



Jesus Loves You Ministry, Inc.

Mobile Outreach Program for the Homeless

Physical Address:

1734 Cedarwood Street
Port Charlotte, FL 33948



Welcome to the Jesus Loves You Ministry newsletter. Thank you for taking time to read what the Lord is doing in the high-ways and bi-ways of Charlotte County. We trust you are blessed by the testimonies and stories we share. Some are sad, without current resolutions to problems, but please add all these needs of our “local homeless campers” to your prayer lists.

Needs: Tents and tarps (dark colors); white socks, razors, deodorant, regular-sized canned foods such as baked beans, canned pasta, canned fruit, jelly and peanut butter. We always need toilet paper and hand sanitizer (2 oz. size) for hygiene bags. Bug repellent.

THRIFT SHOP

Hours of Operation:

Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10am to 2pm

Donation can be brought during hours of operation or other times by appointment.

*If you have large clean furniture to donate, please call and we will make arrangements to have it picked up.

MURDOCK BAPTIST CHURCH

18375 Cochran Blvd., Port Charlotte

We bring a trailer to Murdock Baptist Church the 1st Sunday of each month to receive donations (including unopened non-perishable foods) from 8:15am to 12:30pm. If your church would like us to bring a trailer on a Sunday to receive donations, please contact us at 941-661-8117. Thank you for your consideration.



During the year 2015, over 10,000 services were provided to 613 people.

These services vary from tents and tarps, to shoes and showers, transporting to Dr.’s appointments and much more. There are around 150 volunteers who administer these services to our dear homeless folks. We love and pray for our homeless, each other and for those who support this ministry, either by prayer, financially, by volunteering or donating items for our Thrift Store and for those who are first-time readers of this newsletter.

As more and more folks are becoming homeless for the first time in their lives, the financial needs of the homeless seem to be increasing. Many people have vehicles they can sleep in. The cost of sleeping in a car is less than an apartment, but when someone loses their job, lives in their car and the insurance is due or the vehicle breaks down – there is no help for them. Please pray for mechanics who might offer to help repair homeless vehicles, or for someone who would like for “auto-repair” to be their ministry as unto the Lord.

Many folks have either accepted Jesus as their Savior or rededicated their lives to Jesus. Please keep these folks in your prayers.

Frank, Our Wonderful Sunday Shower Ministry Chef



Gordon with our new washer-dryer thanks to First United Methodist Church's Bargain House



Homeless man 'shopping' in our clothes closet



Proverbs 19:17 He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again. (KJV)

For those of you reading this newsletter, never give up on your loved ones who don't know Jesus yet - A perfect stranger may stop them on the street and tell them "Jesus Loves You" and the Love of God will constrain their hearts! Truly, your loved ones are set apart for special treatment by the Lord.



Such is the story of two brothers who came into the ministry one day. J & J both have disabilities,

but have not been approved for disability yet. The one brother applied over 4 years ago and is still waiting for a determination from Social Security. The other brother is unable to work due to many medical issues as well.



Sleeping in the car was not good for their health due to poor circulation issues, so a friend they met said they

could put a tent in their back yard. But, neighbors began complaining, so the police told them they had to leave. Now their auto tag has expired and they have no money to renew it. The one brother has lost a house he owned from when he

could work, because he couldn't afford to keep it, which is what caused the homelessness. They have gone over into Sarasota County so we can at least help them with monthly bus passes so they can get to Dr.'s appointments. They're both trying to both get jobs at 15 hours a week, which could help them to get into a subsidized apartment. Please pray for these men.

Next, let us introduce you to Harold. Harold had a good job, a truck and a place to live. Due to an alcohol issue



and some bad choices, he got arrested for a DUI, lost his license,

lost his job and became homeless. He now sleeps in his parked truck (in a safe place), is on probation and looking for a job. He came to us for help with his homelessness, and after visiting with him for a while he mentioned he had to do community service hours for his probation requirements. He takes his showers here as needed and is allowed to do his laundry as well.

This has been a match made in heaven! Not only has he become a much valued volunteer with this ministry, he has become much more committed in his relationship to Jesus. He's praying he'll get a job working nights, so he can continue to volunteer with us during the day! What a delight to have him here.

