

The Messenger

Greg Davis, Pastor

Mission Statement

May 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 •



Isn't God truly an amazing God? If one truly believes in the one true God, then you have to believe that God is in charge of His creation from the very beginning. Think about it, some people love nature, such as flowers, plants and trees, Some enjoy the creation of animals as I see so many caring for their pets (not to mention how much we enjoy our steaks and bacon). There are those who love the sunshine as well as the farmers who love the right amount of rain (all from the hand of God). Any stargazers among us? Yes the sun, the moon, the stars, the entire universe is dream come true for many "gazers."

And what about the land and the sea? We are not on this earth long enough to see it all. A couple of weeks ago, we took Colton to Mammoth Cave – what a wonder beneath the earth.

And God had the brilliant imagination of creating humans!

I know with all my heart that I have been blessed by the hand of God. ***For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.*** (Ps 139:13) I am ashamed to say that all too often in my life I have rushed from one day to the next and not been truly grateful than God has cared about me every step of the way.

I had parents who loved me. I had a church that nurtured me and taught me to trust and obey. I had a school with teachers who took the time to instruct me with patience and perseverance. I fell in love with the girl of my dreams and have been married for 48 years. I was gifted with three beautiful children, one daughter-in-law, and two perfect grandchildren. God directed me to two different careers – and He knew the timing for each one far better than I did.

So that leads me to one area that in only briefly mentioned as part of my early nurturing, the Church. Some would want you to believe that the Church is simply a place – a place where like-minded people sing, pray, listen, share, and receive the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.

All of those areas of the church are true – yet there is so much more. It is my sincere belief that God desires us – to be in an ongoing vital relationship with Him. And when a person is in a connecting relationship there is so much that can be gained based upon truth. In order to grow in one's relationship with the Lord it must begin and end with leaning upon God's truth, which is contained in Scripture and lived out in relationship through the person of God called the Holy Spirit.

Just this week there were three major news networks that fired key personnel for various reasons. And when you look deeply at each one, there was a concern about truth that led to the demise of each person. Truth is still vital, and when so much is up for debate in our country, we don't need to debate that God is truth.

As I close my time as your pastor, I will be bringing messages centered on emphasizing the truth of God's Word as we apply it to our lives. I will use a book of the Bible for each message to bring that truth to light. In the beginning of this article I reflected on creation, which is told to us in the Book of Genesis.

Continued on p. 2

God told us this so that we knew who was responsible for everything – the world didn't happen through a cosmic bang or by the snap of the fingers. God was intentional about creation and was pleased with His creation. That is truth – and is a simple foundational belief that we all need to be reminded of occasionally.

The hymn goes like this: *On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.*

Praise be to God!

Pastor Greg

Tri Fest 2023 Henderson, KY

Thank you to all who volunteered your time and smiles to make the annual Tri-Fest fun and profitable.



Do you know of anyone who is "hearing God's call" to become more actively involved in MCC? Maybe it is you!



The Staff Parish Committee will soon be announcing some positions within the church that needs to be filled.

Please be praying that the right people will step forward and join the team at Mcc. Please speak to Barb Doty or other members of the Stff Parish committee regarding available positions.

Immanuel Lutheran Church
1925 Volkman Road
Evansville, IN 47725
812-867-5088

Jonah's Fish Fry
Friday, May 12, 2023
4:30-7:00 pm

Fish (all you can eat)
German Potato Salad,
Slaw, Baked Beans,
Green Beans, Dessert
and Drink

Hot dogs & chips for
the children

\$13.00 Adult Carry Out
\$7.00 Children 4-12
Children under 3 Free

For tickets or carry out
call 812-867-5088 or
812-457-1688

April 2023 Attendance and Giving



Remember
your Mother . .

May 14, 2023

	Att	Building Fund	General Fund	Special Projects	Tue Meals	Missions (Habitat)	Internet	Missions (Lent boxes)	Sara Dixon Memorial	Total Checking Deposit
2	75	1,250.00	\$2805.00		\$100.00	\$9.00		\$32.00	\$85.00	\$4,281.00
9	84	\$200.00	\$850.00	\$1,600.00		\$25.00	\$310.00	\$35.00		\$3,020.50
16	62		\$570.00							\$570.00
23	64	\$300.00	\$2575.00			\$5.00				\$2,880.00
30	57	\$20.00	\$1244.00		\$100.00					\$1,374.00



MAY

Karen Skinner	1
Larry Williams	1
Kurt Georgesen	4
Ed Schiffer	6
Linda Proctor	8
Thor Georgesen	11
Julie Morgan	14
Karen Swope	17
John Swope	21
Kelsey Georgesen	22
Steve Seitz	24
Devin Burris	24
Gary Hansen	25
Vera McCutchan	29



MEMORIAL DAY



Official Memorial Day Program 2023
 McCutchanville Cemetery
 Sunday, May 28, 2023
 11:45 AM

Prayer Pastor Greg
 General Logan's General Order #11 Kurt Georgesen
 Roll Call of Deceased Veterans Kent Burrese
 Taps Kurt Georgesen

All are welcome to attend.



