



Jesus Loves You Ministry, Inc.
Mobile Outreach Program for the Homeless



Welcome to the Jesus Loves You Ministry newsletter. We would like to share how the Lord is working through this Mobile Outreach Ministry in the streets and woods of Charlotte County.

Please join us in praying for our homeless population for health, jobs, family reconciliations and of course a close walk with the Lord.

Needs: Repel bug repellent (pump) with Deet; white socks; men’s jeans; men’s shorts; tents; tarps; bottled water (16 oz); first aid kits and bicycles. Please call to discuss where you may feel led to help.

**PLEASE NOTE: May 6-7 noon to noon
“2014 Giving Challenge”**

Local foundations are contributing \$660,000 in matching dollars and grant incentives in this annual fundraising effort. This is only online and you must use a credit/debit card.

You can go to www.givingpartnerchallenge.org anytime from 12 noon on May 6 to 12 noon on May 7. Type in our ministry name: Jesus Loves You Ministry, Inc. and a minimum \$25 donation could count toward potential grant/matching funds! There is a “HUGE” grant available for the agency



who has the most \$25 individual (household) donors. If you would like to participate but don’t have a computer or have questions please call Leslie at 941-661-8117. Please pass this information on to your friends and neighbors. Thank you for all you do.

Some of what Jesus Loves You Ministry, Inc. has done January 1 - March 15, 2014 through the Lord’s Direction & your help!

1,972 “services” provided to 193 people (48 females)

Services Include:

Trips to Doctors’ offices, Clinics, shelter facilities

Camp visits and lunch deliveries

Mobile food pantry stops and deliveries

Many have come to know and accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior!!!

***Proverbs 19:17* Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD,
and He will reward them for what they have done. (NIV)**

*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.*

Joe's story:

My name is Joe. I'm 56 years old. **I'd like to tell you how good God has been to me and the things He has done for me.**



I had my first drink when I was 13, by the time I was 16 I was drinking just about every weekend! When I turned 19 they lowered the drinking age in Chicago to 19 and I started going to bars. My buddies and I would be in the bars every weekend from the time we got off work on Fridays. My story is

long and someday I'll probably write the whole thing, but for now I have to keep it brief as I could fill every page of Ms. Martin's newsletter dozens of times!

By my 20's & 30's I was going to the bars during the week and a couple nights after work. Before I knew it I was in the bars on a daily basis. My family started worrying about me and would hint that I had a problem. Of course I said I could quit any time I wanted to. I wasn't missing much work. So what if my girlfriends would leave me! So what if I started missing a little work! "I'm good at what I do"; "I won't get fired"! I was managing a wholesale company. I worked there for 12 years. The owner couldn't do without me, so I thought! I was with a girl Natalie, for almost 10 years. Finally, I lost my job and the relationship with Natalie fell apart. I was in my mid 30's and still didn't want to or just couldn't grow up.

After my mom was diagnosed with Alzheimer's and my dad had already passed away and my family had had it with me, my best friend who had moved to Florida years earlier, asked me to come help him and stay with him. Most of the jobs I had I worked by myself, was outside, and could drink all day. Finally we had a falling out and I moved to Charlotte County. After being hired by a woman for odd jobs, I moved in with her. One night I "borrowed" her car without permission to go buy beer. I hit a parked car, backed into another car and smashed into the wall of a store! Needless to say I was arrested for a DUI and leaving the scene of an accident. I also discovered she had reported the car as stolen. After

jail time and rehab, I was homeless again, working at day labor places, in and out of sober houses, fighting to stay sober for 2 months at a time. During this time Miss Leslie and the Jesus Loves You volunteers would continue to encourage me that I could do it - and that Jesus loved me no matter what. All I said was "I know", "I know" - but just couldn't receive the power of Jesus' Love for me.

