

The Messenger

Greg Davis, Pastor

Mission Statement

January 2022

McCutchanville Community Church's mission is to connect our community with God's power and hope through the love of Christ.



9505 Petersburg Road •
Evansville, IN 47725
(812) 867-5735 •

The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make His face
shine upon you, And be gracious to you; The Lord lift up
His countenance upon you, And give you peace.

Happy New Year

Welcome to a NEW YEAR!

2 Corinthians 5:17: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

While this refers to our become born again and having a new life from that point forward as a forgiven child of God, it is refreshing to be reminded that the new is here. With so much still going awry in our world it should reaffirm to us the "in Christ" blessing of having a Savior with us throughout all times.

And He has made us new!

As you know I am a Wesleyan Methodist, which makes me a Traditionalist. I typically refer to John Wesley, but today we are going to be reminded of the richness of the hymns given to us by his dear brother Charles Wesley (1707-1788).

And since I like to let the time of Christmas linger a bit – carrying into January (with some of your decorations), take a moment to fully realize what Charles is telling us in this Christmas carol: ***Come Thou Long Expected Jesus.***

*Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.
Born Thy people to deliver, Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever, Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal spirit Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit, Raise us to Thy glorious throne.*

Charles Wesley penned eighteen Christmas songs, but he was never happy with simply painting the picture of the manger scene. In this hymn, he begins by alluding to scriptural prophecies of Christ. Moving on to personal application, he continues: Christ is not only the "desire of every nation"; He is the "joy of every longing heart."

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He is not only the child born with the "government... on his shoulders" (Isaiah 9:6); He is "born to reign in us forever." Such personal application was a hallmark of the Wesleys' ministry. Charles and his brother John challenged the stoic Anglican traditions of their time. The church of their day was rich in liturgy but impersonal in application.

Christians sang hymns straight from Scripture. But the Wesleys seemed to ask, "Does this mean anything to you? Is the biblical story about long-ago events or about what is going on in your life?" They urged people to meet Christ personally and to include Him in every part of their lives-even their hymn singing. So instead of New Year's resolutions, while well intended, are rarely followed, why not have in epiphany of your own and make Christ the desire of your heart, knowing that He is both our God who saves and God who is with us – Immanuel.



Happy New Year,

Pastor Greg



For those who thought that Christmas was over, Epiphany, celebrated on January 6, marks the final celebratory day of the Christian holiday season! While most people begin taking down their Christmas decorations by New Year's, there is still a full week before many practicing Christians complete their celebrations of the birth of Jesus Christ. It is commonly associated with the day the Three Wise Men arrived at the manger and has several different names throughout history and cultures!

HISTORY OF EPIPHANY

Epiphany is a Christian feast day celebrating the revelation of God incarnate as Jesus Christ. In Western Christianity, the feast commemorates the visit of the Three Wise Men who followed an angel to Bethlehem where Jesus was born. The day has also been referred to as Three Kings Day and Little Christmas by both Irish and Amish Christians. The Feast of the Epiphany concludes the twelve days of Christmastide and is the traditional end of the Christmas season.

As early as the fourth century, churches of the Eastern Roman Empire were celebrating Christmas on January 6. Those in the West were celebrating on December 25, which is why some places refer to the Feast of the Epiphany as Old Christmas. Since then, many cultures have developed their own names and traditions to celebrate this day. For example, in Scandinavia, they celebrate what they call Little Christmas Eve on December 23. In Spain, children traditionally did not receive their presents on Christmas Day but instead on January 6, in commemoration of the day the Wise Men arrived in Bethlehem bearing gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. In Ireland, they also call Little Christmas Women's Christmas, because Irish men take on the household duties for the day. Other popular traditions include singing, chalking the door, having one's house blessed, eating a three kings cake, going to church, and winter swimming. It is also customary for many Christians to remove their Christmas decorations on Epiphany Eve, although other Christian countries historically remove them on Candlemas, the conclusion of the Epiphanytide. According to the first tradition, those who fail to remember to remove their Christmas decorations on Epiphany Eve must leave them untouched until Candlemas.

Unto the Least of These – Ministry to the Homeless in Evansville

****A note from Jennie Heim****

Hello to all!