MAY

Ron & Marla Gross	10
Elisabeth & Adam Sponseller	17
Pastor Greg & Teresa Davis	23



God's Kids



Immediate Opening

Aftercare 1:30-5:30 M-F Supervises during nap time. After children get up from napp, help serve a snack and supervise until pick-up.

Starting August 2023

Classroom Teacher 9:00-2:00 T-Th
 Manage classroom of preschool age children using provided age-appropriate curriculum. Must have a minimum of a CDA or be willing to obtain.

Send resume
 to :terri@mccutchanvillecc.org

Fall session (August through May) we follow EVSC schedule.

Summer session: We are closed the last week of May and reopen for June and July.



MENU

TUESDAY EVENING CARRY OUT

May 2: Chicken Noodle Soup
May 9: Ham Sliders
May 16: Coney Dog
May 23: Chicken Salad/Fruit
May 30: Baked Spaghetti

UNTO THE LEAST OF THESE –

MINISTRY TO THE HOMELESS IN EVANSVILLE

The following are items that are needed to give to the homeless individuals and families that Jennie sees out on the streets of Evansville.

Nutritional breakfast bars
Bottles water
T-shirts new or used. Adult sizes medium, Large, XL
NEW panties for women.. Size 7 or 9
NEW briefs for men. L, XL
Bras for women-used, clean. S through XL
Sweatshirts for men or women. USED M-XL
Blue jeans for men and women. All sizes Clean
Long sleeved heavier shirts. M-XXL
Used, clean winter coats
Gloves. Must be clean
Warm, pull on hats. Clean or new
Neck scarves
Feminine products for women
White or colored crew socks for men and women.
Blankets, new or used, clean
Used shoes for men and women in good shape
Bar soap for bathing
Small to Medium size shampoo bottles
Toilet Paper
Clean, used towels and washcloths
Packages of Hand sanitizer
Small packages of Kleenex
Underarm deodorant
NEW disposable razors
NEW toothbrushes
NEW tubes of toothpaste-small to medium
Used backpacks in good condition
Clean sleeping bags
Small Bibles and/or New Testaments
Small CURRENT devotional guides (Our Daily Bread, The Upper Room, or something similar)

Items can be delivered to the Aldersgate Church Monday-Thursday 9:00-4:00. You can also order some items from Amazon and delivered to the church address.

Thank you!

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.

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



Prayer Requests:

Kristy Georgesen, Mary Moore, Victor Doty, Don Skelton, Joe Haseman, Jim Smith, Silas (Jerry and Jane Bennet's great grandson), Jean Woods (Jand and Jerry's friend) Jane Bennet's father, Jenny Taylor, Ruth Ann Hyatt (Helen Finke's friend), Debby Phares, the homeless and addicted community, Josette Higgins, Mary Lou Ellis, Our church, all area schools and universities, God's Kids, Amy Dubber, Our Haitian children: Daphnica Noel (Dada) and John Carlos Cadet, Fad'Ellie Romain (Fadou), MCCutchanville Firefighters, God's Kids Program

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

Messenger? 812-867-5735

Call the church office at 812-867-5735



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 always changing. If you have any new or gently-used items from the list below that you would like to donate, 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),



