



# CREATOR'S TOUCH MINISTRIES, INC

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**Touching The World**  
**Matthew 25:33-46**

**SPRING 2002 NEWSLETTER**

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President, Treas

Connie Keating  
V. President

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Director

Jerry Hatlevig  
Secretary

## AN ACT OF GOD'S KINDNESS SHOWING GOD'S LOVE IN A PRACTICAL WAY

Each month, Creator's Touch Ministries distributes groceries (Coulee Region Food Distribution Program) to many individuals and families across the Coulee Region (LaCrosse, WI area). Since our first food distribution in April 2001, over 198 TONS of food have been distributed.

Here are some of the statistics:

- + Over 198 tons of food (thats over 396,000 pounds of food) have been given out.
- + Between 195-240 families register each month. With 2215 registrations to date, about 3100 families have been provided food through 11 distributions.
- + Over 39 different communities from around the LaCrosse, WI area and southeastern Minnesota have been represented.
- + About 50 volunteers representing 19 different churches help each month in setting up the temporary grocery store and helping with the distribution.
- + Food is distributed free of charge. Donations for freight and other costs of the program are requested.

Unloading the semi-truck.



People can choose from a large selection of food items.



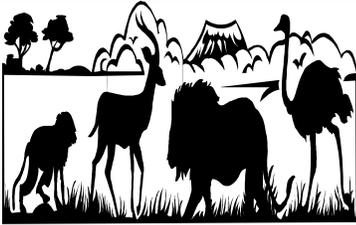
Many personal testimonies have been shared with the volunteers and staff confirming the need for this program and illustrating God's blessings for people.

The purpose of this food program is to show God's love in a practical way by presenting this 'act of kindness' to people throughout the Coulee Region area. The general public is invited, with special emphasis on providing food to those less fortunate and those in need. We provide on a voluntary basis a variety of surplus food products that might otherwise go to waste. Each month we truck in 18-20 tons of food (about 70% fresh vegetables, produce and bakery goods), set up a temporary grocery store and allow people to 'shop' for as much food as they need.

.....continued on page 3

A major emphasis of Creator's Touch Ministries is to link up with and serve other ministries as the Lord leads. We prayerfully are connected with:

**Cathedral of Praise Church, Vanguard Evangelistic Ministries and Maranatha Ministries.** We have been working closely with these three ministries over the years and plan to continue to serve and work with them for many years to come.



## MARANATHA MINISTRIES NEW CASTLE, SOUTH AFRICA

9000 MILES AWAY  
SOUTH AFRICA - ANOTHER HOME AWAY  
FROM HOME

Dave and Connie have been invited by Maranatha Ministries, located in New Castle, South Africa, to return to South Africa in September 2002. This will be our third trip, with each one becoming more meaningful to us. It is exciting to return to our newly acquired friends and "Christian family" in South Africa. Our first trip was in April 2000. While there we were able to preach in the big tent (with over 3000 people), minister to pastors at church services, and learn some of the Zulu language, culture, and customs. In August 2001, we spent five weeks in South Africa. The Lord moved mightily among us. Our main mission was to teach in their Bible College, five nights per week, for 3 hours each night. We taught their bible students preparing them to become pastors and other ministry leaders. We also worked with the students, teaching them many basic skills such as preparing a garden, fixing doors and handles, fixing roofs, etc. We were able to purchase many garden and hand tools for them to use after we were gone. Weekends were spent traveling to different local churches around the country and ministering the Word of God. We were also able to meet with and minister to newly married couples. Connie did a lot of office work, including the setting up of a new computer for them. The five weeks went really fast. We returned to the states in early September.

Our third trip is scheduled from September 18, 2002 to October 30, 2002. We will primarily be teaching again at the Bible College during these six weeks and ministering at various local churches on weekends traveling to many of the outlying churches that we have not been to yet. Maranatha Ministries provides the leadership and structure for over 300 churches in South Africa. One of the highlights of this trip will be Connie and I taking along a small team to renovate their existing Bible College buildings. A new roof will have to be placed, as well as building bunk beds and dressers for the student quarters. We will also rebuild the kitchen facilities and move a couple of other rooms around, giving the college much better use of its facilities. We are excited about taking a team to South Africa. If anyone is interested, please give us a call. What a wonderful opportunity to serve the Lord and His people. Team members will probably stay about 10-14 days. Another project will be to develop a marriage seminar to be taught by us in 2003. SOUTH AFRICA NEEDS LIST: Funds to purchase airline tickets, pay for housing and food, purchase Bibles, and to furnish the wood and supplies to renovate the Bible college.



*Left: Temporary Church at Heidelberg.*



Teaching students in the practical outreach of fixing doors and planting a garden.