Just an FYI-because of my leg injury last week, the pain persists to the point where I can't "produce" an edition of "Street Talk" for this week. Thankfully, the x-ray and ultrasound were negative for fractures and/or a blood clot, but I have a LARGE hematoma on my leg which is really producing a lot of pain. I may need to see the Dr. again about this yet this weekend. Please continue to pray for healing for me. I VERY MUCH want to get back out on the streets again this coming week. Please help me, Dear Jesus! Thank you, everyone, for caring for me.
Jennie

Please drop your donations off at MCC in the designated tub.

I KNOW Jesus is joining in with all of us in this endeavor! Thank You, Dear Master of the Universe!

**Because some were having difficulty opening the links to "Street Talk", this month's issues are attached at the end of this Messenger. **!



Merry Christmas

Flight 2022 Instructions

Good morning and welcome to Flight 2022.
We are prepared to take off into the New Year.

Please make sure your Positive Attitude and Gratitude are secured and locked in the upright position. All self-destruct devices: pity, anger, selfishness, pride, and resentment should be turned off at this time. All negativity, hurt, and discouragement should be put away.

Should you lose your Positive Attitude under pressure during this flight, reach up and pull down a prayer. Prayers will automatically be activated by Faith. Once your Faith is activated, you can assist other passengers who are of little faith.

There will be NO BAGGAGE allowed on this flight.

God, our Captain, has cleared us for take-off.

Destination – GREATNESS!

Wishing you a New Year filled with new HOPE, new JOY, and new BEGINNINGS!

Stay Blessed!

And welcome in 2022.



*Men's Lenten
Breakfast*

LENTEN BREAKFAST INFORMATION

The Southwest District will not be holding any Lenten Breakfasts in 2022 due to the ongoing pandemic. We look forward to future events when it is safe to hold them.



A Great BIG Thank You to MCC congregation for being supportive and loving. We all want to extend our thanks for your Christmas gift to each of us. It is wonderful being part of such a God directive congregation!

Love to you all,
Pastor Greg & Teresa, Ashley, Natalie, Terri,
Cory & Annelle, and Helen




Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a Baptist minister and one of the most impactful Civil Rights activists in the 1960s. He was a leader who believed in nonviolent, peaceful protest to end racial segregation and provide people of all races with opportunities for a better life.

Every third Monday in January, we as Americans honor one of the most important leaders of our modern time. This year, take some time to learn about Dr. King's mission and discover some ways to continue his legacy in your everyday life.

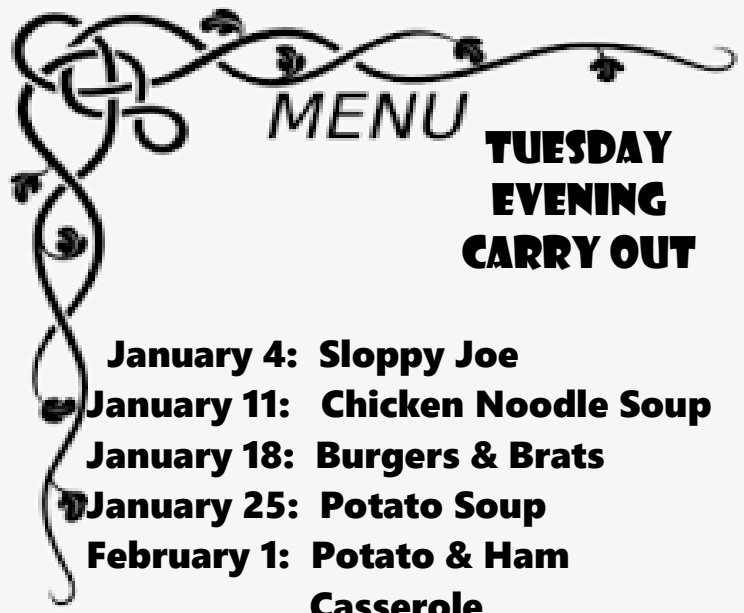
Ways to Celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. on MLK Day, January 17, 2021

1. Look for where you can give, not receive.
2. Learn our Nation's History.
3. Remember Dr. King's message of kindness and respect for others.
4. Have a dialogue with family and friends about Dr. King's work and message
5. Be your own version of MLK, Jr.