Rev Russell Anderson

Reverend Russell Anderson, his wife Denise and his family will be moving to McCutchanville in June. Pastor Russell will begin pastoral duties in July. He and his family currently reside in McCleansboro, IL where he has a two point charge of McLeansboro First UMC and Tate's Chapel, UMC. We are looking forward to his arrival.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
April 30 9:00 Small Group 10:30 Worship	May 1 Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 Fellowship Hall Reserved 6:00-8:00	May 2 1:30 Gym Reserved 6:30 Staff Parrish Meeting	May 3 Choir 6:00 pm Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 Gym res. 6-8	May 4 1:30 Gym Reserved Fellowship Hall reserved 6:00-8:00	May 5	May 6
7 9:00 Small Group 10:30 Worship Communion Sunday	8 1:30 Gym Reserved Fellowship Hall Reserved 6:00-8:00	9 10:00 God's Kids Chapel with Pastor Greg & Teresa 1:30 Gym Reserved	10 Choir 6:00 pm 1:30 Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00 Gym Reserved	11 1:30 Gym Reserved Fellowship Hall reserved 6:00-8:00	12	13
14 Mother's Day 9:00 Small Group 10:30 Worship	15 Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 Fellowship Hall Reserved 6:00-8:00	16 10:00 God's Kids Chapel with Pastor Greg & Teresa 1:30 Gym Reserved	17 Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 6:00-8:00 Gym Reserved Choir 6:00 pm	18 1:30 Gym Reserved Fellowship Hall reserved 6:00-8:00	19	20 Gym reserved Graduation Party 10:00 AM
21 9:00 Small Group 10:30 Worship	22 Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 Fellowship Hall Reserved 6:00-8:00	23 10:00 God's Kids Chapel with Pastor Greg & Teresa 1:30 Gym Reserved	24 Choir 6:00 pm 1:30 Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 6:00-8:00 Gym Reserved 1:00 Women Meeting	25 Fellowship Hall reserved 6:00-8:00	26	27
28 9:00 Small Group 10:30 Worship 2:00 Gym Reserved	29 Memorial Day Gym reserved 1:30 Fellowship Hall Reserved 6:00-8:00	30 10:00 God's Kids Chapel with Pastor Greg & Teresa	June 1 Choir 6:00 pm Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 6:00-8:00 Gym Reserved	2 1:30 Gym Reserved Fellowship Hall reserved 6:00-8:00	3	4

STREET TALK

Unto the Least of These Ministry to The Homeless in Evansville

April 1, 2023

Hello everyone!

Always good to have contact with you! AND receive your feedback, so keep it comin'!!

We have had some interesting things happen this week in our ministry out on the streets of Evansville. I'll share some of them with you.....

Last Monday, I gathered up all of the bags, purses, etc. we had on the top shelf in our Mission Room at church. There were approximately 50 or so there. I decided I would take all of them out on the streets to see if some of our people would want them. Well, I hit the streets with all 50 or so of them in the trunk of my car. MOST of them were GONE quickly!!

My first stop was at the House of Bread and Peace, located at 250 East Chandler Street downtown. I do want to add a note here regarding the water problem they had in their shelter just last week. ALL of their residents had to be taken around town to other sites for shelter and safety. By the time I was there on Monday of this past week, this problem had been repaired, thankfully, and all of their residents were back "home". So, we are very thankful for that! I ask the director of the shelter if there was anything specifically that they needed at the moment. Her reply was that they need FROZEN meat that they can thaw out for their residents-ground beef, hamburger patties, frozen chicken, etc. So, if any of you can be of help in this situation, please contact them for further information. Their phone # is 1-812-425-6754. The address is above.

And, by the way, they don't need any other specific items at the moment BUT they did take some of the hand-bags I had in my car. They were very appreciative of those for their residents.

My next stop was at the United Caring Shelter to see if some more of our people could use any of the large supply of bags we had available. Several of them were taken by some of the residents at that site. People who live on the streets can NEVER have TOO many bags for their personal items! They are ALWAYS in need AND were VERY appreciative!

My next stop was at the YWCA. Currently, there are 40 women and 12 children living at that site. By the time I had completed our mission there, ALL of the bags were gone! AND they were MOST appreciative of these donations! Thank you EVERYONE for ALL of your donations OF ALL KINDS to this ministry! Everything is put to good use. Thank You, Dear Father, for everyone who supports this ministry!

The women's group from the McCutchanville Community Church provided us with a LARGE number of treat bags (food) for us to use this coming week. Always, they provided more clothing items for us as well as a quantity of empty bags for us to use to put items in that we give to our people. All of the above is a VERY GREAT need! Thank you, ladies, for helping us reach out and touch lives as Jesus would have us do. You are VERY MUCH appreciated.

On Thursday, Kristin and Steve went with Roger and I out on the streets to see our people. We went to Patchwork Central first. (Every other Thursday). John Rich and his team provide such a WONDERFUL ministry there for ANYONE in need. We usually arrive there about breakfast time so we see several of our people. I

want you to know that we have some WONDERFUL prayer warriors who go with us around town in our ministry. Kristin and Steve go twice a month and then Janet goes with us on alternate weeks. They are CONSTANTLY praying with our people as requested AND as they stand in need. THEN, there are so many other team members who may not actually be with us in body, BUT they are there in Spirit! ALL OF YOU are SO VERY MUCH APPRECIATED!! THANK YOU!!