In 2012 I was living in the woods with 2 other men. One of the men, Thomas, had become my best friend. We both worked odd jobs to buy beer so we could drink day and night. We couldn't go without drinking or we would get sick. We were dying in the woods. We decided to go into detox. I called Leslie Martin, one of my angels. Detox doesn't do the buddy system, so Tommy and I decided I would go to detox first and when I got out he would go. It was set, Leslie came, Tommy and I gave each other a hug and said "I love you brother", - but that was the last time I ever saw my friend, June 1st, 2013. On June 5th Leslie arranged a ride to the shelter. The next day I went looking for Tommy, but he had been arrested and on June 9th while in medical at the jail, detoxing, he died.

Tommy's suffering was over - man, did I feel like drinking now! But I didn't. There were several nights I cried and begged God to take the desire from me. I woke up one morning in the middle of June and the desire was gone. I never thought it could really happen! *He Had Taken It!* It was the most amazing thing that ever happened to me. **God took the desire to drink away from me!** To this day it's hard to believe. Since then things just started going my way. I have a roof over my head and most of all my needs are taken care of. I've had health issues lately, but I have all the faith in the world. If not for the angels God put in my life I would not be here today! Leslie Martin of Jesus Loves You Ministry, Alecia Cunningham and every staff member at the Homeless Coalition gave me a foundation to build on. I have just celebrated my 10th month of sobriety! This is what God does if you have faith. He will do what you ask Him. Sometimes it takes a while, but He does things in His time, not yours. Of course my life is not perfect. I still have issues I'm dealing with, but that's life. I never thought I could have fun without drinking. I've had more fun sober than I ever thought possible. **Through GOD anything is possible if you ask Him!**

During our Tuesday Mobile Lunch Program we also give out hygiene bags, toilet paper, sox, canned food bags, camping gear, etc. Please let us know if you would like to join us some Tuesday. Just call and “reserve” your space.

Sometimes our homeless are told to move from where they are camping and have to seek out other areas where no one can find them. They may have to move for various reasons. Sometimes the move is for their own safety. These campsites become a home, so when you have to pack up and move within 24 to 48 hours - it is hard work. As you can see from 2 moves in the pictures - there is a lot to move.



We were happy to be able to help 3 people move to 2 different areas.

And, we just received word that **the young lady you see in the picture has two invitations to move in with family members!!! Praise the Lord!**



While driving one day, we saw 2 men sitting along the road, one next to his truck (which he's living in) and the other talking with him. They were both homeless. One of the men had just come here from another Florida city looking for work. His wallet had been stolen and had no ID or Social Security Card.



A third man, (“R”), came out of the woods and had several needs as well. We made an appointment to pick up 2 of the men the next day and get started on helping work through their needs. Since “C” (man with stolen wallet) was born in Florida, we took him to the Charlotte County Health Department and got his birth certificate. That’s when he discovered the spelling of his first name he had used all of his life was not what was on his birth certificate (which was correct)! We then went to the DMV. Since he had had a driver’s license before in Florida and they could see he was the same person, he

was able to get an ID with the correct spelling of his first name. This all took about 3 hours. The next step is for him to go to the Social Security office and order a duplicate SS card with the correct spelling. All of this is necessary so he can look for a job. **Please pray he will find a job quickly.** He has 3 children living with family that he would like to be able to take care of himself, as a single father. Most of his adult life has been spent working in all areas of the care and maintenance of fruit groves. Sometimes we feel like “detectives” helping people find solutions to their problems.

Thank you to the El JoBean Community League for sponsoring a Warrior Tea for Veterans on February 21st

5 of our homeless Veterans were able to attend. What a wonderful event to honor those who have given so selflessly to our country. Thank you for those who have and are serving in our Armed Forces - and thank you to those of you who wanted to serve but could not for whatever reason. Pictured are the Veterans we transported along with Roger Will (center right), one of our Board members (who incidentally is a Vietnam Vet as well).





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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

*****If your address label is incorrect in any way, please email: LeslieJLYM@gmail.com*****

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