, please drop them off at the church. Address below.....

Just a couple more specific items I wanted to mention to you. When we were headed over to the Mets Bus Station, having just been at the Salvation Army on Thursday, we thought we saw someone lying on the sidewalk under the expressway overpass and John Street. We circled back around to get back to that site. We pulled off the side of the road. It was safer for Janet to get out of the van to check the situation out rather than me because of my recent injuries. Plus, Janet is an RN, too. Anyway, she discovered that this was a homeless woman in distress-in fact, she was a diabetic and was probably in diabetic acidosis. Not very responsive. In the meantime, I was calling 911 to get medical help there immediately. This takes us back to the Scripture verse-"Unto the Least of These", Matthew 25:40. We did exactly what Jesus would have done. EVERY HUMAN BEING we see out on the streets in this ministry is IMPORTANT to God. This woman was one of His children, just as we are! I am SO VERY GLAD that we were able to help her.

Well, just as an announcement or two here-we are in dire need of clean, used bath towels and wash cloths, blankets, sleeping bags, men's bluejeans (34-40), used, clean crew socks, hygiene supplies, TOILET PAPER, and practical style shoes for adults. Also, used backpacks!!!

Also, is there anyone who can ride with us in the van on Mondays, please? We have drivers, but we just need someone to be the co-pilot. If anyone is interested, please let me know. Phone # below.

We SO VERY MUCH appreciate all everyone is doing to help us in this ministry to the dear people on the streets of Evansville. We simply CANNOT do any of this without you! Please contact me (info below) or contact the church for further information. If you choose to make some purchases through Amazon, their number is as follows: <https://a.co/bBRUAMg>
THANK YOU EVERYONE!!

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