

Devotion • February 2020

RESTORING HOPE FOR DETROIT CHILDREN AND FAMILIES Camp Restore Detroit — \$100,000

Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven” (Matthew 19:14).

The future of the economically and physically devastated Ninth Precinct of Detroit rests in the lives of the families with young children who live there. These children yearn to hear the hope of salvation. What a blessing it has been for the children to see God’s love shining through volunteers who have come from all over the country to lend helping hands and hearts. What an incredible opportunity has been presented for the children to learn about Jesus’ love in the Christ-centered outreach centers!

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble (Psalm 46:1).

Detroit has been through a difficult economic time. Families have been devastated, city services lost, and homes abandoned. Yet in the midst of difficulty, God has provided refuge. God has placed in the hearts of His church a desire to reach out to this devastated community. Weeds and demolished houses have disappeared, being replaced by playgrounds and prayer gardens. Head Start programs are functioning again. As God’s love has been displayed to the people in the community as they work alongside the volunteers, they have seen His love in action. Along with the physical rebirth of the community, there also has been a spiritual rebirth. Through this ministry, Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church has seen their membership increase. Praise God for His presence in this community!

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word (2 Thessalonians 2:16-17).

Detroit is emerging from the ashes! Listen! Can you hear it? Laughter! Singing! Bible studies! *and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints (1 Thessalonians 3:12-13).*

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