

VOLUME 34
NUMBER 1

Hosanna Industries

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Dear Hosanna friends, I recently wrote the following to the staff after a great volunteer workday. I thought you might like to know about the kinds of things we think about in our daily efforts:

HI DEAR MISSION WORKER COLLEAGUES, WHAT AN AMAZING DAY I EXPERIENCED TODAY WITH HOSANNA INDUSTRIES! SOME OF YOU WERE NOT ASSIGNED TO TODAY'S PROJECT, BUT I NEED TO COMMUNICATE THESE THINGS TO ALL OF YOU BECAUSE YOU ARE ALL INTEGRAL PARTS OF THIS VERY UNUSUAL, CAPABLE, AMAZING, CRAZY LITTLE MISSION CALLED HOSANNA.

MY DAY WAS FILLED WITH JOY IN SEEING WHAT GOD'S HANDS ARE DOING THROUGH THE MISSION'S EFFORTS.

I SAW A SMALL CREW OF MISSION WORKERS ARRIVE IN THE EARLY MORNING TO A SNOWSCAPED TOWN THAT IS THE MOST DEPRESSED TOWN IN THE WHOLE STATE. IT DIDN'T SEEM TO BE A PROBLEM TO MAKE THE TRIP AS SCHEDULED. THAT IS DEDICATION.

I SAW THIS CREW ENTER SOME VERY POOR HOMES IN A PART OF TOWN THAT I HAD NEVER BEEN IN BEFORE. THESE HOMES WERE TWO STORY STRUCTURES, ONLY 14 FEET WIDE AND ABOUT 24 FEET DEEP, BUILT FOR LOW INCOME WORKERS BACK IN THE DAY AND I'M SURE THEY HAVE NEVER PROVIDED SHELTER FOR ANYONE WHO WASN'T POOR. NOTHING WAS RIGHT ABOUT THESE STRUCTURES TODAY. THEY ARE HARDLY STRAIGHT, SQUARE, LEVEL, OR PLUMB. THEY ARE OLD AND SHABBY HOUSES.

IN THE ONE HOME, HOSANNA INTENDED TO BEGIN A MAJOR KITCHEN REMODELING PROJECT. IN THE OTHER, SOME PAINTING AND REPAIR WORK WAS PLANNED. I KNOW OF NO CONTRACTOR IN THE WORLD WHO WOULD ENTER EITHER HOME TO DO ANYTHING, FIRST OF ALL, BECAUSE NO ONE THERE CAN AFFORD THE SERVICES, AND SECONDLY, BECAUSE THE WORK IS WAY TOO IRREGULAR. MOST PEOPLE WOULD SUGGEST LIGHTING A MATCH AND HAVING A LARGE BONFIRE. HOSANNA ENTERED THESE HOMES WITH THE INTENTION OF MAKING SOMETHING GOOD HAPPEN. THIS IS AUDACIOUS.

THROUGHOUT THE DAY, I SAW HUNDREDS OF CHALLENGES. VOLUNTEERS WITH GOOD HEARTS BUT WITH VERY UNSKILLED HANDS AND EYES. OTHERS WITH SOME SKILLS BUT NOT ENOUGH EXPERIENCE TO SIMPLY GO WITH THE FLOW OF EXPERT LEADERSHIP PROVIDED BY THE MISSION. SOME PARTS AND PIECES DIDN'T QUITE FIT TOGETHER EASILY, WHICH REQUIRED MORE EFFORT, MORE CREATIVITY, MORE INTELLIGENCE, AND A LOT MORE GRACE. THROUGH IT ALL, I HEARD NOT ONE SINGLE UNKIND WORD, NOT ONE SINGLE FLARE UP OF EMOTION, NOT ONE SINGLE ACT OF INTOLERANCE. INSTEAD, I SAW PATIENCE, WISDOM, KNOWLEDGE, PASSION, DISCIPLINE, KINDNESS, PROFICIENCY, EFFECTIVENESS, ENERGY, AND THE GREATEST OF LOVE. ..NOT LOVE FOR A FAMILY MEMBER, OR A DEAR FRIEND, OR A CELEBRITY, BUT LOVE CONVEYED IN EXTREMELY PRACTICAL WAYS TOWARD CHILDREN OF GOD WHOM WE DON'T EVEN KNOW, TOTAL STRANGERS. THAT IS CHRIST.

I'M NOT TRYING TO GOOSE YOUR EMOTIONS. I'M NOT TRYING TO FLATTER YOU. I'M TRYING TO TELL YOU ABOUT WHAT I SAW TODAY ON KENNEDY ALLEY IN JOHNSTOWN, PA. I SAW THE LIGHT OF GOD'S LOVE SHINING BRIGHTLY ON A PATCH OF REAL ESTATE THAT IS FAR FROM ACCUSTOMED TO THIS SORT OF THING. YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY EXPERIENCED. WE AREN'T ABLE TO FULLY KNOW WHAT THEY FELT TODAY.