An Act of God's Kindness  
 Food Distribution  
 continued from page 1

We ask people to take food for need and not greed. Many families also take food for other families, friends, or just want to bless someone else in the neighborhood who is not able to get out themselves. We partner with our local church which hosts the distribution site in their church foyer. Any leftover food is provided to the Salvation Army and other local food pantries. Donations which allow us to continue the food distribution come from participants, several local churches, and individuals who want to be a part of this outreach. The Gideons distributed over 250 small New Testament Bibles at our February food distribution. (See attached newspaper article, "MULTIPLYING LOAVES" reprinted from LaCrosse Tribune dated Sunday, January 6, 2002).



The Gideons distribute Bibles.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION NEEDS LIST: 30" by 8' folding tables (Qty 25), warehouse building (approx 8000 sq. ft.), used forklift, grocery store floor refrigeration units (Qty 6), folding chairs (Qty 100), 1 ton pickup truck.

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## CATHEDRAL OF PRAISE CHURCH

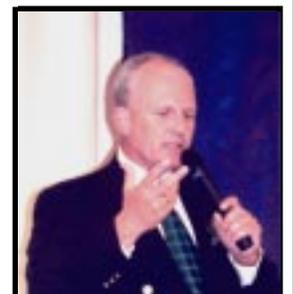


Cathedral of Praise Church is a non-denominational church, located in Onalaska, Wisconsin, with the vision to worship the Lord in Spirit and in truth, to love one another with the love of Jesus Christ, to become Jesus Carriers, to make God welcome, and to go into all of the world to make disciples of all people with signs following the Gospel.

Cathedral of Praise Church is our local home church and hosts the Coulee Region Food Distribution Program. They also strongly support Creator's Touch Ministries with regular financial support and volunteers. Dave and Connie are both ordained ministers and are active in their local church. Connie does all of the bookkeeping for both the Church and its fully licensed Day Care Center. Dave is an Associate Pastor, the Church Administrator, Board member and Treasurer of the church. Dave and Connie participate in Men and Women's Groups, teach, preach, and are involved in many of the church's ongoing activities. Pastors Jerry and Nancy Hatlevig are the senior pastors of Cathedral of Praise and Pastor Jerry also sits on Creator's Touch Ministries Board of Directors.

Jerry Hatlevig is presently the Senior Pastor at Cathedral of Praise Church (COP), a non-denominational church in Onalaska, WI. Pastor Jerry is a graduate of Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota. He served 9 years in the Army National Guard as a 1st Lieutenant while also serving in God's Kingdom as the Director of Central Minnesota Youth For Christ. He then accepted the call to pastor at an Assembly of God church for seven years. Then in 1987, he and his wife Nancy (also a pastor), and their three sons moved to Wisconsin to serve as Senior Pastors at Cathedral of Praise Church. Both believe in servant leadership, are very active in helping with the food distribution and fully support other Creator's Touch Ministries activities such as their work with Vanguard Evangelistic Ministries and mission trips to other countries. Jerry and Nancy have always shared a like-vision with CTM and we are blessed to have Jerry serve with us.

Meet one of our  
 CTM Directors



Jerry Hatlevig



## VANGUARD EVANGELISTIC MINISTRIES

God has a specific plan for America. God wants all Americans to be saved. We believe with all of our heart that God is poised and ready to send forth His incredibly powerful Holy Spirit to spark a revival in America that will ignite the human heart with passion for Jesus Christ and compassion for the lost unlike ever before.

God is raising up a people who will be obedient and willing to serve Him in this coming revival. Dave and Connie are blessed to minister with John and Sandy Halvorsen, and Ron and Linda Olson of Vanguard in this enormous task. Vanguard Ministries role in this coming revival is to promote state-wide prayer walks and preach the Gospel in the power of the Spirit in each of the fifty states.

Evangelistic Outreach Crusades will also occur in many of these states. Vanguard Ministries has already completed Crusades in the states of Florida, Minnesota, and Georgia.

There are tentative plans to hold Crusades in five additional states in 2002. The glory of the Lord will be seen throughout the whole earth. This fact is recorded in Habakkuk 2:14: "For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord". We must get ready in America to behold our God. Philippians 2:10-11 says, "At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

In February of 2001, the first campaign was held in Florida as "Pray Florida". Using the 'Adopt a highway' concept, a statewide prayer walk with over 50 prayer teams participating, blanketed Florida on February 24 (a single day) covering every mile on an east-west and north-south route. This tent was erected in Oakland, Florida at the crosspoint of these routes. Eight days of 24 hour around -the-clock prayer and intercession was held in the tent as well as evening church services. Florida is now developing a plan to prayer-walk every road and street in the state. In August 2001, the Crusade team moved to Brainerd, Minnesota for "Prayer Walk Minnesota" and then forward to Georgia in October 2001. Pastors in Georgia continue to meet weekly in prayer and fellowship. God moved in many, many ways. Lives were impacted by the power of God and much prayer went forth on behalf of each state. These states continue to work together and are continuing to march forward, being about the Kingdom's business. We may not know or fully understand the full impact of these campaigns on this side of eternity. Prayer is the one factor that will release the necessary power to advance the Kingdom of God.