We continue to see many people at the United Caring Shelter every week. Just as a reminder, next Friday, April 7th, we will be conducting a Good Friday Service and Pastor Heather, from Aldersgate UMC, will be serving Communion to all who would like to participate. This will take place at the UCS at 1 p.m. on that day. We would like for as many of you to come join us as possible. After the service (1 p.m.-1:30 p.m. approx.), we will have our church van there to provide clothing, hygiene items, Bibles, and other Christian literature that is desired by our people in attendance. Again, please feel free to join us. (324 NW 6th Street)

When we were at the Salvation Army last Thursday, Michael (who I have mentioned to you before several times) came up to the van and was the MOST cordial I have EVER seen him! He talked with us, smiled, and seemed VERY appreciative of all we provided for him. He even smiled when I told him that I loved him. That is a FIRST!! This poor, DEEPLY troubled young man, is SO VERY MUCH in need. On occasion, he has attended the Bible Study that Sue Kincaid is conducting at the Salvation Army. His moods vary SO VERY MUCH we NEVER know what frame of mind he is in OR will be in at the next moment. PLEASE continue to pray for him AND for all who are trying to help him get his life back on track. (Mother has a HEAVY drug problem and father is in prison). We are hoping he will show up for our Good Friday service this coming week. Please be praying with us to that end.....Help, Dear Jesus!!

We saw Eddie, again, downtown at the Mets Bus Station. He is much more cordial with us now. We are concerned that he is continuing his drug use. "Snot" continually drips from his nose. Oh, dear Heavenly Father, please intervene in Eddie's life. Give us the wisdom to say and do the right thing when we are talking with this dear man. He is SO VERY MUCH in need of YOU, Dear Father!!

This last Thursday, as we were heading home, we saw a young woman standing at the corner of John St. and MLK Blvd asking for help. Whenever we come upon a situation such as this, we ALWAYS try to stop and provide help for that person. As we got closer, I noticed that this was Christy, one of the young pregnant women we have seen over the past 3 years or so. In the time I have seen here, she has been pregnant 3 times and has delivered all 3 babies. She had one child before all of those pregnancies, too. Her grandmother is raising the latter child. All of the other children are in foster care to my knowledge. She was very glad to see us. I told her where we would be this coming Monday so we can meet up again. I'm sure she will be at that site waiting for us. As I think about her situation AND that of so many of the other people we see out on the street, my heart ACHES, and then ACHES some more! PLEASE.....lets ALL continue to work together to help these dear street people in need. As any of you have any further ideas on what we can do, PLEASE DO NOT hesitate to let me know. Oh, Dear Father, we bow before You and request DIVINE INTERVENTION in the lives of our dear people in the shelters and out on the streets, not only here locally but all over the country.

Our hearts ache....Dear Father. We pray for the very Soul of our nation. Thank You for everything You are going to do. We love You and worship You!

Jennie Hiam 1-812-499-4172

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

Ministry for the homeless and the working poor

Aldersgate UMC 1-812-477-7816

5130 Lincoln Ave.

April 15, 2023

Hello everyone!

I'm so very sorry I couldn't send out a "Street Talk" to you last week. I had some family here with me over Easter from the State of Washington, so I certainly wanted to spend time with them. We had a beautiful time together. So very glad they could come and see ol' Mom and Grandma!

Probably the biggest news from last week was the Communion Service we had at the United Caring Shelter downtown on Good Friday. My pastor from Aldersgate, Heather Foley, conducted this service for our dear people and also anointed some of them who were interested in having that done. It was a beautiful service. Then, after the service, Roger, Janet, and I had the van there so we could serve any of our people who needed specific items we always have available for them.

Billy (at the UCS) helped us with the Good Friday service. We have known him for approx. 4 years. He has lived at the UCS all of that time. I have mentioned Michael to you several times in the past. He attended the service and seemed very appreciative of our providing that for him and the others who participated. As you recall, Michael has been one of our people that we have trouble understanding just what his needs are from time to time. He is not one to come up and communicate with us on a regular basis. He has a terrible family history-his Mom is heavy into drug use and has been since he was a child. His father is in prison and will probably remain there the rest of his life. Michael has been uncommunicative with us now for some time. HOWEVER, right before our Communion Service started, I had the opportunity of reminding him of how much we love him AND how much Jesus loves him. When this service started, he immediately came up to me, smiled, and put his arm around my shoulders and stayed that way pretty much the entire service. I really believe that God is working in his life.

