



December Newsletter
Volume 1, Issue 6

How Do You Say . . . “Thank you !”

Words do not seem to be adequate enough after the full realization of what has happened throughout this year: from the first concepts of JC's Place Ministries, coming to mind in early January; the Niagara Falls Church Board's approval; attempts to buy a Class A motorhome (blocked by unrealistic insurance costs); to the purchase of our present vehicle in May, in Sudbury. Then Covid-19 struck and, even though our vehicle was complete with signage and some goods, we could not operate on the streets until July. The dream has come true. More than 50 volunteers are making the operations of the Ministry a reality; alongside as many donors, who have supported and made possible the Ministries operations for the year 2021. The Lord has blessed our first year of operation. The 2014 Ford E350 Cube Van and the 2008 Saturn SUV have been serving the homeless on the streets of Niagara Falls weekly since the first of July. As we look back on what has taken place, sufficient donations have been made so that the entire operation of JC's Place Ministries, including the purchase of the van, and food and clothing costs, have all been fully funded. We have been blessed, and in return the folks on the street have been blessed. JC's Place Ministries would like to give a big **THANK YOU** THANK YOU to everyone who has had a part in seeing the concept grow to be a blessing. As we have now welcomed 2022 onto the scene, we look forward with anticipation to the generosity of our supporters in funding our programs for the next year. We have come to the point where we need to say good-bye to our 2008 Saturn SUV, with almost 200,000 kilometers on it; on January 03 as John attempted to open the rear hatch the entire handle and mechanism came off into his hands. Rusting underneath the metal surface has eaten away at the entire back door.

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Special Needed Items:

- Gloves and Mittens
- Winter Boots
- Winter Coats
- Blankets/Sleeping Bags
- Volunteer Call 365-880-0818
- Hotel Soaps, Shampoos etc
- Women's Hygiene Products
- Small Tents for Winter
- Sweat Pants and Shirts
- Financial Donation eTransfer donate@JCsPlace.org

Direct Report From John and Pam

on the streets . . .

Pam and I would like to take you on a virtual trip with us as we locate and help the homeless on the streets of Niagara Falls. What does a typical outing look like? What exactly is involved? Via this newsletter, you will have to use your imagination to visualize the situation as video is unavailable. So let's take that journey. We are having to walk through mud, vines and garbage all over as we make the jaunt quite a distance off the city street. Here we find three persons in the woods, in a tent beside a major highway. There are several campsites that have been abandoned in these woods, and two more sites further back in the woods. We are able to serve bowls of chilli and a bun, as well as spend time chatting, building an amicable relationship with the people we meet today. No, they do not live in a modern day family campsite; there is no running water, no central shower, no paved or graveled roads; there might be what you call a foot path to follow, maybe. As we continue, we are able to assist a lady who has been lodged in a motel room, using a help-line number, to deal with her landlord who was trying to almost double her rent (allowable increase is between 2-4%); she is grateful for the help.

We see a young lady laying on a concrete slab with a blanket over her and one under her. She looks through her blankets as we called out. We go back to the car and bring her a hot chili and bun. She begins to eat the hot meal on her side, and we notice her chin has a huge scab on it, that has broken open and is leaking yellow puss. She has scabs on her forehead and all over her fingers. One finger is swollen twice its size and her hands are swollen. Running back to the car, gloves and band aids are retrieved. Upon returning, she says, "I need a motel room, but because I have a bad cough, they won't give me a room. They think I have covid and I have no ID." I place her hands in mine. I (John) try to warm them up and she puts the gloves on. We ask her if she has a family, trying to convince her to go back and to get off the street. We chat for awhile; then she goes back under her blanket to keep warm. Later a medical unit is summoned to check out her condition. The sad part is we do not know what happened. She has been on our mind all day. Pam and I enjoy going out with soup and buns, a smile and encouraging attitudes, to bring some light into a darkening, confused world. Your prayers are invited, and needed, for our safety and to know how, when and what to minister to those we encounter. One person wants to come to Bible Studies; another wants to become part of a church.

Here is how some of the homeless we minister to are helping. One lady brought a bag of cookies to the van last Sunday along with Christmas cards to Carl's wife, the Ministry (she called us the Freedom Ministry) and to Pam and myself. I just got a call from a man in a motel; we'd dropped off meals to him earlier this year and some gospel books to read along with short visits. We stopped seeing him 3 months ago because he got his old age pension, in addition to his subsidy, and didn't need the help anymore. He just called and asked me to drop by as he has boxes of clean socks and clothes he wants to give to JC's Place Ministries. One never knows how kindness and short visits can affect people who are alone. We went to the grocery store today, and a clerk walked by me and said, "see me before you leave." So I did, and she said, "I know you help the homeless." She gave me a large donation in gift cards for groceries. I asked her if she would like to jump in the truck one day and see for herself instead of me explaining what we do. She said, "Yes, that would be great."

So, as we have said goodbye to 2021 and we welcome 2022, Pam and I would like to say thank you for your support of JC's Place Ministries. THANK YOU. From the Bottom of Our Hearts.

~ John and Pam

Christmas Project

Many hands make light work. Cookies were baked, and bags were packed and given out. Many thanks were received from the recipients. Many thanks to all who helped to make this Christmas project a success for 2021



Passenger Van that can seat 8—10 Persons

Our Immediate Need

As you read earlier, our small SUV, a 2008 Saturn Vue is a Rust Bucket and getting to the point of being unsafe to drive. We need to find a replacement vehicle, in excellent condition, and at a price our budget can sustain. We need financial help to purchase/equip/insure/operate/maintain this vehicle. This will allow us to take more volunteers on site as we service the homeless and will also act as a warming station in the coldest part of 2022. We also plan to transport persons who wish to attend Bible Studies. Please prayerfully consider donating to this project.

~ JC's Place Ministries



Please Give Special Consideration to Help Purchase

A replacement vehicle for JC's Place Ministries. Thank you for your support and for giving so Generously in 2021. Now, we need your help in 2022.

www.JCsPlace.org is now working. Please join our page and recommend us to your friends. You are now able to donate online . . . Thank you!

Thank You to All Our Volunteers . . .



We cannot say Thank You enough to our volunteers, who make everything happen in the background. You now number around 50. THANK YOU ALL.

Continued from Page 1 . . . Our mechanic has told us not to put any more money into this vehicle; it's "a Rust Bucket." You might ask why we need two vehicles? The answer is: to transport personnel to help with the services we provide, as the cube van has only 2 seats. We need to locate a replacement vehicle; a passenger van that can carry 8-10 persons. This will allow the Ministry to have a vehicle in which to warm freezing cold street persons, transport Ministry personnel on site, transport some of the folks who have requested Bible Studies, as well as to carry some extra needed supplies as we serve our target audiences. We appreciate your help again in 2022 to fund the capital cost of this replacement vehicle and its operational costs, as well as our ongoing operational costs. Each day we must meet the challenges that arise; when we are able to find answers to the problems we meet, we know it is by the direct leading of a Greater Power. Together, there is a part that each of us can do to make the Ministry a success.

~~Carl



JC's Place Ministries a mobile ministry of the

Seventh-day Adventist Church

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