One morning we received a call from a woman referred to us by 211, our Charlotte County Information Line. She is in her mid 60's and asking for help to pay for a motel room. After telling her we had no money for motel rooms, we talked at length about her situation. She had been a stay-at home wife for many years, and when her husband left she started taking care of an elderly couple living in their home. After the couple went onto other housing and since she had no retirement funds, she was homeless, indigent and began living in her car. We

asked her to come into our office that day and she did. After a couple of hours, we not only had an appointment for her to apply for Supplemental Security Income, but had Medicaid and Medicare in place within a week. Her first check came within 12 days. It is not a large income, but at least she has insurance now to get treatment for her medical issues and qualifies to apply for subsidized housing. She had several prescriptions from an emergency room visit she could not afford to get filled, so we were able to pay for them. We typically would



have taken her to Virginia B. Andes Pharmacy, but she needed the medications as soon as

possible. Since then she has since moved to another county to find affordable housing. She had no idea all of these benefits were available to her and was giving credit to God over and over for having been sent to us.

Thank you "211"!!!!

Thank you to Murdock Baptist Church for hosting our upcoming **"Sweet Songs of Jesus Gospel Concert"** fundraiser. This will be held on Friday, April 22nd at 6:30 pm.



Please bring non-perishable canned food items ex: peanut butter, jelly, canned baked beans or ready-to-eat soups. A free will offering will also be received for the benefit of Jesus Loves You Ministry.

We'd like you to meet Alvin. Alvin is one of six children. He took his first drink of alcohol at age 12. After being beaten many times by his step-father he was placed in foster care at age 13. He was moved to 4 different foster care homes due to further abuse of one kind or another. When he was 16, his grandmother, after hiring a private detective, found out where he was and got custody of him. As many of us have done, he followed the wrong people, and got arrested for the first time at 18 for burglary and attempt to purchase illegal drugs. Alvin did get married at 19 and is the proud father of 4 children, 2 boys and 2 girls and now has 7 grandchildren. His marriage ended in divorce after

eight and a half years due to what he says was his fault by using drugs and making other poor choices. Alvin says that out of his 50 years on this earth, he has spent over 20 years in jails or prisons mostly by his admission – due to poor choices. He was released on December 16, 2014 from his last time in prison. During this time he decided to get serious about Jesus in his life and making better and more profitable choices in his life. He was homeless when he came out and came to us for help, but by May, 2015 he was in housing – and has since been able to purchase the first car he has ever owned! He gives the Lord all the credit and praise for his new life. Alvin is careful not to carry a



grudge, or hold unforgiveness toward anyone because he knows he cannot go to heaven with a guilty heart. Also, he had not spoken to his mom for 11 years and reconnected with her on Christmas Day, 2015. He now talks with her almost every day and looks forward to visiting her in May of this year. Please pray for Alvin that he stays strong in his commitment and service of the Lord.

These are just a few instances of the awesome things that are happening at the Jesus Loves You Ministry house.

Our community was recently visited and blessed by The Street Preacher Brother Duane H. Lyon who has been traveling the world for over 30 years spreading the message of “JESUS SAVES”. He spent the several days at the ministry during his last week in town visiting with the homeless and ministering to everyone who came to the building, volunteers, employees and homeless. What a blessing from the Lord to receive his message of “Jesus Saves” and the pure love of God. We look forward to his return to our community very soon. Please visit our website where you can read the newsletter article from the Charlotte Sun Newspaper written about Brother Duane.



Thank you to Burnt Store Presbyterian Church for supporting this ministry through their annual Boar's Head Festival held the first part of January. It was truly a night of unforgettable beautiful music and performances.

There are 3 weekly Bible studies in the building. 1 for women, 1 for men and 1 for both men and women. These studies are running between 10-15 people in attendance.



Please visit our website at www.JesusLovesYouMinistryInc.com
You will find our past newsletters as well as on the “Camper Page” you see the current monthly letter for the homeless.



Are you a THRIVENT MEMBER?
If so, you may donate your CHOICE \$ to Jesus Loves You Ministry, Inc.



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**Watch for our next newsletter as we share more testimonies as to
“What the Lord hath done”**

**We pray you have been blessed by this newsletter as we share what God is doing
through this ministry on the “highways and by-ways” of Charlotte County.**

If the Lord leads you, please send a tax deductible check payable to: Jesus Loves You Ministry, Inc.
Send to: Jesus Loves You Ministry, Inc., P.O. Box 380275, Murdock, FL 33938-0275
Our telephone number is **941-661-8117**

Visit our website!!! www.JesusLovesYouMinistryInc.com

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