There is another man that we have seen several times whom we are trying to have some communication with. He is a tall man, dresses like a cowboy, wears a cowboy hat and just walks around us wherever we are. I have told him several times that we love him AND that Jesus loves him. He just smiles at us and then continues to walk around in circles out in the street. I was hoping he would come up and take Communion but he finally left-we didn't see him any more that day. Please, Dear Father, touch this man's life. Bring him unto Yourself. We will keep you posted on all of our people we have had contact with. Please continue to join us in praying for them, their lives, their families, and their future.

One woman we see frequently at the UCS told us about the excessive drug use that goes on among people on the streets here locally. She told me that she herself and several others who are now clean carry Narcan with them which they provide for the people they see who are definitely under the influence of these drugs. Just this past week, she had to provide some to an individual who was in dire need of help with this problem. I am so very glad she had some Narcan available. All of this makes my heart literally ache for our people AND all others who are under the influence of these demons. Please, Dear Father, continue to intervene! Protect our police officers, those who are in Emergency Medical Services, and all social workers who are involved one way or the other.

As I have mentioned to you before, every other Thursday, we make a stop downtown at Patchwork Central. The staff there (John Rich is the co-Director with his wife) are ALWAYS so very helpful whenever we are there. And our people we serve there are ALWAYS very glad to see us. We have been seeing a few more women there now it seems. We are SO very glad we can provide items of need for all of these people. This week, someone gave us a large number of sunglasses which we were able to distribute very quickly. If any of you have some to give away, please get them to us ASAP.

More and more of our people are requesting prayer. We pray with them, distribute Bibles and Christian literature, and assure them of God's Love for them. They are VERY appreciative.

Ruth's House continues to be full. AND, as you recall, all of these women have to be out on the streets during the day from 7 a.m.-7 p.m. By the way, we are seeing MORE women who are having to sleep out on the streets. We try to provide as much bedding as we can for them as well as healthy food items and water. Another big item I have to mention here is the need for MENSTRUAL products. We distributed a LARGE supply of these items this week. We had a large supply in storage which our "Cincy Connection" provided for us but we will be needing more very shortly.

The Mets Bus Station continues to be a large mission field for us! I met a young family there this week-father, mother, and young child (few months old). I spent some time with them encouraging them about life in general. I told the young father that the best thing he can do for his baby son is to love and care for him in every way possible AND to deeply love the child's mother. (They are presently unmarried). He smiled at me and assured me that he would continue to do so. We try to encourage our people as much as possible. We pray for Your continued Divine Wisdom, Dear Father, in this ministry.

At the Salvation Army on Thursday, we met up with a middle-aged Mom who is having to care for her teenaged son with autism. Thankfully, he is in school, but an additional problem has presented itself to her. Her adult daughter has four young children. Recently, this daughter got involved in heavy drug use and her four children were placed with this older Mom for further care. As you can imagine, we are making every effort to do all we can to help this dear family. Will keep you posted. By the way, we are so very glad that the Salvation Army has Social Services available for families in situations such as this. Thank You, Dear Father.

One more VERY IMPORTANT opportunity I want to tell you about. Several of the local homeless serving agencies are going to conduct what is called "Homeless Connect" downtown at the Old National Bank Events Plaza on Thursday, April 27th, during the day as a big resource for everyone who finds themselves in a homeless situation here locally. We have been invited to participate. So, on that date, Pat Roberts and I will drive our packed van downtown and park on one of the adjacent side streets and thus be available there to help any of our people who see us and wish to come up and select some needed items. Since so many people around town know us, I have an idea we will be pretty busy. I personally have helped with this event in the past when I worked at USI. We often would take nursing students downtown to help distribute needed items to any of our dear people who stop by for services. This is a GREAT opportunity for those in need to receive health care, personal items they need, haircuts, etc. We are looking forward to being involved in this event.

The following are some items which we need in our ministry: plastic eating utensils for the House of Bread and Peace, clean, used blankets and sleeping bags, clean used towels and wash cloths, menstrual supplies (great need), used socks for men and women, NEW size 7 and 9 panties for our women, NEW size M, L, and XL mens' underwear, shoes, all hygiene supplies.

Thank you EVERYONE for your continued love and support for the homeless and working poor of our area. We KNOW that your hearts and lives will be touched DEEPLY by helping us minister to anyone in need. And thank YOU, Dear Father, for being with us every step of the way.

Jennie Hiam (land line-1-812-479-7490 and cell phone-1-812-499-4172)

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

Ministry to the homeless and working poor of Evansville

Aldersgate UMC 1-812-477-7816

April 22, 2023
Hello everyone!