Happy Birthday!

Frank Morgan	1
Betty Gentry	2
Sue Harris	3
Jenny Taylor	4
Gabe Dzienny	9
Liz Miller	12
Oliver Sponseller	13
Sara Dixon	17
Mary Lou Ellis	28



MENU


TUESDAY EVENING CARRY OUT

January 4: Sloppy Joe
January 11: Chicken Noodle Soup
January 18: Burgers & Brats
January 25: Potato Soup
February 1: Potato & Ham Casserole

Happy Anniversary

Frank & Betty Gentry 21

**HAVE YOU
TALKED
TO GOD
TODAY?**

January is again "Anything Goes" for Patchwork Central's Food Bank Please bring any non-perishable item and place it in the basket in the hallway. Any and every little bit helps!



Prayer Requests:

Kennedy Abner, Mary Moore, Jim and Margie Smith, Sials (Jerry and Jane Bennet's great grandson, Angela (Mary Lou's caregiver), Megan (Roxie's former co-worker), Barbara Seigert's mother, Barbara

Harwood Jenny Taylor, Debby Phares, Norm Koehler, Josette Higgins, Mary Lou Ellis, Ed Schiffer (cancer treatments), all area schools and universities, God's Kids, Amy Dubber, Sara Dixon, Our Haitian children: Daphnica Noel and Richecarde Charitable Louissant, MCCutchanville Firefighters,



December 2021 Attendance and Giving

	Att	Building Fund	General Fund	Internet Giving	Youth Home Meals	Missions/ Advent Boxes	Tue Meals	Special Projects	Missions/ Mayfield, KY	Total Checking Deposit
December 5	67	\$1,705.00	\$2,594.00			\$50.00				\$4,349.00
December 12	71	\$520.00	\$1,776.00	\$290.00	\$100.00	\$130.00			\$1,900.00	\$4717.00
December 19	65	\$50.00	\$585.00			\$41.00	\$50.00	\$5,000.00	\$40.00	
Christmas Eve			\$200.00		\$75.00	\$31.95	\$150.00		\$997.00	\$1,453.00
December 26	48	\$180.00	\$1,281.00	\$75.00	\$35.00	\$63.58				\$1,496.00

AHHHH The anticipation! Remember what it was like as you waited patiently "off stage" to give your Christmas performance? Giggles and laughter and a bit of stage fright?


God's Kids Pre-K Classes sang and giggled and gave the best Christmas Program. Everyone left with a heart full of Christmas and anticipation of Santa's arrival!



Our Christmas Eve Candlelight service was held in the main sanctuary rather than in McJohnston Chapel this year. It was a beautiful service as we passed the light and sang *Silent Night* and prepared for our Savior's arrival.





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
December 26	December 27 Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00 GK Closed	December 28 1:30 Gym Reserved Ad Council 6:00 GK Closed	December 29 Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 GK Closed 6:00 Gym Reserved	December 30 GK Closed Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00	December 31 GK Closed 	January 1 8-10 Gym Reserved Gym Reserved 3:00-5:00 HAPPY NEW YEAR 2022!
2 Communion Sunday Gym reserved 1:00-5:00 & 5:00-7:00	3 GK Closed 1:30 Gym Reserved Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00	4 GK-Reopen 10:00 God's Kids Chapel with Pastor Greg and Teresa 1:30 Gym Reserved 6:00 Gym Reserved Girl Scouts	5 1:30 Gym Reserved 6:00 Gym Reserved	6 Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00	7 6:00 Gym Reserved BG	8 8-10 Gym Reserved
9	10 Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00	11 10:00 God's Kids Chapel with Pastor Greg and Teresa 1:30 Gym Reserved 6:00 Gym Reserved	12 Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 6:00 Gym Reserved	13 Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00	14	15 8-10 Gym Reserved
16 Gym Reserved 5:00-7:00	17 God's Kids Closed MLK Day Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00	18 10:00 God's Kids Chapel with Pastor Greg and Teresa 1:30 Gym Reserved 6:00 Gym Reserved	19 1:00 Woman's Meeting Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 6:00 Gym Reserved	20 Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00	21	22 8-10 Gym Reserved
23	24 Gym reserved 1:30 Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00	25 10:00 God's Kids Chapel with Pastor Greg and Teresa 1:30 Gym Reserved 6:00 Gym Reserved	26 Gym reserved 1:30-3:00 6:00 Gym Reserved	27 Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00	28	29 8-10 Gym Reserved
30	31 Gym reserved 1:30 Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00	February 1 God's Kids Chapel with Pastor Greg and Teresa :30 Gym Reserved 6:00 Gym Reserved	February 2 Gym reserved 1:30 Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00	February 3 Gym reserved 1:30 Gym Reserved 6:00-8:00	February 4	February 5 8-10 Gym Reserved

