INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

What Is In Your Hand 1
When Life Doesn’t Go As Planned (The Story of Geneve Markin) 2
Quote of The Month 3
Like Mother, Like Daughters 4
Partner Pledge/Website & Paypal Donation

A Word From The Pastor’s Desk

Photographer & Editor :
Rev. Diane Dunne
Assistant Editors:
Rev. Deborah Mitchell
Deanna DiMonda-Miceli
Article Interviews & Story:
Rev. Dona Carbone
Deanna DiMonda-Miceli

* Volunteers Wanted *

• Warehouse Laborers
• Kitchen Helpers
• Food preparation
• Drivers
• Food pick-up
• Intercessors to pray for the people, workers and ministry
• Musicians and worship leaders
• Donations are always welcomed in lieu of Volunteer Time....Thank you

On the morning of one of our service days, the weather man said it was going to pour buckets of rain. So before we started the service, I had an idea while moving a box of garbage bags in the van. I bought 6 extra large boxes of heavy duty, black garbage bags and handed one out to every one in the service.

Our life is a prayer to the Lord. All of the acts we do are prayers to the Lord. Even a simple act, such as handing out garbage bags to keep people dry in torrential rain, is a prayer to the Lord.

With the summer days being so dry, such a downfall was welcome, but the temperatures dropped substantially. We take for granted that on a rainy day, we go home and change into dry socks, shoes, shirts and can get warm. But the guys on the streets will freeze all night on subway cars, in tunnels. They will remain wet all night, with no dry clothing to change into. And many of those we serve have compromised immune systems and can’t afford to be in wet clothing all night. So we were not just preventing them from getting wet. We were preventing them from getting sick.

A little act like this is so significant. It’s in the caring with the little things like this that people see Christ in us. The “guys” in the park said, “Good lookin’ out Pastor D!”. While the passersby in the neighborhood walked by, they were very touched: “O, that’s such a nice idea. It shows you really care.”

What’s in your hand? Moses had a staff. I had a garbage bag. And when I gave it out God, He used it to minister life, caring, compassion, and concern. 🙏
If there was ever a woman who deserved to be called a survivor, it would be Geneve Markin. Born in the Island of Jamaica, she married the man of her dreams, or so she thought. He was handsome, intelligent and had a promising future as an engineer. They had three children together, the first died in childbirth, her next child was born with Autism and the third was a healthy child.

Determined to give both of their children the best quality of life possible, Geneve and her husband continued in their education. So, both children were sent home to live with relatives for a season of time. This was a decision that she would regret and bitterly lament later on. Geneve stayed in close contact with her children and traveled back and forth to Jamaica two or three times to check on them. She felt that something was wrong, but her questions led her nowhere.

What she would find out upon their final return home would cause her to almost lose her mind. Both children shared with great anguish that they had been repeatedly assaulted, sexually, by a relative. The pain of this news was almost too much for her to bear.

Simultaneously, Geneve’s marriage was already strained by the reality that her husband was living a double life. He was not at all what appearances would have him to be. He confessed to her that he was secretly living another life as a homosexual. She said that at the news of their children’s abuse, the marriage snapped. During custody proceedings, the judge presiding over the case looked at Geneve and said, “Let him take care of the kids!”

The children, now grown, did wind up in their Father’s custody. Geneve remembers her mother-in-law saying, “You still believe in that God after all this?” Geneve remembers this comment to this day, and, from time to time referred to herself as the female version of JOB.

Her physical body bares the scars of the stress and strain that became a part of her daily life. She suffers from a heart condition and is currently in kidney failure. But, there is some light to be seen at the end of her story. About a year ago, Geneve was passing by 7th Street and Avenue A in lower Manhattan. She was feeling sorry for herself when she heard preaching coming from Tompkins’s Square Park. She stopped and took a seat in the park. It was then that the Lord began ministering hope to her heart. She has since been able to stop her “pity party”, as she phrased it, and has been able to live again, breath a little deeper, stop long enough to enjoy the presence of God again. In addition to the services held at Church Without Walls, Geneve appreciates the food that is distributed. Currently Geneve is living in a special shelter which she qualifies for due to her illnesses. But, with her spirits now lifted, she has hopes of returning back to Jamaica to live with her Mother and Aunt.

Please pray with us that her latter days will be better and greater than the ones that have gone before. Pray too for her children and their Father, that God would be gracious to them and draw them to Himself.

The Lord is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. And those who know You name put their trust in You, for You, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek You.”

Psalm 9:9-10
Like Mother Like Daughters!

Ever hear people mourn as they throw out the phrase “I’m becoming my mother”? More and more lately the Lord has been showing me with what Godly pride I can declare those very words. My mother has shown us what it is to do as the Bible said; If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.” 1 John 3:17-18

On our first girls night out in a while, my mom, my younger sister Julie and I drove out to HFTF on a cool summer Friday to make over 300 sandwiches for the hungry. This was my mom's idea, the amazing woman that she is, and it was certainly not met with any reluctance on our part. My sister Julie and I owe our joy of serving to the strong and beautiful example our mother has set for us.