CRUSADE NEEDS LIST: Finances to travel to each state with Vanguard Evangelistic Ministries to cover transportation, housing, and meals.



Creator's Touch Ministries  
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## Christian Food Shelf Helps Area Poor Stretch Their Budget

By GAYDA HOLLNAGEL Of the Tribune staff

ONALASKA, Wis. - Volunteers who help people carry food to their cars from the monthly food distribution program at Cathedral of Praise Church in Onalaska frequently get a hug for their efforts. "We've had a couple of volunteers, when they're loading the cars, they've been kissed," said Dave Keating, who with his wife, Connie, administer the food program through their Creator's Touch Ministries. "We have people crying sometimes, It's amazing," he said of the gratitude frequently expressed by people on limited incomes who discover that their \$12 donation can buy enough food to stretch their food budget by a couple of weeks. "We estimate that the average family leaves with \$125 to \$200 worth of groceries," Keating said, noting that some recipients take less and some more, depending on family size. The food, primarily fresh vegetable, perishables like bread and fruit, and overstocked canned or packaged items, is provided free through the Evangelical Food Shelf, a food recovery ministry based in the Twin Cities area in Minnesota.

The \$12 donation is asked to help defray the \$1800 to \$2000 a month cost of trucking, storage and other expenses related to getting the food to the distribution site, Keating said, but no one is turned away because of their inability to pay. The program, which began in April and now serves between 200 to 250 families a month, does not require people to prove they are low income but does target its advertising to people in need, Keating said. "We don't ask any questions," Connie Keating said. She said recipients are asked to sign a waiver accepting responsibility for the quality of the food they take. Their names also are added to a mailing list so that postcards can be sent to notify them of the next distribution. According to end of the year statistics, more than 161 tons of food were distributed during the first year of the program, with approximately 2,500 families served, including many who had food picked up for them by a friend or family member. The recipients represent 39 communities, including La Crosse, Onalaska, Holmen and surrounding communities such as La Crescent, Winona and Caledonia in Minnesota.

The Keatings, who are members of Cathedral of Praise, view the project as a ministry through which they can follow the biblical admonition to serve the poor by providing them with food, clothing and shelter. "Eventually, we'd like to open a ministry center that would provide shelter and other things," Dave Keating said. About 50 volunteers a month, representing 19 churches, help out with the distribution. The work begins the night before when food is unloaded from the trucks. Connie Keating said all items are sorted and only food of good quality is distributed. "When the food comes in, if anything wouldn't go on our table, it doesn't go out here," she said. The program attracts people of all ages, Connie Keating said, including single mothers with small children in tow, elderly people on Social Security and others who might be temporarily down on their luck. "It's been good, especially since we've had LaCrosse Footwear and the brewery laid off," she said. "We know there's a need."

On Friday morning, the Cathedral of Praise sanctuary was filled with people seated on folding chairs waiting for their turn to shop for the food displayed on three long rows of tables in the church's foyer. The selection included fresh lettuce, packages of broccoli slaw, several kinds of squash, green beans, onions, potatoes, bread, bagels, bananas, red bananas, tangerines, bottled juices, candy, frozen tortillas, frozen french fries, a cholesterol-free egg product and several other items.

Adeline Bolstad, 78, of Winona, Minn., said she made her first visit to the distribution site last month, after hearing about it from a friend. "I love it," Bolstad said. "It helps on my groceries." Bolstad, who has a limited income from Social Security, said she was especially please to get bananas. "I Bake banana bread. I bake banana cookies," she said. One 34-year-old man, who didn't want his name published, said he was a first-time visitor to the site. He has been laid off from his job since August and doesn't qualify for unemployment compensation. He said his wife works but also is going to school full-time. The couple has a 4-year old son. "We're scraping," he said of their financial situation. The free food would make a huge difference this month, he said. "It's just that much less money to spend."

### Cathedral of Praise food shelf

\*The Coulee Region Food Distribution Program is offered from 10 a. m. to 1 p. m. the Friday before the first Saturday of each month at Cathedral of Praise Church, 3340 S. Kinney Coulee Road, Onalaska.

\*A \$12 donation is asked to defray transportation costs. Recipients are asked to bring their own bags or boxes.

\*Volunteers also are needed from 5 to 9 p. m. on the Thursday before the distribution, and during the distribution on Friday.

\*For information, call Creator's Touch Ministries, (608) 783-2909.