Roger, Jesus, and I were very busy this last Monday out on the streets of Evansville. Our first stop was at the men's N.O.W. shelter located behind Lics on the corner of Weinbach and Washington St. Those initials (N.O.W.) stand for the following-"New Opportunities for Wellness". There are several of these shelters around town-some for men and some for women. The man in charge at this particular site was Heath-a devout Christian man who is very receptive to all we can do for the men under his charge. The problems these men face are multifaceted. Everything from recent prison release, to addiction problems, homelessness, and mental health issues. We will continue to visit the sites where these men and women are located. Will keep you posted.....

Roger and I continued our rounds at different locations throughout the area. We were very busy.

During the week, I personally make stops at different locations in the Evansville area-from family shelters to men's or women's shelters and distribute items that I know they can use.

On Thursday, Roger, Janet, Jesus, and I made our rounds of the area to see how we could be of help to our people. As we were driving downtown, we saw 5 adults in that park area on the corner of Liberty and 6th Street, some of whom we recognized. We stopped to help them in any way we could. They were most appreciative. We had heard that the city was trying to keep members of our homeless population out of that park

because it belongs to an area church. I can understand that. However, there they were, so we did what we could to help them.

We continued our route by going over to the United Caring Shelter. We always stop along the way and help anyone on the streets if they appear to be in need. Everyone is always MOST appreciative!

The UCS is generally always pretty busy. We really have been surprised at the number of women we talk to who are sleeping out on the streets. We very much fear for their safety but do all we can to direct them to support. Several of our people are being assisted by Aurora to get adequate housing and sleeping quarters. We are ALWAYS most grateful that this is being done. A BIG thank-you to all of the staff people around town who truly help our people all they can.

We were VERY busy out at the Salvation Army! We always see a lot of the same individuals there who need help in one form or another. On Thursday of this past week, some of the students from Harwood School were at the S.A. to help in whatever way they could. I personally think this is a FANTASTIC learning experience for them! Also, I saw a young man (23 y.o.) sitting off by himself dressed in bluejeans and a hooded sweatshirt outfit. He was doing absolutely nothing! So, I went over to him to see if I could be of help to him in any way. He was very quiet. I discovered that he had been placed at the Salvation Army by the courts because of some infraction of the law he had engaged in out on the streets. I talked with him a little while and then asked him if he could go with me out to the van to help us provide needed items to our people. He got permission to do so, so there we went. He helped us at the van for a length of time. I did notice that there were some young men who came over to talk with him quietly on occasion. They exchanged "fist knocks" and other similar "knowing gestures" of one sort or another, none of which we knew the meaning of. I truly FEAR for his future and that of the young men he was "communicating" with. This young man is headed for trouble unless there is Divine Intervention in his life. He did tell me that he will be back at the S.A. this coming Monday so I will make contact with him again. Please be praying with me for all of these young people.

Just a few minutes later, Roger, Janet, and I all noticed a young woman standing in the middle of the street and then on the sidewalk all by herself. She had a hood covering her face as well as long hair covering a large part of her face. I went over to her and made an attempt to begin a conversation with her. I wasn't very successful at doing this. I was finally able to get her into the Salvation Army building and into the lunch room. She didn't seem interested in getting a meal. I saw one of the social worker staff of the S.A. so I called her over, explained the situation to her as much as I knew, and then asked her if she would follow up. She most certainly did just that, for which I was grateful. I'll check this out further this coming Monday when Roger and I return to that site to provide further services. Please, Dear Father, we ask for Your Divine Intervention in the lives of all the people we see in this ministry. We ALL are very much in need of YOU in our lives. Thank You!

Now, to end on a positive note-I received a WONDERFUL E-mail and follow-up from a friend of mine just a couple of days ago who volunteers at a fantastic ministry here in town (AND NATIONALLY) that is called-"God is Good!" This is a "resettlement organization" who works out of a Baptist church bldg. on the West side of town (Barker Ave.). This group makes every effort to help refugees from other countries who are seeking to settle in our area (the Midwest). Because of this, we are now having individuals/families from Ukraine, South American countries, etc. who are living among us, and are trying to re-establish their lives in a healthy, safe environment. Item donations are made to this organization and are stored at the above mentioned church. WELL! There have been COPIOUS amounts of donations made so my friend asked the director of this program if some of these items could be given to our homeless ministry. The answer was "YES"! SO, my friend brought over a HUGE amount of items for us to distribute to our people. Needless to say, my garage is FULL of pillows, towels, hygiene supplies, etc., etc.! This group will stay in touch with us to see how they can be of help in our ministry. Everything I can lay my eyes on in my garage that my friend brought to me yesterday can be used by our people. Thank You, Dear Jesus! Many of those items are ones that we would HAVE to purchase if we didn't have these donations made available to us. I will keep all of you posted regarding all of the above.