The first time I set foot in that kitchen was (though I cringe to admit it) 18 years ago as a gawky middle schooler, still finding out who I was in Jesus. My sister similarly grew up going in with my mom to HFTF to serve and help prepare food. Now we go, not as a youth group event, or church obligation, but as the heart of our girlie get together.

Volunteering together and being alongside such selfless saints as Cindy and Pastor Diane was such a blessing, but even more so was being there with my wonderful sister and mother, doing what we do really well together; prepare food and clean, (two other things mom has taught us well to do).

My mother's persevering desire to show her family, including a recently saved husband, what it is to humbly serve the poor has spoken volumes to me as a young mom. I hope that, as my two daughters grow, I can set such a Christ-like example that will go the distance in their lives. I pray they will look beyond themselves and their own needs, and know the gifts and purpose the Lord has placed within them to make a difference for His kingdom in a powerful way.

In just a couple of years we will have three generations hearing the good Word from Pastor Diane as we earnestly and lovingly assemble sandwiches, salads, and other food for the hungry!

Thank you Lord, for a mom who wants to be like your Son, and paves the way for the generations to come after her. Her children rise up and call her blessed;’Proverbs 31:28 Thank you HFTF for a girl-power night of working for the King, bringing the women in our family closer together in Christ!

* Volunteers Wanted *

- Warehouse Laborers
- Kitchen Helpers
- Food preparation
- Drivers
- Food pick-up
- Intercessors to pray for the people, workers and ministry
- Musicians and worship leaders

Donations are always welcomed in lieu of Volunteer Time….Thank you

“God can use your setbacks and failures to move you forward!”
Dr. Mary Stewart Relfe

Our Ministry Relies on Contributions from People Like You.

Please give what you can...in Jesus Name...Thank you!

Enclosed, please find my contribution in the amount of: (please check one)

- $25.00
- $50.00
- $75.00
- $100.00
- $_________ Other Amount

Name:

Street Address:

City:__________________________ State:___________ Zip:_____________

Mail to: HOPE FOR THE FUTURE MINISTRIES, 131 VERDI STREET, FARMINGDALE, NY 11735

Thank you and May the Lord bless you!

You can make your donations via the website.

No Stamps ... No Checks... It's Fast...It's Easy...
- Click on link for financial support
- Click on “make a donation” at the bottom of page.

You don’t have to be a member of PayPal to donate.

www.hopeforthefuture.com

“My friend, ...God can use your setbacks and failures to move you forward!”

Dr. Mary Stewart Relfe

* Volunteers Wanted *

- Warehouse Laborers
- Kitchen Helpers
- Food preparation
- Drivers
- Food pick-up
- Intercessors to pray for the people, workers and ministry
- Musicians and worship leaders

Donations are always welcomed in lieu of Volunteer Time….Thank you
Dear Friends,

At the last service before taking this letter to print I preached about faith, taking a good look at the famous chapter in Hebrews... The Hall of Faith, chapter eleven. What is the nature of faith? It is not a shadow or a feeling. It is the substance or ground (foundation) of things hoped for; the evidence of things not seen. The world says ‘seeing is believing’. But the word of God says ‘believe and you shall see.’ This chapter gives us the report of faith and tells us that “through faith we understand.” Believe and you shall see!

Though listing an all star cast that Olympic Team USA would love to have contending for the gold, Hebrews 11 shows the greats, the not so greats, and the totally unknown. But some of the people on this all star list were far from perfect. The writer mentions the Elders, Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Sarah, Joseph, Moses, his parents, Joshua, Rahab, the two Hebrew spies, Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the Prophets, and so on. Like Paul wrote, “Time would fail me” to tell you all about each one’s faith filled accomplishment, but one of the realities found here, is that you don’t have to wait till you are perfect in order to be used by God. Some of these guys were far from perfect. If the press coverage that exists today was able to cover some of the scandals or imperfections of these people back then, public opinion would have ran them out of town! Noah was found in a compromised position because he got drunk. Abraham and his son Isaac rely on Egypt as their source and both lie to the king! Joshua makes a few mistakes that costs him lives, and military embarrassment. Rahab was a prostitute, Gideon was afraid, Samson couldn’t stay away from Philistine women, Jephthah was born on the wrong side of the tracks, David committed adultery and then tried to hide it by murdering Bathsheba’s husband. This list could go on, but like I said, “Time would fail me!” Right now space is failing me too.

Look, we are all human, and if we wait for perfect circumstances to serve God, we will never get there. God says all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Not some. All. There is none righteous but one, the Lord Jesus Christ. God knows we are going to fail at times; He knows we will fall short. You may feel unworthy or that you are not ready, but God sees what you will become as you faithfully walk with Him. God used these imperfect people because they were willing. Some received the promise or deliverance in their lifetime, and others didn’t receive it, looking to a greater reward, but all of these ‘gained approval ’ by faith. Are you willing? God is, and though you may have given up on your self God will not!

I want to thank you for teaming up with us to feed, clothe, and minister to the homeless, and needy. Please remember that in summer months giving falls short, volunteers are scarcer because of vacation time. Thank you for not forgetting to include HFTF in your summer giving. God richly bless and keep you and yours!

Sincerely In His Service,
Pastor Diane Dunne