



Hope Awaits

MINISTRIES

Monthly Newsletter

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GLORY BE TO GOD!

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Monthly Update

In the month of November there has been a lot that has gone on. At the beginning of the month we met with the mayor of North Bay to inform him of our plans and seek how he can help us. This meeting was very beneficial to us in a couple of ways. Firstly, it was encouraging to hear that the mayor thought that this was a good idea, and that a men's shelter is needed in North Bay. He also informed us of some individuals who we should contact about what we are doing. Another item that came up in discussion was buying a building. In this discussion the mayor stated that currently they don't have a building that they can donate to us. By this statement we have been led to believe that if the city did have a building they were not using they would donate it to us (or sell it to us really cheap). We know that if it is God's will then the city will donate a building to us, but if it's not in God's will then we will acquire the right building another way.

Throughout the month we have seen God at work through our answered prayers. One Wednesday we were praying for an individual in banking to come forward to help us with our banking needs, and God answered this prayer quickly. By the next day we had a man step forward to help us.

WHAT GOOD IS IT, DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS, IF YOU SAY YOU HAVE FAITH BUT DON'T SHOW IT BY YOUR ACTIONS? CAN THAT KIND OF FAITH SAVE ANYONE? SUPPOSE YOU SEE A BROTHER OR SISTER WHO HAS NO FOOD OR CLOTHING, AND YOU SAY, 'GOOD-BYE AND HAVE A GOOD DAY; STAY WARM AND EAT WELL' - BUT THEN YOU DON'T GIVE THAT PERSON ANY FOOD OR CLOTHING. WHAT GOOD DOES THAT DO?

– JAMES 2:14-16

This individual has been working in the banking industry for 55 years, and on top of that he is a follower of Jesus Christ!

We were also able to create some more awareness about what we are doing within the community. There was a housing information fair that we attended in late November. At this information fair many of the service providers in North Bay set up booths in order to make their services better known. We were able to go to each table and tell them what we were doing, and ask them questions about the services they provided. It was a great way for us to get our names and faces out there, while also learning about the other services offered in our city. At the information fair we met a gentleman from CMHC that told us about a grant and interest free loan that we may be eligible for. This was just another Wow God moment as although we need to find grants, we were not searching for them at the fair.

One of the other major items that we have been working on this month is our business plan. In November I was able to complete our business plan and send it to the other board members to be edited. As the business plan is approximately 30 pages long (single spaced) it takes a while to edit and re-edit it. Currently we have gone through one time of editing it, and it has been sent out to be edited again.

As I mentioned in the previous newsletter, we all volunteer at the Salvation Army's Café ministry that serves meals to those in need. One Sunday evening in November

we were shown how much a men's shelter is needed within North Bay. At the end of the dinner we were talking to one of the men who had attended and he told us that he had nowhere to go that night. He had left his old apartment as he is in a wheelchair and the building was not always accessible as the elevator was continually breaking down. He had been sleeping outdoors some nights, and he told us that the previous night he had stayed in Tim Horton's all night drinking coffee in order to stay awake. So we called the only shelter in North Bay that says they take men, yet due to this gentleman's past they would not take him. The man used to drink and be a violent man and was in jail for a period of time. However he told us about how he came to know the Lord and how he is currently sober and is changing his life. Yet still, there was no shelter that would take him. We ended up taking him to the hospital as they would provide shelter for him due to his medical conditions. This experience showed us how much our services are needed, not only to provide shelter to those who have none, but to change lives through Christ just as God had done in this man.

Thank you all for your prayers! God bless,

Nicole Millage