The following are some of the items we need for our people:

Men's socks
Women's socks
Men's NEW underwear-briefs, size M, L, and XL
Women's NEW underwear-size 7 and 9
Men's bluejeans small and medium sizes (Used are fine)
Clean, used towels and washcloths
Packages of menstrual pads-medium to heavy
TOILET PAPER, TOILET PAPER, TOILET PAPER

Thank you, again, everyone, for your interest, your prayers, and your donations to this ministry. God is SO VERY GOOD!! And thank You, Dear Father, for being with us EACH step of the way.

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"Unto the Least of These" Matthew 25:40 (Jesus speaking)
Ministry to the homeless and the working poor
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April 29, 2023

Hello everyone!

Is always good to be in touch with you! We have had a busy week, so I'll try to get some of this information out to you. Please feel free to share this with anyone who may be interested in knowing about our ministry. Now, I'll tell you some things regarding our week out on the streets.

The "God Is Good" program (please see last week's edition of S.T.) gave us a lot of items to donate to our people. One very beautiful item was some NEW medium-size pillows mainly for decorative purposes. On Sunday afternoon, I took several of them over to the Stepping Forward shelter for women (located behind Bethel Church) and is operated by the SWI Behavioral Health. They were VERY MUCH appreciated by these women who are in recovery from alcohol and drug addiction, as well as being homeless and/or recently released from prison. I also gave them the women's loungewear that Pat Marienau and her Mission Room team had set aside for this purpose. It is always so nice to be able to provide something pretty and feminine for women in need. It really cheers them up.

I had 25 or so of the above-mentioned pillows left over so I took them downtown to the YWCA for the women in need at that site. They need something pretty like the above in their lives, too. A BIG THANK-YOU to the "God is Good" program for supplying us with these pillows.

As I was heading downtown, I saw one of our homeless men sitting on the sidewalk with his dog. I stopped to chat with him and discovered that his biggest need at the moment was some food for his dog! So, I asked him to stay right there where he was and I would go get him some food for his friend. When I returned, I saw that a young teenager was walking over to him. I stopped to give this man the dogfood he needed for his pet. Then, after talking with this man and also the teenager who was standing there with him, I found out that the latter (the teen) works over at the McDonald's Restaurant right across the street. He had noticed the homeless man. He talked with him, and since he worked at McDonald's, he went back over to the restaurant and brought him what would have been his OWN lunch for his afternoon break. Talking about SHARING!!! That's EXACTLY what this teenager did! This reminded me of the story about Jesus feeding the people out on the hillside. I gave the man the dogfood I had purchased and then chatted with all three-the homeless man, his dog, and the young man on his break from McDonald's! I was SO IMPRESSED with the teenager who

came to this man's aid that I IMMEDIATELY went over to the restaurant, asked for the manager, and commended the young man to her. I wanted her to know that I was impressed with the quality of an employee she had in this teenager. She was thrilled to hear about that! From now on, I will make stops at that particular McD.'s if I am "in need of food" when in that area. For your information, this restaurant is on the corner of Division St. and Main St. downtown. Make a stop there sometime if you're in that area.

Now, to continue!! Roger, Janet, and I were back out on the streets in our ministry on the following Monday. We were pretty busy. We saw SEVERAL women at the UCS. They had just eaten their lunch there but otherwise are living out on the street. Two or three of them are staying over at Ruth's House. I still am bothered by the fact that ALL of the women at the latter site have to be out on the streets between 7 a.m.-7 p.m. I really think this is a management problem-no money to pay for staffing. BUT these women are really at RISK! There are ALL sorts of dangerous people out there on the streets who could harm them!

Our next stop was at the Salvation Army. We were pretty busy at that site. What made us feel really good while there was that Michael (we have mentioned him to you before) was much MORE ALERT and CORDIAL with us. He did NOT seem to be "under the influence" at the moment. He actually wanted to hug us which we certainly appreciated! He smiled at us and thanked us for helping him in his present situation. The S.A. has been SO VERY HELPFUL to him! As I have said before, we are SO VERY THANKFUL that the S.A. is located where it is and is SO VERY HELPFUL to people in need!

We saw Christy while at the S.A. I have mentioned her to you before, also. Just as an FYI, she has given birth to four children that I am aware of. Two of them are living with her grandmother. The other two are in child protective custody that I am aware of. In fact our ministry had called child protection regarding one of her early pregnancies 2-3 years ago. We very much appreciate them helping out in this situation. While at the Salvation Army, we came across another young woman who is pregnant as we speak. She has not been seen for prenatal care as of yet but "assured" me that she has an appointment coming up. I am so very thankful that the S.A. has social workers at that site for referral as needed.