STREET TALK

Unto the Least of These Ministry to Homeless in Evansville

December 2, 2021

Hello all!

I want everyone to know that I am in absolute AWE at how God is at work in our homeless ministry, "Unto the Least of These"! THINGS keep happening that cannot be explained in any other way! Thank You, Dear Jesus! Let me show you what I mean.....

I received a phone call this week from a local family physician who knew about this ministry and told me she was very interested in helping with it in some way. I went out to her office and she showed me what she meant. She has a large waiting room and there, in the middle of the room, across from the check-in desk, was a huge tree. Next to this beautifully decorated tree was a LARGE brown tarp that was lying over a pole which made it look like a large tent. AND underneath the "tent" were several presents, all of which were items that our homeless people desperately need! Socks, blankets, among other things! I was simply OVERWHELMED! She told me that she had asked her staff to bring a suggested gift for a homeless person and place under the tree rather than having all of them just exchange gifts among themselves, as was their usual custom. I repeat-I was OVERWHELMED! Just a wonderful gesture on her part and that of her staff! Right before Christmas, we will see to it that all of these gifts are placed in the hands of some of our needy friends out on the street. Thank You, Jesus! AND thank you to this physician and her staff! I am still in awe, just thinking about all of this!!

Another kind gesture-a friend of our homeless ministry bought some shoes at a garage sale recently to distribute to those in need. She observed that four pair of those shoes had some damage on the inside of the shoes. She took them to a local shoe store, AND when she told the manager that they were to be given to the homeless, he agreed to put NEW insoles in them, FREE OF CHARGE, and make them more suitable for wear. He promptly did that! I know the name of this store, so I promptly placed a phone call to that site and spoke with the manager. I expressed to him our DEEP appreciation for his kindness in this situation. He was so very glad that he could do something to be of help in our ministry. Thank You, Dear Jesus!

One of our homeless friends that we see on a regular basis, was in dire need of a pair of reading glasses. As is her usual manner, Terri (our van driver on Mondays) promptly bought him a pair and I took them over to the United Caring Shelter where he is staying. (Terri couldn't go because of a prior commitment). He was MOST appreciative! While there, I saw a young woman lying on the ground in distress. I approached her and asked if I could help her. She was not very communicative, but did apparently need sleep very badly. Well, "it so happens" (Thank You, Jesus), I had ONE sleeping bag (only) with me in my car which I hoped would help her to sleep. She was MOST appreciative! I had JUST placed that sleeping bag in my car before I went to that site. When we run into a situation such as this, the staff at the shelter needs to check it out further. They were going to do that. (This very well could have been a drug related situation. I hope not, but this always has to be checked out.)

I had another friend of our ministry contact me a few days ago and told me that she had ordered several fleece blankets and was going to sew some of them together (two per blanket) for use with our people. That was WONDERFUL NEWS! THEN, when I got back to the church, I found that our grocery cart for ministry donations in the atrium was piled HIGH with MANY wonderful items! I have a feeling these came from one specific group or another, perhaps from another church. WHAT A BLESSING!

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STREE TALK

Unto the Least of These Ministry to Homeless in Evansville

December 11, 2021

Hello everyone!

I am OVERWHELMED this a.m., just thinking about the Presence of God in our ministry to the homeless of Evansville-"Unto the Least of These" (Matthew 25:40-Jesus speaking in this verse).

There are more and more homeless individuals and families here locally than perhaps there ever was. I SO VERY much appreciate all that the city govt. and social work agencies are doing for these individuals. More churches and individuals are involved now more than ever, too, it seems. In the following comments, I would like to briefly discuss some of the people that I personally know about who are homeless or are considered among the working poor. Our ministry team has come in contact with many of them over the past several months.

