

## Isaiah 61 Newsletter - August 2012

"If you are generous with the hungry and start giving yourselves to the down-and-out, your lives will begin to glow in the darkness, your shadowed lives will be bathed in sunlight. I will always show you where to go. I'll give you a full life in the emptiest of places - firm muscles, strong bones. You'll be like a well-watered garden, a gurgling spring that never runs dry. You'll use the old rubble of past loves to build anew, rebuild the foundations from out of your past. You'll be known as those who can fix anything, restore old ruins, rebuild and renovate, make the community livable again." Isaiah 58:10-12 (MSG)

- I went along with the Isaiah 61 group to see Joyce Meyers on Saturday, August 4, and sat next to one of our homeless clients, a lovely lady named ..... When the time came for the envelopes and collection plates to be passed around to collect money for Joyce's ministry - Hand of Hope - everyone was rustling around in their purses, writing checks and filling in their donation envelopes in preparation for the collection. Our client dug in the bottom of her purse, and whispered to me "I only have a quarter", then put her donation in her envelope. I was moved almost to tears as I realized that this lady was giving all she had, much like the story of "the widow's two mites" in the Bible, which reads: "Now Jesus sat opposite the treasury and saw how the people put money into the treasury. And many who were rich put in much. Then one poor widow came and threw in two mites. So He called His disciples to Himself and said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury; for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had..." Mark 12: 41-44  
Please consider digging deep into your resources as you support the charity of your choice.  
Blessings, Trish Carle, Board Member and Secretary, Isaiah 61 Ministries
- **Our numbers have been high this month.** Each night that we serve we have been seeing as many as 110 hungry clients, with the highest head count being 135 the last Tuesday in July! This strains the resources that we have. If you are willing to contribute cooked food, please contact April. Generally we serve a meat, a pasta/potato, one or two vegetables and/or fruit, a salad, drinks including water, and a dessert. Any help with these items would be greatly appreciated, as well as paper plates/plastic ware/napkins.
- We are having a **Huge Rummage Sale** on Saturday, Sept. 8 on the parking lot of Swatara Church of God, 8am until 2pm. You can bring your own table and items to sell for the low cost of \$10 per space, or you can donate items to us and we'll sell them. We will be selling food as well, all to benefit our ministry. If you are interested in helping or have items to donate, contact April as soon as possible.
- Thanks to those who are donating to Isaiah 61 on a regular basis. We really appreciate your support, and our ministry couldn't survive without it! Just a reminder, if you choose to donate to Isaiah 61 Ministries with a check, **please make your check payable to Isaiah 61 Ministries and mail it directly to April Ocasio**, 53 Union Church Road, Halifax, PA 17032.
- We are in desperate need of a small bus for our growing ministry. If anyone has a connection to a used bus, please contact April at [crgirl@rocketmail.com](mailto:crgirl@rocketmail.com).
- We're still waiting for confirmation of our **501 C-3** non-profit status. Please pray with us for this to come through as soon as possible!

- **Isaiah 61 Ministries Fundraiser with the Harrisburg Senators:** Join Isaiah 61 Ministries at the Harrisburg Senators game on Saturday, September 1 at 7:00pm. Tickets sold for \$10 each; for each ticket sold \$4 is donated to Isaiah 61 Ministries. Tell your family, your friends, and neighbors to come out and support a great cause! Danny Espinosa bobblehead giveaway to the first 1,000 fans. To purchase tickets:  
 Step 1: Go to the website <http://tinyurl.com/Sens61>  
 Step 2: Enter the special offer code 61MIN  
 Step 3: Select your seats for the game  
 Step 4: Reserve your seats and continue to check out  
 Step 5: Create an account  
 Step 6: Purchase tickets and print tickets at home (If you do not print the tickets from home, they will be available for pick-up at Will Call)  
 Step 7: Come out and enjoy some baseball!!
- **If your church is looking for a project to do**, consider collecting items for Isaiah 61 Ministries! You could collect socks, T-shirts, small toiletry items, plastic forks/spoons, styrofoam plates/bowls, or money to be used to purchase items for our clients. Talk to April if your church wants to participate!
- We'd like to introduce you to our friends at **GoodSearch.com**, a website which makes raising money for our cause incredibly easy! GoodSearch.com is a Yahoo!-powered search engine which donates about a penny per search to your nonprofit. GoodSearch.com also has an online shopping portal called GoodShop.com, which works with more than 2,500 stores (including Amazon, Apple, Target and Macy's) to donate a percentage of your purchase to our cause. And, GoodShop.com has coupons worth \$2 million in savings so you can save money while giving back.  
 How can you get started? Take two minutes to register here:  
<https://www.goodsearch.com/Registration.aspx?WMode=MAIN> enter "Isaiah 61 Ministries of Harrisburg" to set up your account. Encourage your community to start using GoodSearch. Get inspiration for ways to spread the word here:  
<http://www.goodsearch.com/getinvolved.aspx>
- We have confirmed the date for our big **Christmas Dinner**, which will be held at Swatara Church of God on December 28. Mark this date on your calendar - lots of help will be needed to put on this event. More information in upcoming newsletters.
- **Thanks** to everyone who helped in the past month with our ministry. We are blessed by your service and your willingness to be God's hands and feet here on this earth.