On Monday, we found out that the women's group at Bethel Church here locally has placed an order for 100 New Testaments to be delivered to Aldersgate for us to distribute to our people. We are SO VERY APPRECIATIVE! Thank you!! Out on the streets, Bibles and other Christian literature "go very fast"!! Our people REALLY want to know MORE about Jesus! Thank You, Dear Father!!

On Tuesday of this past week, I had the opportunity of meeting Barb Biaz, the area director of the "God is Good" program, which is a nationally organized refugee program for all in need. Her office is located at 900 South Barker St. in the Victory Baptist Church. Barb showed me around their facility and all of the items they have available for refugees in need. Two young men from Jamaica were there studying when I stopped by. This organization assists people moving to the USA from all around the world. From Ukraine, South America, Europe, etc. Barb and I had a long chat about our ministries and prayed together for all of those in need AND for EACH OTHER. They have already given us many hygiene items to distribute to people on the street here locally. We are VERY grateful! Our local Salvation Army has also expressed an interest in having contact with this refugee program, so that could possibly be a great collaborative effort. We'll await further developments in that regard.

On Thursday of this past week, as many of you know, our ministry had the opportunity of participating in the "Homeless Connect" community event here in town. Was held downtown at the ONB Events Plaza. Pat Roberts and I took our ministry van downtown, found a good place to park, and were able to help many of our people in need. MANY agencies were represented at this event. Basic health care needs were addressed by the agencies represented (our area hospitals, one of the local mammogram portable units with their van, the Tri-State Food Bank, etc.) Many of our people were able to get their hair cut, their dental needs assessed, vital signs assessed (blood pressure, etc.), as well as others. We saw several of our people we generally see BUT we also saw more that we DID NOT KNOW!! We left there being VERY IMPRESSED with how eager our city is in aiding our area homeless.

One more upcoming event I want to share with you regarding our ministry to the homeless. The Salvation Army has agreed to permit our ministry to have a small health clinic located at their facility to assess and treat minor illnesses of the people we see on the streets and then refer those in need to area health care facilities-ECHO Health Clinic, Deaconess and Ascension hospitals, specialty clinics, etc. Jane Kratochvil, who is one of our team members, is prepared to do the above assessments. She is an FNP, and has her DNP in addition. She will be working in collaboration with a local family physician. More information regarding this new program will become available over the next few weeks. Stay tuned.

In closing, I would like to tell you about an event that happened when I was teaching at USI in the Graduate Nursing Program several years ago. At that time, the Salvation Army facility was located in the downtown area of Evansville. They had a small health clinic available in their facility to meet some of the needs of their residents and others that they saw there. I had been given permission to take a group of graduate students to that site to do physical exams and then make referrals as needed. One of the men we saw while there one day in their clinic was a gentleman in his 50's. He had been homeless for a long time. When doing his exam, the grad. student and I noticed a LARGE firm mass on the left side of his neck. The man had noticed it but had NOT sought care for that problem. He didn't realize the importance of doing so. Well, the student and I were VERY concerned! This possibly was a malignancy of his neck which could have started right there at that site OR it could have been a cancer having spread from elsewhere in his body. The staff at the S.A. were very helpful in getting this dear man (a child of God) in for further healthcare and evaluation. He quickly was seen by an Ear, Nose, and Throat specialist (ENT MD) and surgery was done promptly. That homeless man was found to have an extensive lymphoma cancer which had probably started in the lymph nodes of his neck. The surgeon was MOST kind and helpful to this dear soul in this situation. IN FACT, he DIDN'T even charge him for having done the surgery. We continued to see this man at regular intervals thereafter. And the last we knew about him and his situation, he was doing well health-wise. Again, all of this occurred probably 20+ years ago. AND it was good to note here that this man's health condition was noted by the graduate NP student and myself at the small health clinic which the Salvation Army had made available to us at that time. We are indeed looking forward to having a small clinic available for us within a few weeks at the Salvation Army out on North Fulton.

And Thank You, Dear Father, for directing the Salvation Army and Jane Kratochvil, NP, in the development of this health care site right there on the spot where so many of the homeless and other people of the neighborhood can seek health evaluation and then appropriate referrals can be made. We love You, Dear Jesus! Thank You!!

Jennie Hiam 1-812-499-4172

"Unto the Least of These"-Ministry to the homeless and the working poor. Matthew 25:40 (Jesus speaking)
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