I would like to begin by telling you about Willard, a young man (heavy drinker), whom we have seen many times at the Salvation Army. We have tried to help him as much as we can. He knows that we love him AND that Jesus loves him. Terri (one of our team members) has helped him with tangible items on numerous occasions, as has the Salvation Army. (This is where we generally see him).

This last week, one woman (40's) asked us to pray with her. We most certainly did just that! Others have asked for the same (TNTC). What an honor that God is using our team to help these individuals with more than their specific physical needs. Thank You, Dear Jesus!

We saw a young man this week who has had numerous episodes of acute pancreatitis. He was having quite a bout of upper abdominal pain that day we saw him. Is a heavy drinker. We referred him to the ECHO Community Health Center, where he has been seen on numerous occasions. He has an appt. already set up so we STRONGLY urged him to make sure he kept that appt. He can see a social worker there and receive more than physical help.

We are seeing more and more Hispanic individuals and families. One young woman did not have a heavy enough of a coat for the weather that day. She also was just wearing thongs on her feet with no socks. No hat. Terri was able to get her fixed up with items to help all of the above needs.

We also saw a young Hispanic man again that we had seen a week or so earlier. We had given him some Christian pamphlets written in Spanish, which he GREATLY appreciated! This brings up another point-we REALLY need some Bibles written in Spanish. Small to medium size. If any of you have any and don't need them any more, PLEASE get them to us at the church-AUMC. 5130 Lincoln Ave. Thank you!

Continuing-we saw a woman (30's) at the United Caring Shelter this past week. Her husband had recently committed suicide. Because of that, she was now out on the street. Thankfully, she had been able to sleep at the UCS on "white flag" nights when the temp. was really low. The day we saw her, she had just received word that she would be able to stay at "Ruth's House" for a number of days. So, that was a blessing. She will have the opportunity to work with a social worker for further needs.

A young woman (early 20's) came up to us at the Salvation Army this week pushing a stroller with a beautiful 5 month old baby girl inside. The infant looked like she had adequate covers for warmth, but the Mom didn't. Cold day!! So, we were able to provide the Mom with some more external covering. She was living in a small apartment for the time being. Inadequate heating. (Baby's father is in prison). I urged her to talk with the social work team at the Salvation Army. She was going to do that. I was able to give this young Mom some baby items that were made by our "Cincinnati Connection" team members. Baby blanket, a warm hat, booties, etc. They also have made us some quilts particularly for babies or young children that have Christmas colors and designs on them. I have a dear friend locally who also provides similar items that she makes for us to distribute. Thank you, dear Bobbie. The young mom was breast-feeding her child but did not always have adequate food for herself. We gave her some cash, several of our healthy treat bags, and bottles of water. We will check on this young woman and her babe this coming week. Please watch over them, Dear Jesus!

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December 2, 2021

Thank you to whomever placed those items there. AND thank You, Dear Jesus!

There are many more Incidents of God that I could relate to you right now but one I wanted to mention was that of a young man from Mexico who came riding his bicycle up to us when we were at the United Caring Shelter this afternoon. He did know some English so we were able to communicate somewhat (and I know a Spanish word or "two"). I remembered that we had some Christian pamphlets written in Spanish so I offered those to him. He was MOST APPRECIATIVE! (We are seeing more and more Latino individuals so perhaps those of us who are active in this ministry should take a course in Spanish! Well, we'll have to ponder that for a while!!

We have some other projects that we will probably want to include in this ministry as time progresses but our biggest concern at the moment is the NUMBER of homeless individuals we are seeing out on the streets. We agreed today that we are seeing more and more people we have never seen before! I really believe it when it is being said now that Evansville has the HIGHEST number of homeless PER CAPITA of any city or area in Indiana!

Please continue to be praying for all of the mission projects of this church as well as others in the city so we can continue to make a POSITIVE impact on the lives of our citizens. And our thanks to all of you for your generosity and the love you are showing to our people on the street.

Above all-thank You, Dear Jesus, for Your Love for ALL of us!