TO YOU, IT'S JUST ANOTHER HARD AND CHALLENGING DAY OF WORK PERHAPS, SOLVING RIDICULOUS PROBLEMS THAT HAVE BEEN UNSOLVED FOR YEARS AND YEARS, AND SOME OF THE CAUSES OF THESE PROBLEMS MAY NEVER BE COMPLETELY SOLVED ON THIS SIDE OF ETERNITY. BUT FOR THOSE WHOM WE SERVE IN THE NAME OF THE LORD, THEY EXPERIENCE SOMETHING ENTIRELY DIFFERENT. THEY SEE A MIRACLE UNFOLD RIGHT BEFORE THEIR VERY EYES, AND IF YOU'RE WATCHING, YOU CAN SEE WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT IN THE TEARS THAT QUIETLY FALL FROM THEIR EYES.

I HOPE ALL OF YOU REMAIN COMMITTED TO YOUR CALLING. I WISH YOU COULD KEEP ON DOING THIS FOR THE NEXT 100 YEARS, OR 500 YEARS, OR A 1000, BECAUSE I THINK EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU REALLY MAKE THE WORLD A MUCH BETTER PLACE THAN IT COULD OTHERWISE BE WITHOUT YOU AND WHAT YOU DO SO WELL. I FEEL VERY HONORED AND HUMBLLED TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH PEOPLE LIKE YOU, AND I THANK YOU FOR THIS VERY RARE PRIVILEGE. I SALUTE EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU. KEEP SHINING YOUR LIGHT! IT REVEALS THE DEDICATION, THE AUDACITY, AND THE AMAZING LOVE OF GOD, EVERY TIME YOU CHOOSE TO DO SO.

LOVE,
DONN

Thank you, reader, for all the prayers and support that you graciously send our way! As the mission prepares to quietly note its 34th anniversary, I send all of our love and gratitude to you for the many ways in which God has used you to help make Hosanna happen! - DDE

Happy Anniversary, Hosanna!

We are pleased to invite you to join us in celebrating our 34th anniversary of service on Palm Sunday, March 24, at 10:15, held at the First Congregational Church of Etna. Everyone is welcome to attend this joyful occasion!

PULL !

Join us for a day of fun and camaraderie at the 20th Annual Sporting Clays fundraiser, taking place on April 27 at the picturesque Rochester Sportsmen's Club. Whether you're a seasoned pro or trying clay shooting for the first time, this event promises excitement for all skill levels. For additional details and updates, simply scan the QR code provided or head to our website. Get ready to aim, shoot, and support a great cause!

2024 Summer Staff

Seeking a summer job? Your search ends here! Get ready to improve your skills, expand your horizons, and spread positivity as you begin this adventure. Reach out to Katie if you're keen on joining our summer team!

Acorns

Get ready to dive into the fantastic Acorn Club season at HG! Kids aged 5 and up (yes, even cool teens!) get to unleash their inner goofball, have a blast, and just be themselves! Scan the code or visit our website for details!

It's a Great Day in the Kingdom!

Throughout his life and ministry, the late Rev. Dr. Richard A. Morledge taught us that every day should be a "Great Day in the Kingdom!". We will remember and salute the value of his life and influence on his birthday, Tuesday, April 9, at Hosanna Gibsonia. Please stop by anytime from 9am - 4pm at the business office for a cup of coffee, a piece of chocolate cake, and to offer a quiet prayer of gratitude for this wonderful servant of God.



Sara's Project

While coping with the loss of her husband Paul, Sara's adult son returned to his childhood home to support his mother and disabled brother during this challenging period. Unfortunately, shortly after settling into the basement, it flooded, causing damage to his new living space. In the upcoming weeks, as we continue local rehabilitation projects and provide assistance in Johnstown, we plan to visit Sara's home to make essential improvements for her and her sons. If you are interested in contributing to this project, or volunteering, please call the office at 724.770.0262

Tea Time

The enchanting Mother's Day Market & Tea shall unfold its splendor on May 4, commencing at the hour of 10 a.m. within the First Congregational Church of Etna. All guests are invited to partake in this jubilant affair! Revelers shall delight in a tapestry of teas, delectable delights, confectioneries, peruse diverse peddlers, and immerse themselves in myriad merriments. Seek further revelations by scanning the code or venturing to our website.

Help Needed

We are looking for some extra hands to help with HR campus cleanup day, Friday, May 17, volunteers are also needed to help plant the harvest garden, Friday, June 7. If you are available and would like to help please contact Becky! rjhetzer@gmail.com

KEEP IN TOUCH WITH US! FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR THE NEWEST UPDATES ON CLASSES, CAMPS, PROJECTS, AND EVENTS!

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