Jennie Hiam 1-812-204-1190

(Continued from Page 8)

December 11, 2021

I hate to tell you what I am going to say right now, but I think it helps to explain further the needs of our people. One member of our team encountered a man who was sleeping in a shed somewhere in the area but he discovered there was also a racoon sharing these quarters with him. To my knowledge, both the man and the animal are still there together. Oh, Dear Jesus! HELP!!! My heart aches for this man. Whenever we find out any more about this situation, we will be able to make the necessary referrals.

On the brighter side of things (!!), under the guidance of the nurse practitioner on our team (Jane), we want to be providing some specific aspects of health care when we are out on the streets perhaps over the next 1-2 months. This will involve foot exams and health care (this is SO VERY important because so many of our people are on their feet CONSTANTLY AND because diseases like Diabetes Mellitus and Cardiovascular health problems often will present themselves with peripheral foot and leg symptoms). We also would like to have HIV and syphilis testing done on a regular basis. The latter is DEFINITELY on the increase in the state of Indiana, particular Evansville.

Well, I have written enough. Please continue to pray for this ministry, those we serve, AND those of us who are carrying out these services. Also, please be praying for ALL of those here locally as they are trying VERY hard to work with this population of our city-the local govt., the social services (including health care), the shelters, the police dept., and all other groups (churches, etc.) so we can be of help to our fellow citizens in need. Thank you, everybody. AND THANK YOU, Dear Jesus, for standing here with us. We love You, Dear Father!

Jennie Hiam 1-812-204-1190

"Unto the Least of These"-Matthew 25:40 (The Words of the Master)

STREE TALK

December 25, 2021

Merry Christmas to everyone!

Today, Jesus and I went out on the streets of Evansville, visiting those in need of Hope and the Grace of God in their lives. Our mission team had assembled Christmas bags to be given to anyone we saw this afternoon who appeared to be in need. These bags included new socks, a wash cloth, some hygiene supplies, Christian literature, a few homemade cookies made by team members, etc. We stopped at the Mets Bus Station first and encountered a LARGE number of people just sitting on the benches doing relatively nothing. They were VERY excited to receive these Christmas gift bags. Their appreciation to say the least was profuse! The majority of them had been served a Christmas Day meal either at the Rescue Mission or the United Caring Shelter. But, no one had received a gift of any sort to unwrap as is the usual tradition on Christmas Day or during the holiday season that we experience. So, we provided that for them. I don't know how many people approached us telling us how appreciative they were of our caring for them. I saw one young woman again that I had seen last week there at the UC Shelter. We had prayed together that time and she wanted us to do that again. So, we did. She had been out on the streets for over a month or so but really needed permanent, safe housing. It appears that Aurora has been working with her and has arranged for her to stay at "Ruth's House" for a length of time. She was very grateful for our visit there at the shelter today. We will continue to stay in touch with her.

I saw the elderly veteran, Jim, again who has been sleeping in a large box over by Pidgeon Creek. An additional problem he mentioned to me this time was that he has a small heater of some sort WITH HIM in the box where he is sleeping! I stressed to him the danger of a fire happening which could kill him AS WELL AS start a tree fire in the area where he "resides". He was not interested in doing anything about this. I will continue to follow up on this.

We saw Michelle again downtown. She has repeatedly been very belligerent but this time seemed more approachable. She had been "removed" from staying in the UC Shelter because of persistent fighting with the staff and the other individuals who were staying there. If there is a "white flag" night (below freezing), she can spend the night in the shelter but otherwise "no". Depending on her behavior, she can return to the shelter for lodging after January 2nd. I told her that Jesus loved her and that I loved her, too. She became teary and appeared very appreciative. I would definitely think she has some deep-seated emotional problems from her past.

When Jesus was physically on the earth, He visited the poor, the homeless, those who had no hope in this world. The people we see on the streets of Evansville ARE these people! AND SO ARE WE!! We ALL, as human beings, need HOPE! Jesus, the Master of the Universe, provides that for us! Thank You, dear Father, for loving us as You do. Please continue to be with us in this ministry and guide us in the further steps You want us to take to show your Divine Love and Care to all those in need.

Thank You!

Jennie Hiam 1-812-204-1190

"Unto the Least of These-Matthew 25:40 (Jesus speaking)

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